



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

251 Causeway Street Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1723

PVMCD Director
John Briggs

Date: Monday, April 10, 2023

Time: 2:00pm

Location: Virtual – Public welcome to join at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87900808819> (Meeting ID: 879 0080 8819)

1. Call to Order and Attendance

- a. The commission meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM by Jeanne.
- b. Commissioners in attendance: Jeanne Galloway, Greg Lewis, and Carolyn Shores Ness. John Briggs – Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) Director and Alex Giannantonio, State Reclamation Board (SRB) Operations Coordinator were also in attendance. Two members of the public were present: Elisa Viarengo from Heath BOH and Emily Mader from Cornell University Department of Entomology.
- c. Members of the public: Elisa Viarengo from Heath BOH and Emily Mader Cornell University Dept of Entomology

2. Public Comment/Output

- a. Elisa Viarengo from Heath board of health wanted to know if towns would have any opportunity to opt out of ground-based spraying and aerial spraying. Alex clarified Pioneer Valley does not currently offer ground-based spraying and gave information for spray exclusions that can be accessed using the SRB website.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (vote required)

- a. March 2023 - Greg made a motion to approve the minutes and Carolyn seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

4. Introduction of New Director of the PVMCD

- a. Alex introduced John Briggs as the new PVMCD director, who was promoted from Crew Leader at Central Mass Mosquito Control Project.

5. Mosquito Control Focus Group

- a. Emily Mader, the Program Manager for Cornell University Dept of Entomology, proposed that PVMCD participate in a project that she is leading and would involve community members in the Pioneer Valley participating in focus groups (2-3 in person or virtual). This project would be implemented during this summer. Carolyn made a motion to support PVMCD’s participation in the focus group and Greg seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

6. Finance Report

- a. Towns that have not paid the district for services – Update: Alex gave a recap on FY23 membership fees. It was noted that \$64,000 in revenue had been collected to date out of \$98,000 that was estimated revenue for the district's member communities. Alex stated that towns that have not paid have until June 30th to send payments. Jeanne added that she would correspond with towns that owe payment.
- b. Heath Overpayment of \$4,000. Option for 4 years of credit. The agreement would recognize the possibility of changes in fee structures if that were to occur at any point in the next 4 fiscal years. Carolyn made a motion to support the 4-year credit for Heath with the stipulation that there would be a memorandum put in place and Greg seconded the motion. Motion Passed: 3-0.
- c. Amherst FY23 proration: John would create and send Amherst the surveillance report from last year, summarizing trapping and DPH testing data. John and Jeanne to determine cost of services for Amherst from last year based on actual work completed. Greg made a motion to discount Amherst up to a \$1k from last year's fee and Carolyn seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
- d. No payments from Palmer for FY20, Holyoke FY21 payment was sent to the wrong state agency, Chicopee, Hadley and Shutesbury no payments received in FY22.
- e. Next steps for New Director (finance related): John to produce a finance report for monthly meetings detailing payments received and future operational costs associated with leasing space.

7. DCAMM Process Updates

- a. Carolyn mentioned space (first floor) at 67 North Main Street that could be utilized as a field office for PVMCD. Carolyn would put it on the agenda at the next town meeting for discussion. John would look at the building to assess usable space. Alex to follow up with DCAMM.

8. Vehicle Update

- a. A 2019 Tahoe was transferred from Northeast Mosquito Control District (MCD) to PVMCD.

9. 2023 SRB meetings

- a. SRB meeting scheduled for Thursday April 13th at 11:30 am to discuss the JCV pilot program and a meeting in May to certify the budgets would be determined at a later date.

10. Commissioner Search update

- a. No applications currently.

11. Expectations for the New Director

- a. Outreach to Members: John would ensure reports are sent out in October. John to create beginning of the season Newsletter that would focus on outreach and education. Downloadable pamphlets may be added to PVMCD's state website for towns to have access to.
- b. Monthly Reports to Board and Membership towns. Jeanne suggested that John produce reports to member towns throughout the season, keeping them updated on surveillance.

12. Other Business

- a. No other business

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

- a. The next monthly commission meeting will be held virtually on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 2pm.

14. Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Carolyn and seconded by Greg. Vote 3-0.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM