



Commissioners
Jennifer Brown
Jeanne Galloway – Chair
Gregory Lewis
Carolyn Shores Ness

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board

Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District

8 Conway Street

South Deerfield, MA 01373

Web: www.mass.gov/pioneer-valley-mosquito-control-district

Email: john.c.briggs@mass.gov



District Director
John Briggs

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, June 10, 2024

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Virtual

1. Call to Order and Attendance
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM.
 - b. Commissioners in attendance: Jennifer Brown, Jeanne Galloway, Greg Lewis, and Carolyn Ness.
Also in attendance: John Briggs, Director of Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD), and Susan Gruen from the Heath Board of Health.
2. Public Comment/Output
 - a. None
3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Vote Required)
 - a. Carolyn made a motion to approve the minutes and Jennifer seconded. The vote passed 4-0.
4. Operations Update
 - a. John reported that the district had begun conducting adult mosquito surveillance, starting May 20th. John also mentioned that *Culiseta melanura* numbers were high compared to last year and that most of the other mosquito control districts and projects were seeing higher numbers of melanura.
 - b. John would investigate purchasing CO2 tanks for the district to prevent any gaps in surveillance services.
 - c. Pilot Mitigation Services
 - i. West Springfield signed up to receive catch basin treatments in late July or early August.
 - ii. Larval ground treatments in Deerfield and the first round of catch basin treatments in Amherst have been completed.
 - iii. John conducted treatment rechecks in Deerfield and mentioned that one site could use an additional treatment.
 - iv. John would check behind the Visitor Center in Deerfield for mosquito breeding.
 - v. South Hadley catch basin treatments are scheduled to begin by the end of the week.
 - vi. Northampton is scheduled to receive catch basin treatments in late August.
 - d. Mapping Projects
 - i. John mentioned that the Seasonal Entomologist created a software program that records and stores data for catch basin treatments, using QGIS. The seasonal entomologist is also utilizing GIS software to locate red maple swamps and tire piles.
 - ii. John would reach out to animal inspectors in each member community to receive information on known tire piles used in agriculture.
5. Staffing Updates

- a. The Field and Lab Tech Intern has been trained on setting up surveillance traps and is currently working on creating a flier on how to promote dragonfly habitat.
 - b. John would have the new PVMCD employees join next month's Commission meeting for an introduction.
6. Finance Report
 - a. John estimates that total expenses for FY24 are between \$132,000 and \$133,000.
 - b. The estimated revenue from mitigation services for FY 2025 is \$14,000.
7. Outreach Update
 - a. John met with the Selectboard from the Town of Bernardston and will forward all reports and communication to Karen Kelly, the Town Coordinator.
 - b. John would also email town administrators when sending out surveillance reports.
8. Lease and DCAMM Update
 - a. John is currently looking into utilizing lab space at UMASS Amherst or extending the lease with Deerfield.
9. Eastern Equine Encephalitis Response Plan Review
 - a. Discussions with member communities would begin when there are one or more EEE isolates found in bird-biting mosquitoes.
 - b. The District would accept a vote from a member community's Selectboard, City Council, and/or Board of Health for providing mitigation services in response to a EEE threat.
 - c. The District's adulticide policy and action thresholds would be discussed further at next month's Commission meeting.
10. Other Business
 - a. None
11. Date, Time, and Location of Next Commission Meeting
 - a. July 1, 2024, at 2 PM. This meeting will be held virtually.
12. Adjournment
 - a. Carolyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer seconded. The vote passed 4-0.