

**MINUTES OF THE 456th MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD AT THE N.J.D.E.P. DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE,
ASSUNPINK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA,
ROBBINSVILLE, NEW JERSEY**

February 19, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Sarnas, Howard Emerson, Dr. Kenneth Bruder, Dr. George Van Orden, George Shivery, Dr. Mark Robson, Daniel Ferrigno (representing D.E.P.), Shereen Semple, Robert Kent; Secretary, and Claudia O'Malley; Technical Advisor. Due to various scheduling conflicts, John Surmay and Mark Mayer were unable to attend.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Lisa Reed, Scott Crans and D.A.G. Mike Schuit.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on February 7, 2013 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the February meeting to be held at the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. 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 JANUARY 15, 2013 MEETING

Dr. Bruder moved and Howard Emerson seconded a motion to approve the minutes. All members approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

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| 01/18/13 | Correspondence to Jolyn Beal, Office Manager, from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC. Ref.: Enclosed a payment voucher for repairs to SMCC #10, an amphibious hydraulic excavator. |
| 01/22/13 | Correspondence to Hon. Chris Christie, Governor from John Sarnas, Chairman, SMCC. Ref.: A letter showing concern regarding the damage that Hurricane Sandy left on the coastal counties. |
| 01/25/13 | Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC to Richard Boornazian, Assistant Commissioner, Natural and Historic Resources. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreement for fiscal year 2013. |

- 01/05/13 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist/Technical Advisor, OMCC/SMCC to Participating New Jersey Mosquito Control Agencies/ Commission. Ref.: Announcing the next State Airspray Program meeting.
- 02/06/13 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist to Jagjit Sethi, Senior Buyer, Central Purchasing. Ref.: Payment voucher.
- 02/07/13 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.; Announcement of February State Mosquito Control Commission meeting
- 02/07/13 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Hon. Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the February State Mosquito Control Commission meeting.
- 02/13/13 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC to James R. McDonald, Sussex County Dept. of Environmental and Public Health Services. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreement for fiscal year 2013.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary stated that as a result from action taken at last month's meeting, \$5,000 for repairs on the hydraulic rotary excavator and \$3,000 for the courier truck both assigned to Atlantic county appear on this month's statement. Shereen Semple moved and George Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

Mr. Kent reported that a draft letter addressed to Governor Chris Christie is on the agenda as new business. The Secretary also stated that new legislation mandates that at the beginning of next month there will be more information included on the DEP website pertaining to the –State Mosquito Control Commission, such as minutes, by laws, list of contractors, and other information. Ms. O'Malley has been working hard on getting the insecticide contract finalized. Ms. O'Malley is working to comply with reimbursement to the counties that made applications on federal & state-owned lands. Ms. O'Malley and the Secretary attended a meeting with the DEP regarding a new equipment inventory system. The Secretary states that with the ongoing Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts, DEP has been addressing all options in order to remove debris from properties. The Secretary has attended several meetings with various agencies in order to ensure that mosquito control interests are well represented during the recovery efforts. As a result, the Secretary prepared a \$20 million budget to be submitted for mosquito control as part of the State's application for federal funds. Finally, the Secretary was informed by the manager of the U.S.F& W Refuge at Forsythe that spinosad formulations would not be approved for mosquito control. The Secretary has reached out to the superintendents in Monmouth, Ocean, Burlington and Cape May counties in order to describe to them what the original debris removal contractors were going to do and that he also encourage DEP to reach out to them as well in the prior months.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Ms. O'Malley stated that the State Airspray program has a mandatory meeting coming up on March 8; there will be 5 items for discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – No report.

Equipment – No report.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden stated that the copepod ad-hoc R & D committee had met on January 31. The committee will examine collected data and discuss a study for future evaluation of efficacy. The Beneficial Insect Laboratory will add a biologist to participate. Two counties will also be involved. The Stormwater Best Management Project committee will have a meeting on Friday.

Budget – The committee will schedule a meeting.

Public Relations – No report.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mrs. Semple stated that she will be attending the AMCA to give a presentation during the “N.J. Symposium.” She is also going to offer a presentation in Atlantic City on West Nile Virus and tick borne diseases to the N.J. Environmental Health Officers Association. Mrs. Semple has spoken to Dr. Bishop with regard to changes in the surveillance protocols for encephalitis. A forum to discuss this will be the Vector Borne Working group which has broad representation. Mrs. Semple also noted that her department submitted a budget (as previously discussed during the Secretary’s Report) separately to the Department of Community Affairs as part of the Hurricane Sandy Recovery request for funding.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No report

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. Robson thanked Dr. Van Orden for inviting him to the copepod meeting. Dr. Reed presented fiscal year 2014 contract proposals for the Vector and Statewide Surveillance Programs. Scott Crans states that there are 23 different titles or poster presentations for the AMCA meeting in Atlantic City. He added that Biology courses continue and the latest issue of “Wing Beats” has articles about N.J.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sarnas stated that the members had a meeting with the N.J.D.E.P. Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources about replacement for the O.M.C.C. Administrator. The members would like to be included in the decision with regard to who will take over the position of Administrator when Mr. Kent retires. There was an extended discussion including the urgency developing as the Administrator of the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination also serves as the Commission Secretary. As a result of the discussion and after a review of draft letter addressed to Governor Chris Christie which expresses their dissatisfaction with the process of personnel recruitment and hiring, the members agreed that the chairman should sign and send such correspondence. Also discussed at the meeting with the Assistant Commissioner was the concern of the mosquito commission members with regard to the impacts of Super Storm “Sandy” on the mosquito population during the upcoming season.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.