

**MINUTES OF THE 455th MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD AT THE RUTGERS ECO COMPLEX AT 1200 FLORENCE-COLUMBUS ROAD,
BORDENTOWN, NJ**

October 16, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Howard Emerson, Dr. Kenneth Bruder, Dr. George Van Orden, George Shivery, Shereen Semple, Dr. Mark Robson, Robert Kent; Secretary, and Claudia O'Malley; Technical Advisor. Due to various scheduling conflicts, John Sarnas, John Surmay, Mark Mayer and Tony Petrongolo were unable to attend.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Lisa Reed, Eric Williges, Scott Crans, Dr. Greg Williams and D.A.G. Mike Schuit.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Emerson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on October 10, 2012 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the September meeting to be held at the Rutgers Eco Complex at 1200 Florence-Columbus Road, Bordentown, NJ. A copy of the announcement was also sent to the Newark Star-Ledger, the Asbury Park Press, the Associated Press, the Atlantic City Press, the Bridgeton Evening News, the NJDEP Press Office and the NJDEP Office of Communication and Legislation in compliance with P.L. 1975, c. 231.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 MEETING

Mr. Shivery moved and Dr. Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the minutes. It was noted that in the report from the Department of Health, the intent was to convey that there had been reported West Nile virus activity in either birds or mosquitoes without specifying which species. All members approved; Mrs. Semple & Dr. Bruder abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

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| 09/20/12 | Correspondence to Sarah Gazi, Business Manager, American Mosquito Control Association from Robert Kent, Secretary, SMCC. Ref.: New Jersey State Mosquito Control Commission's sustaining membership to A.M.C.A. |
| 09/20/12 | Correspondence to Peter Bosak, Superintendent of Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control from Robert Kent, Administrator, New Jersey Office of Mosquito Control Coordination. Ref.: Enclosed check for completion of mosquito surveillance and laboratory services for fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. |
| 09/20/12 | Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary, SMCC to Jeffrey Ridgway, Director, Salem County Department of Public Works. Ref.: Guidelines Regarding the Use and Repairs to State Owned Mosquito Control Equipment. |

- 10/03/12 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC to Richard Candeletti, Superintendent of Ocean County Mosquito Extermination Commission. Ref.: A request for submission of records and maps of all insecticide applications to state – owned land for mosquito control.
- 10/03/12 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC to Peter Bosak, Superintendent of Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control. Ref.: A request for submission of records and maps for insecticide applications in state-owned land for mosquito control.
- 10/10/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.: Announcement of October State Mosquito Control Commission Meeting
- 10/10/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary to Hon. Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the October Commission meeting at the Rutgers Eco Complex at 1200 Florence-Columbus Road, Bordentown, New Jersey.
- 10/10/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Administrator to Carol Clark, Financial Management. Ref.: Encumbrance of funds for Warren County to fund the northern courier.
- 10/10/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Administrator to Jagjit Sethi, Procurement, Financial Operations. Ref.: Three invoices to be paid via FY 12 encumbrances for Rutgers contracts.
- 10/11/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Patricia A. Springer, Clerk Pro Tem, County of Sussex, Ref.: The “Guidelines Regarding the Use and Repairs to State Owned Mosquito Control Equipment” and “Affidavit for Repairs.”
- 10/11/12 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, State Mosquito Control Commission to Richard Boornazian, Assistant Commissioner of Natural and Historic Resources. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreements.
- 10/11/12 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist of Office of Mosquito Control Coordination to Peter Bosak, Superintendent of Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control. Ref.: Registration for SMCC # 56.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The September payment was made for the toll-free number. The financial statement shows two expenses for equipment repairs: \$2,500 for repair to the Salem County excavator and \$6,000 for an ultra-low temperature freezer that is assigned to the Department of Agriculture. At this time there are no carry forward funds for operations in the spring. Dr. Bruder moved and Dr. Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the budget, presently and in future fiscal years and the potential for alerting the DEP Commissioner and/or the Governor with regard to what may be serious consequences in view of a static resource of funds and personnel. Dr. Bruder moved and Dr. Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

Mr. Kent reported on several documents that were handed out. Distributed were a summary of toll free calls from AT & T, a N.J.M.C.A newsletter, 2 articles from the A.M.C.A journal and a job description regarding the filling of a position within the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination. After a discussion regarding fiscal and personnel resources, the Budget Committee was charged with the responsibility to meet and develop a strategy to resolve this issue which includes meeting with the cabinet members on the Commission and perhaps the Governor. The Vice Chair and the Secretary also noted the passing of former Commission member and Chairman, Dr. Len Spiegel. The Secretary noted that he has asked the Governor's office to consider sending condolences to his family.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Ms. O'Malley stated that the Airspray Program has performed 1 aerial larvicide since the September SMCC meeting, in Cumberland County on 09/26/12 when 925 acres were treated. The season total is 13,227 acres treated; all larvicide applications. The bio control program has no new activity with respect to the stocking of mosquitofish. The season total of 135,800 fish distributed was among 12 counties.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – Mr. Emerson reported that the Secretary and Technical Advisor provided information on introduced legislation: A-3261, The Plastic Reduction Act; S-2208, The Flood Hazard Area Control Act; A-2890, The Rain Water Capture and Water Conservation Incentive Act; A-3368, the Green Acres Fund and an amendment to A-2408 which deals with stormwater basins. The Farm Bill which addresses the Clean Water Act, has not moved forward.

Equipment – No report.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden stated that the two ad-hoc committees were set up and are waiting for West Nile season to be over before they meet and become active. They will address both the Stormwater Best Management Practices and copepod data analysis. They will move forward to schedule these meetings in November. They recommend that a copy of the 2007 Department of Agriculture status report be forwarded to the Associated Executives of Mosquito Control Work in N.J. The committee also will include representatives from that organization to work with the R & D committee to examine collected copepod data.

Following further discussion Dr. Van Orden moved and Shereen Semple seconded a motion to offer this 2007 report and to accept 2 members to work with the subcommittee. A follow-up letter regarding the copepod project will be drafted to respond to correspondence received from the Associated Executives. All members approved.

Budget – Dr. Bruder reported that the committee will setup a meeting as soon as possible.

Public Relations – No report.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – There was some discussion with regard to the progress of the committee. Mr. Emerson noted that he has been reporting on points he acquired from attending Associated Executives meeting. The Secretary noted that the ad-hoc committee dissolves at the end of the business year.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Shereen Semple reported that there have been 42 human cases of West Nile virus within 16 counties Atlantic(1), Bergen(4), Burlington(2), Camden(5), Cape May(1), Essex(4), Gloucester(2), Hudson(1), Mercer(1), Union(1), Monmouth(3), Ocean(8), Middlesex(4), Passaic(2), Salem(1) and Somerset(2). There have been 4 fatalities, one each in Burlington, Gloucester, Ocean and Passaic counties. Three hundred and one birds have been tested and 132 were positive in 14 counties. There have been approximately 2,400 mosquito pools tested for EEE: 32 were positive. She also noted that there have been 6 EEE horses, 5 West Nile horses, 1 positive alpaca and a positive EEE pheasant flock. There have been approximately 11,000 tested mosquito pools and over 1,000 are positive for WNV but none from Cumberland County (there is other viral activity in that county). Mrs. Semple reviewed the change in acceptance protocol regarding results from tests performed at commercial laboratories. The Department will accept these results as long as standard criteria are met. Clinical symptoms must still be met. The availability of cerebrospinal fluid, tested at PHEL, will still discriminate confirmed and probable cases from those declared positive. Mrs. Semple underscored that 2012 is the worst year for WNV human related cases. Dr. Tan has met with the Department of Health Commissioner with regard to data base management and the future of the website. The Vector Borne working Group continues to meet. Dr. Fage Sorhage will retire next year.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No report.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. Robson noted that on September 1, Rutgers University's new President arrived on campus. On July 1, the University acquired the University of Medicine & Dentistry facilities, with some exceptions. Dr. Reed reported that they have not had any positive WNV species in recent weeks. There were 2 positive EEE pools from Culex erraticus collected in Monmouth and Cumberland Counties. A lot of positive, infected horses have either no vaccination history or partial history. Scott Crans noted that the biologists have a meeting coming up on 10/18 and all are welcome to attend. The following week they are having a recertification training class and it will be held at the Headlee Labs. The media training went well. Three articles have been submitted for publication. Dr. Reed distributed her final surveillance annual reports for fiscal year 2012.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Dr. Willams reported that he believes that both the Associated Executives and the N.J Mosquito Control Association are willing to participate in a letter writing campaign to support more funding, as the matter had been discussed earlier in this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Emerson asked if the DEP "Bio-Watch" team could act as couriers for specimen transport (the Secretary investigated this and they cannot). Funding for Commissioners to attend the AMCA meeting was discussed without resolution. Mr. Emerson displayed a file of newspaper articles about historical encephalitis outbreaks in New Jersey.

NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting will be held at Rutgers University, Headlee Research Laboratories.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Van Orden reported that the nominating committee is presenting the following slate – Chairman: John Sarnas; Vice-Chairman: Howard Emerson; Secretary: Robert Kent; Technical Advisor: Claudia O'Malley. Mr. Emerson asked for nominations from the floor; hearing none he entertained a motion to close nominations. Mr. Shivery moved and Dr. Bruder seconded the motion to close nominations. All members approved. Mr. Emerson asked for acceptance of the Committee report. All members approved the report.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.