

# CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

## MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

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Date: January 18, 2001

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: CMMCP Headquarters, 111 Otis Street, Northborough, Massachusetts 01532

Present: Frank Perrin, Jim Shuris, Pablo Noguera, Ken Courtemanche & Tim Deschamps

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1. The minutes of the November 9, 2000 CMMCP Commissioner's minutes were unanimously approved.
2. The following payrolls were approved unanimously:

Nov. 11, 2000	\$10,385.60	Dec. 16, 2000	\$10,385.60
Nov. 18, 2000	\$10,385.60	Dec. 23, 2000	\$10,385.60
Nov. 25, 2000	\$10,385.60	Dec. 30, 2000	\$10,385.60
Dec. 2, 2000	\$10,385.60	Jan. 6, 2001	\$10,385.60
Dec. 9, 2000	\$10,385.60	Jan. 13, 2001	\$10,385.60

3. Submitted invoices for January 17, 2001 totaling \$5,253.38 were approved unanimously.
4. **Work Schedule:** The excavator has completed restoration projects in Billerica, Hopedale and Shrewsbury. Next on the agenda is Westford, Marlboro & Millbury (if permission is received). Crews are preparing ahead of the excavator, performing ditch maintenance and cleaning culverts during adverse weather. Town Halls and libraries are being restocked with public relations materials during extreme cold weather, crews are inside performing maintenance on equipment during snow storms. Ken reports the CMMCP Annual Report will be completed soon, and will be sent to all member cities and towns.
5. **Old Business:** The NMCA Annual Meeting held December 4-6, 2000 in Newport Rhode Island was well attended. The focus was on WNV on Day 1, and partially on Day 2. Project field staff attended Days 1 & 2. Next years NMCA meeting will be the first week in December in Salem, MA.

A DPH meeting was held on Dec. 12; workgroups have been formed to create a WNV response plan for Massachusetts. Ken is on the Communication sub-committee, and Tim is on the Intervention sub-committee.

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### 2001 Meeting Schedule:

January 18, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13.

6. **New Business:** The Town of Carlisle voted not to join CMMCP at their Fall Special Town Meeting on November 14, 2000.

The same evening (11/14/00) the Town of Northbridge voted by majority vote to rejoin CMMCP.

The Town of Millville voted by majority vote at a Special Town Meeting to join CMMCP on November 27, 2000.

The Town of Acton voted by majority vote at a Special Town Meeting to join CMMCP on January 8, 2001.

The Commission voted to accept the towns of Auburn, Northbridge, Millville and Acton into the CMMCP service area, relative to Chapter 252 and all other relevant legislation.. Approximate assessments from these 4 towns total \$93,500. The appropriate letters have been sent to SRB and the local Boards of Selectmen.

3 new vehicles are still outstanding; Ken anticipates delivery to be soon on the ½ ton trucks - the 1 ton utility truck will require additional time.

Discussion arose regarding establishing a "Starting Pay Grade" for full time employees. The previous policy of hiring in the "Temporary Laborer" pay grade, \$8.25-\$9.25 is outdated. The labor market in Mass. is currently very tight, and pay scales have risen. The full time pay of a Field Technician Grade A is \$12.53; it is thought that a starting pay of closer to that amount would attract additional qualified candidates. After discussion, the Commission voted unanimously to establish a "Starting Pay Grade" for full time employees of \$11.00 during the 60 day probation period. After the probation period, and the successful completion & a passing grade of the Mass. pesticide core license, the employee would move into the Grade A pay grade.

The next agenda item dealt with the potential for work in towns that have voted **not** to join. This is a clear mandate from the Town, and the Commission agreed that a firm directive from SRB or DPH would be needed before any work would be considered. Liability and notification are the primary concerns; it was noted that reimbursement for expenses would be expected. The Commission felt that this issue would be left to the Superintendent's discretion. Commission input would be available if necessary.

The Children and Families Protection Act was discussed next. Handouts were given to the Commissioners present, and the logistics of the law was discussed. Basically, while the onus of notification is on the school, CMMCP would have to create the notification, at a time of year that is extremely busy for the administrative

staff, and the area to be sprayed would have to be posted, increasing significantly the workload of the spray crews, who are already faced with a serious amount of work as well. We are awaiting direction from SRB on this issue, but it is agreed that the potential for no school applications under this law is the likely scenario.

Ken handed out the 2001 Commission meeting schedule, which is as follows: Jan. 18, Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10, Jun. 14, Jul. 12, Aug. 9, Sep. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13. The Commission looked over that schedule and gave their approval. Please note: this schedule is listed at the bottom of this and every Commission minutes. It is also requested that if a Commissioner is unable to attend a meeting, that as much advance notice as possible be given to the Project.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Approved: Richard J. Day  
Richard Day, Chairman, CMMCP

Date: Feb. 8, 2001

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2001 Meeting Schedule:

~~January 18~~, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13.