



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



PIONEER VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

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Boston, MA 02114
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Commissioners:
Jeanne Galloway - Chair
Aimee M. Petrosky
Carolyn S. Ness
Gregory R. Lewis
Merridith A. O'Leary

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE PIONEER VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

DATE: Thursday, January 9th 2020

TIME: 1:00pm

LOCATION: City of Northampton City Hall – Council Chambers
212 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

MEETING Minutes:

1. Call to Order and Attendance
 - a Call to order by Jeanne at 2:05pm with Jeanne, Aimee, Carolyn, Greg, and Merridith in attendance.
 - b Matt Osbourne of DPH joined the meeting through conference call.
2. Public Comment/Output
 - a No Public Input
3. Approval of meeting minutes (vote required)
 - a Motion to approve minutes by Carolyn. Abstain by Aimee. Passed 4-0
4. DPH and ISA Updates

- a Greg detailed a conversation with Matt Osbourne of DPH. The PVMCD had concerns there may have been a lapse of service for surveillance. Fortunately, there was not a lapse of service and the amount of samples tested continued through the season and a sufficient amount were tested.
- b Additionally, we discussed the 2019 ISA and the constraints DPH faced due to the EEE outbreak. DPH had some strain on their field crew due to state regulations.
- c DPH is willing to take mail-in samples and do sorting for free. A discount for testing is possible if there is a EEE emergency.
- d Dual ISAs are being considered – one for services and one for testing to assure.
- e Changing the format for reporting is a useful consideration. It can be helpful for messaging raw data to something that is easily readable.
- f Discussion about if the Governor’s office has had mosquito control on their agenda and if support may come for mosquito districts
- g Matt suggested we come up for questions for him and his team regarding the previous surveillance season.
- h Matt explained he would like to produce a new type of report for the PVMCD to use as a “marketing” tool for interested and member towns. Matt would like to hear the commission’s feedback. He additionally expressed an idea to log their operations for transparency and show how they are operating. Matt explained how subset testing works and the process of selecting samples to be submitted for testing.

5. Prospective Member Meetings Discussion

- a Chris detailed a meeting with the Ludlow board of health to discuss the benefits of joining the PVMCD
- b Additionally, Chris listed the towns he has scheduled – Granby, Wilbraham, Chicopee.
- c The commission discussed possible avenues for extra money for smaller, rural towns to get on board with the PVMCD. The primary scenario described involved the possibility of “sub-districting” where multiple towns share the trap rotation. The main hurdle to this that was discussed was the large geography of the potential towns.

6. 2019 Surveillance Reports Draft Review

- a The commission was presented with a draft template of the 2019 surveillance report for PVMCD communities. Chris provided an example of a town-specific report using East Longmeadow data as a sample.
- b The commission suggested:
 - i Listing information about important mosquito species and possible virus they carry

- ii Showing annual trends in surveillance within the report
- iii 2020 Outlook
- iv Recommendations
- v References to reports
- vi Creating a tool kit for each community to use in case of a EEE or WNV outbreak. The idea is to provide a flash drive as well as paper packet with helpful information in making decisions around a EEE or WNV outbreak.

7. Budget and Vehicle Acquisition Updates

- a The main budget update was determining the affordability of acquiring a vehicle. Chris had contacted the state surplus manager about looking out for the availability of a surplus truck. The possibility of acquiring a surplus vehicle from another MCD was also discussed.

8. Other Business

- a No other business discussed.

9. Date, Time, and Location of Next Commission Meeting

- a Monday, 2/3 at 2pm – 2/18 1pm is backup date (snow date)
- b March 9th 2020

10. Adjournment

- a Motion to adjourn by Greg, seconded by Jeanne. Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm.