



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



PIONEER VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

Commissioners
Jeanne Galloway – Chair
Gregory Lewis
Merridith O’Leary
Carolyn Ness

225 Turnpike Road, 3rd Floor
Southborough, MA 01772
401-580-6397

PVMCD Director
John Briggs

Public Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District Meeting Minutes October 16, 2023

1. Call to Order and Attendance
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Jeanne at 2:01 PM.
 - b. Commissioners in attendance: Jeanne Galloway, Carolyn Ness, Greg Lewis. John Briggs, the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District Director, was also in attendance.
2. Public Comment/Output
 - a. None
3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Vote Required)
 - a. Carolyn made a motion to approve the minutes from September 11th and Greg seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.
4. Operations Report
 - a. John summarized incidences of WNV and EEE across the state and within Pioneer Valley. John noted that the spread and frequency of EEE was unusual and that it typically occurred more often in the eastern side of the state.
 - b. Greg suggested that the District consider taking a different approach with outreach regarding arbovirus for the purpose of getting simple messaging across to the public.
 - c. John would create a response packet per Carolyn’s recommendation and create PE materials that take a different approach with messaging, based off of Greg’s suggestion.
 - d. Carolyn noted that materials should be tailored to the age level of each target audience.
5. Finance Report
 - a. Altogether, 21 out of 23 member communities have paid their annual membership fees for FY24. John would follow up with the member communities that still have balances.
 - b. John stated that he would like to hire a Seasonal Entomologist for the next mosquito season.
 - c. In addition to John, one or two commissioners would make up the interview panel.
6. Request to add the Town of Erving into the District for FY25 (Vote Required)
 - a. Carolyn made a motion to approve Erving as a member town for FY25 and Greg seconded. Discussion: Sampling would begin on its normal schedule in June of 2024. Motion passed 3-0.
7. Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance Process (DCAMM) Update
 - a. John reported that the lease is ready to be executed but a start date needed to be determined. John suggested January as the lease start date.
 - b. John would reach out to the Massachusetts of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) to see if they would still work with the District in completing the steps necessary for

creating a seasonal job posting for a candidate to be hired in May, despite not starting the lease until January.

- c. Jeanne made a motion for John to execute the contract with a move-in date between December 1st and January 10th, to be based on the responses given from MDAR and Carolyn seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

8. Commissioner Search Update

- a. John mentioned that Jennifer Brown from the Board of Health in Northampton would be applying for a commissioner position in the near future.

9. Other Business

- a. Jeanne noted that Agawam may still be interested in eventually joining the District.
- b. John would reach out to Agawam and communities impacted by EEE this past summer.
- c. John would eventually purchase a rental truck through Enterprise for moving the District's supplies out of storage.
- d. John mentioned that the rental vehicle, which is to be utilized by a seasonal employee, would likely cost the District \$7,500 to \$9,000; and that it may be more prudent to revisit leasing a vehicle through the state.

- 10. The meeting ended abruptly due to an unannounced attendee joining the session and engaging in inappropriate and lewd behavior.