## CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

## MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

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Date:

April 14, 2005

Time:

11:00 AM

Place:

CMMCP Headquarters, 111 Otis Street, Northborough, Massachusetts 01532

Present:

Richard Day, Pablo Noguera, George Smith, Tim Deschamps & Tim McGlinchy

1. The minutes of the February 25, 2005 CMMCP Commissioner's minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Noguera.

2. The following payrolls were approved unanimously motion by Mr. Noguera, seconded by Mr. Smith:

Feb. 25, 2005	\$13, 367.60	Mar. 5, 2005	\$14,469.20
Mar. 12, 2005	\$14,469.20	Mar. 19, 2005	\$14,469.20
Mar. 26, 2005	\$14,469.20	Apr. 2, 2005	\$14,469.20
Apr. 9, 2005	\$14,469.20		

- 3. Submitted invoices for April 14, 2005 totaling \$149,989.74 were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Noguera, seconded by Mr. Smith.
- 4. Work Schedule: Tim M. reports the excavator has completed jobs in Acton, Fitchburg and Westboro, with jobs ready in Holliston, Ashland, and Natick. Crews have been busy prepping ahead of the tractor and performing handcleaning jobs as the weather allows. Crews have switched to larviciding area swamps and wetlands, and heavy breeding is noted in all areas. Tim M. has received 150 requests for larval control to date; all adult spray calls have been pushed off until late May. The aerial program for Chelmsford & Lunenburg is tentatively scheduled for April 20-21. Tim M. would like to note that our Facility Manager Tim Welch has done an outstanding job restoring a ULV spray machine, which bring our total to 12 units (2 spares). The Commission appreciates his hard work and dedication.
- 5. <u>Old Business</u>: The upcoming training courses were the next agenda item. Tim D. reports the following training sessions have been scheduled or held:
  - CPR and AED training was done at the Red Cross facility on Feb. 28, and all employees were in attendance and received certification in CPR & AED. The AED is on order and should be received soon.
  - ♦ 3 employees, Ed Storonsky, Pete Ramig & Tim Welch will go to a hands-on backhoe training on May 5, 2005.

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- The Class A CDL training has been put on hold for now. Our employees went to take the CDL license and were told our truck would not pass inspection. Tim D. is coordinating upgrades to our truck to bring it in compliance. Once that is complete we will restart this training.
- Several employees attended the UMASS workshops offered each year in area training facilities.

A letter has been prepared from the Commission to Jim Shuris, thanking him for his time on the Commission, and stating that the Commission will be seeking full time, local representation. Paul Mazzuchelli, Milford BOH has prepared the paperwork and submitted it to Boston.

Tim & Tim reported that the NJMCA meeting was very worthwhile, information on EEE, surveillance and other items of note were presented.

Tim D. reports on the Children's Protection Act compliance package that was sent to area School Superintendents. No new information has been received from the schools, and as far as we know no school has come into compliance yet. Tim will continue to follow up on this issue.

Tim D. met with the Boylston Board of Health on March 28, at 7:00pm and talked about the services we can offer to the town. The Board is very receptive to our program and an article to join is on the Town Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, to be held May 2 starting at 7:00pm. Tim D. will be in attendance.

6. <u>New Business</u>: Tim D. presented to the Commission the final draft of our Standard Operating Procedures manual for Commission review. He asked the Commission to look it over and have all comments ready for the next Commission meeting.

Tim & Tim met with the Hopkinton Board of Health on March 17 at 7:00pm. A PowerPoint presentation was given to the Board and residents in the audience, and a Q&A session was held that lasted over 1 hour. The Board states they will again have an article at Town Meeting; it is not clear at this time if the Board will support continuing membership or will advocate withdrawal from the program.

A meeting was held at the Project office, facilitated by our Wetland Project Coordinator Nicole Granger between the other WPC's in mosquito control. This will be an ongoing collaborative to discuss issues facing wetlands restoration for mosquito control in Mass.

Nicole also set up a meeting with Dave Keddell, Army Corps of Engineers on March 28. This was more of a meet & greet between our offices, and Nicole went over some of our work to get Mr. Keddell's opinion. Future meetings are anticipated, and Nicole & Tim D. will start to work on an Individual Permit (IP) for freshwater ditch maintenance over the next few months/year.

Tim D. has received a letter from the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT), excluding all of their property from our program, including larval control. Tim has responded to this letter and states that this exemption will be honored, but that larval control is the most effective means of mosquito control with the fewest non-target concerns. The letter was cc'd to the Boards of Health in the towns involved. Any additional correspondence will be brought to the attention of the Commission.

Tim, Tim & Curtis attended a meeting at the DPH State Lab. on April 11. Discussion about the upcoming season, as well as trapping protocols were covered. They will be out to the Project office soon with the label scanners.

The Clarke Mosquito Control seminar is scheduled for April 27 at the Project office. All Commissioners are invited to attend, Tim expects a good turnout. 4 contact hours for Category 47 will be awarded to meeting participants.

Tim D. opened a discussion regarding retention/detention basin construction in our area. He discussed the idea of offering to cities and towns the option to have our office review plans for these structures, and to see if they can be built with mosquito control in mind. The Commission was not very receptive to this idea, concerns about liability if changes were suggested and not followed, as well as the increased workload that may occur. Tim will table this idea for the time being and see if more information is available for future discussion.

Tim D. discussed the FY06 budget request of \$1,409,942, an increase of \$121,952 over FY05. No increase was requested in FY05 from the previous year. On a unanimous vote the Commission accepted this budget amount subject to the proper approvals. The Dept. of Revenue has given preliminary support for this amount.

Tim D. discussed the possibility of increasing the spring aerial larvicide program if the budget increase is approved. Tim has concerns that the towns that currently have this program may not like the fact we

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are solely funding this expansion, when they pay for the product and aircraft in their area. The Commission suggested that this be presented as a 2 year pilot program, with the understanding that the towns may be asked to fund the program in year 3. Additional discussion and research is needed before this program can be expanded.

Tim D. requests that 2 Ford Rangers be added to the fleet to have additional vehicles for the surveillance crews. He anticipates hiring from 3-5 interns; Tim will have a payroll analysis for the May meeting. Classified advertisements have been placed for these positions. Preliminary reports are the vehicles will have a contract price of \$12,134 each. Tim will also coordinate with OVM to determine if we can use the last vehicles (2) under our waiver granted in FY04. The Commission grants approval for this purchase on a unanimous vote on a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Noguera. Tim will have more information at the next meeting.

Tim also reports that he will investigate the possibility of purchasing a new skid-steer loader. Our current machine does not have the lifting capabilities we now need, and we could use a machine with various attachments for restoration projects. It is anticipated that we could get a good trade-in amount for our current machine. Tim will have more information soon for the Commission to review.

A letter was given to the Commission from a resident of Tewksbury thanking our crews for a good job in working in his area.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Approved:

Richard Day, Chairman, CMMCP

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