

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

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Date: September 11, 2003
Time: 11:00 AM
Place: CMMCP Headquarters, 111 Otis Street, Northborough, Massachusetts 01532
Present: Pablo Noguera, George Smith, Jim Shuris, Dean Mazzarella, Ken Courtemanche, Tim Deschamps & Brad Mitchell

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1. The minutes of the August 21, 2003 CMMCP Commissioner's minutes were unanimously approved.
2. The following payrolls were approved unanimously:

Aug. 23, 2003	\$13,856.40	Aug. 30, 2003	\$13,227.84
Sep. 6, 2003	\$13,185.82		
3. Submitted invoices for September 11, 2003 totaling \$50,851.51 were unanimously approved.
4. **Work Schedule:** The tractor is idle awaiting time to complete a project in Southboro. Service requests for spraying have slowed significantly. The night shift crews will cease spraying for adult mosquitoes this week due to low nighttime temperatures that have predominated in the area. All crews will be available for spraying if the need arises (WNV or EEE). Larviciding will continue throughout the month, and crews can assist in the surveillance program if needed.
5. **Old Business:** Tim has received unofficial word from the UMASS Pesticide Labs that the soil & water samples taken by both the State and the Project in Stow have shown negative results for resmethrin residue. Additional information about this incident will be brought to the Commission as it is received.
6. **New Business:** Brad Mitchell, Chairman of SRMCB was introduced to the Commission. Mr. Mitchell spoke about the new regulations faced by the Projects for procurement, hiring etc. The Commonwealth is expecting more oversight of the Projects by SRMCB. Mr. Mitchell is hoping to get all Project Commissioners more organized and involved in mosquito control issues that we are going to face in the upcoming years. Audubon is certain to have legislation that will significantly change the face of mosquito control in Massachusetts, and the Commissioners are regarded as the local voice of the Projects. It is hoped to organize a "Executive Board" of Commissioners (or the like) to represent

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our interests. It was mentioned that a one day, annual meeting of Commissioners, SRMCB and Project Superintendents may be a wise idea. Commissioner's e-mail and other contacts are needed. Mr. Mitchell inquired about the health status of Ken Courtemanche, Project Superintendent and if his lack of involvement during the day to day operations of the Project is a problem. He was informed by the Commission that Asst. Superintendent Tim Deschamps has been empowered with all of the duties and responsibilities of Ken's position. Ken replied that he is looking into a disability retirement/pension that may go in effect sometime this fall. Mr. Mitchell thanked the Commission for their time and excused himself from the meeting.

A reappointment letter was signed by Mr. Mazzearella and will be forwarded to the State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board. Mr. Mazzearella was thanked for the past 5 years of service to the Board.

The Commission was presented with a response to the request from SRMCB regarding the issues brought by DEP regarding our water management techniques. The Commission will look over this letter and make comments/changes within the next week or two. It is hoped that this letter will be mailed within the month.

The Commission was advised of an incident in the town of Chelmsford. On September 3, 2003 Project employee Jay Begin responded to a request for service (spraying) at 50 Locke Rd. Mr. Begin applied resmethrin (Scourge®) on the property at the request of the resident that evening. The next day the resident phoned the Project office to complain that all of his koi fish had died in his pond. He has subsequently called the Pesticide Bureau and an investigation is underway. Commissioner Day (Chelmsford Health Director) was informed of this incident on Sept. 4. Mr. Begin is scheduled to be interviewed by an inspector today. The Commission will be kept apprised of further details.

Tim presented the Commission with the information requested about a District reorganization, the addition of personnel to the Project workforce, and the addition of vehicles to the Project fleet. The Commission looked over the spreadsheet and other information, and asked that this item be tabled until October to allow for this information to be looked at in detail. Mr. Day will be sent a copy of this information so he can be informed prior to the October meeting.

West Nile Virus update: WNV+ birds have been reported in 21 member cities and towns to date. Surveillance has increased in those areas, and all mosquito pools are being submitted as quickly as

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possible. To date we have received word that pools of *Culex restuans* have been found positive for WNV, one each in Hudson & Leominster. Additional trapping has not shown additional positive results yet.

Tim has scheduled meetings with the Mendon Board of Health today at 4pm, and the Groton Board of Health on September 22 at 7:30pm. Information on the Project's activities and potential membership will be presented. The Commission will be kept apprised of any additional information.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 PM.

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

Date: Oct. 9, 2003

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