

**MINUTES OF THE 451th MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD IN THE NJDEP NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES 3rd FLOOR
CONFERENCE ROOM, 501 EAST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**

May 15, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Lisa Reed, Dr. Lena Brattsten, D.A.G. Michael Schuit, Kimberly Johnson, Steve Csorgo, Scott Crans and Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources Rich Boornazian.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on May 7, 2012 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the May meeting to be held at the NJDEP Natural and Historic Resources 3rd Floor Conference Room, Trenton, 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 MARCH 20, 2012 MEETING

Mr. Emerson noted that at the March meeting Dr. Bruder indicated that any correspondence that goes out to elected officials or to the legislature should be forwarded to upper management in the DEP. He then moved, and Mr. Mayer seconded a motion approving the minutes with that amendment. All members approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

03/20/12 Correspondence from John P. Sarnas , Chairman, to President Barack Obama.
Ref.: Clean Water Act and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System.

03/20/12 Correspondence from Joseph Schmidt, Ocean County Mosquito Extermination
Commission to Robert Kent, Adminstrator, Office of Mosquito Control
Coordination. Ref.: Amphibious Rotary Excavator repairs.

03/22/12 Memorandum to all members of the New Jersey Congressional delegation and
congressional budget subcommittee from John P. Sarnas, Chairman. Ref.: The
federal budget for Inter-Regional 4 (IR-4).

- 04/03/12 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent, Mercer County Mosquito Control. Ref.: Registration 2003 all-terrain vehicle trailer.
- 04/24/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Ms. Fana Campbell, Rutgers University Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs. Ref.: Service Contracts (3) for the fiscal year 2011-2012.
- 05/07/12 Correspondence to SMCC Equipment Committee from Ms. O'Malley, Technical Advisor. Ref.: Items for consideration at the May 15th SMCC meeting.
- 05/07/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.: Announcement of the May Commission meeting at the NJ DEP Natural and Historic Resources conference room.
- 05/07/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Hon. Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the May Commission meeting at the NJDEP Natural and Historic Resources conference room.
- 05/10/12 Correspondence from Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent, MCMC to Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: 2002 Ultra Low Temperature Freezer.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. There are two financial statements; March and May. There were typographical errors on the original March statement which are now correct. The May financial statement had small changes for the toll free number and for the legal ad announcement for the March meeting. This year (with super stocking of the copepods) more liquid is required to transport these copepods. With information from the Beneficial Insect Lab, the Secretary issued a purchase order for transport tubs. Mr. Sarnas asked for approval of both the March and May financial statements. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

The Secretary stated that an article regarding Gloucester County and their stocking of mosquito fish was published in the paper. AMCA membership as a sustaining member will expire in June and will be renewed in July. The Office staff has applied to be reimbursed through FEMA for aerial applications due to the summer & fall storms from last season. It was turned in and was rejected. There is a meeting scheduled to appeal the denial. The Division of Fish & Wildlife will be having an event on June 2-3 to celebrate the Hackettstown Hatchery's centennial. The Division also will host the 3rd Annual NJ outdoors exhibition on September 15-16 in Jackson Township. Our former Assistant Commissioner, Amy Cradic, left to work in the Governor's office and Richard Boornazian, our new Assistant Commissioner, will come and join our meeting around 11:00 am this morning. The Secretary had a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner regarding what mosquito control does and what services our program provides. The Secretary also discussed with the Deputy Commissioner and with the Asst. Commissioner, staffing in the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination and the lateral mobility program (where people can move into various positions). He was instructed to assemble job specifications and skill set requirements for a permanent Administrator, Principal Biologist, Principal Environmental

Specialist, and also included a principal level Scientist for water management. The Vector Borne Working group met on Friday and reviewed the present West Nile virus situation in the state. There was a positive crow in Morris County on April 9th and on March 14th there was a positive WNV horse in Pennsylvania which was a fatal case. Five counties were contacted (Morris, Camden, Hunterdon, Mercer, and Gloucester County) to advise them to collect and bring in their specimens to the PHEAL.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Ms. O'Malley stated that the first aerial larvicide application was performed on April 30 in Cumberland County on a salt hay farm. On May 11, Atlantic County was sprayed which brought Atlantic and Cumberland County treated acreage to 2,817. On May 14, 124,100 fish were distributed to Bergen, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, and Warren counties. Also a Bio-Control meeting on May 1st was held for all counties interested in participating in the copepod program. The meeting was held at the Beneficial Insect Laboratory; 8 counties were represented, 12 have indicated interest in participating. Each county will receive 10,000 copepods and there will be a new distribution method using transport tubs which are required to carry more liquid. There also the possibility of a joint DEP/ DOA press event, perhaps in early June. On April 12, with personnel from Burlington and Ocean counties, Ms. O'Malley located a new site with good potential for *Culiseta melanura* & resting boxes. Ms. O'Malley stated that on April 19th, with personnel from Ocean County, they performed helicopter characterization of new insecticide formulation (Meta Larv. S-PT). A spherical, pellet methoprene formulation can be applied pre-flood and directly into water to control adult mosquito emergence for extended periods of time (up to 42 days; it can be applied pre-flood up to 28 days prior to flooding). It may be an alternative to the liquid formulation of methoprene which had been used on salt marsh, until it was no longer providing acceptable control.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – Mr. Emerson stated that on the State legislative website there are 3 items for discussion: A2762 directs that the NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife will be moved to the Department of Agriculture, A2767 would provide for a restriction on the use of pesticides on state, county and municipal parks. A2890 would create the Capture & Water Conservation Rainwater Incentive Act.

Equipment – Mr. Petrongolo gave the report regarding an Ocean County request to approve repairs to a 1987 amphibious excavator for \$17,500.00 and a 1995 Long reach excavator, in Salem County for \$14,090.18. The members recommend that Ocean County receive partial approval based on available funds and suspend action on Salem County until next fiscal year. Mercer County is surrendering the Revco low temperature freezer and volunteered to move it to Public Health Environmental and Agricultural Laboratories. All members approved.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden noted that the Committee had met to discuss grant proposals for this coming fiscal year. The recommendations were to not fund the “Efficacy of Insecticides for Mosquito Control in New Jersey.” The “Surveillance & Standardized” data is still being evaluated. The “Adult Mosquito Surveillance” and “Vectors of Mosquito Arbovirus 2012-2013 in New Jersey” are both approved.

The “Counties Water Management Network” met to discuss aspects of the “Best Management Practices” for stormwater maintenance. The network members looked at the different types of systems that have been installed and the maintenance not being kept up on these systems. When

the systems are installed they are supposed to be maintained but there is little DEP enforcement. The biggest problems associated by type of systems are infiltration basins and sand filters. Chairman Sarnas asked for approval of the committee report. Approval was unanimous.

Budget – No report.

Public Relations – No report.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – No report.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

Ms. Shereen Semple stated that she has updated the State Health Dept. form regarding when and where bird specimens to be tested for WNV can be sent. The form has been updated with the new address of the PHEAL. When all forms are approved there will be a website link posted. The State has received 4 birds and one, collected on 4/09, was positive from Whippany, Ocean and Hunterdon have each turned in one bird apiece. Last year, Gloucester County had a positive bird on 06/28/11. Middlesex had a positive bird at the end of July 2011. Hunterdon, and Warren also had mosquito positive infected birds last year.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mark Mayer gave a report on the Beneficial Insect Laboratory's successful rearing of copepods. The goal this year is to distribute 100,000 copepods; last year 50,000 were distributed. They have put up traps throughout the state for the Emerald Ash Borer. They have been found in Warren County, NJ, Bucks County, PA and also Orange County in New York.

Ms. Semple added that the Division of Animal Health had a meeting with the Vector Borne Working Group. A memo went out on 04/24 to all veterinarians regarding EEE and West Nile for testing horses. Mrs. Semple discussed how the State Mosquito Commission could subsidize the testing of all horses that are previously tested only for rabies.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Mr. Crans stated that AMCA is sponsoring a webinar on "How to use Twitter" and the positive and negatives on using social media networks. The July biologists meeting will be discussing the use of social media. The October meeting will be on "Asian Tiger Mosquito Surveillance from A to Z." An insecticide resistance workshop and media training will probably be in June, July, or August. Mr. Crans has had black fly complaints from Middlesex County which is an atypical place of black fly instance. Mr. Crans is still working closely with the mosquito community regarding the archives for the AMCA 2013.

Dr. Lisa Reed stated that Cape May and Essex have turned in surveillance data. Cape May sent some interesting data regarding *Culiseta melanura* findings in their light traps. The incandescent light bulb may not be produced anymore. N.J Light traps use household bulbs so an alternative light source for light traps must be found.

Dr. Lena Brattsten stated that the three insecticides that mosquito control agencies continue to use are temephos, methoprene, and spinosad. They still are able to control mosquito populations in the larval stage. If mosquito control agencies can keep them in rotation at all preserve the life of them as pesticides.

Dr. Brattsten added the 2012 "Recommendations" have been posted on the Rutgers website. It is the 50th anniversary issue.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

The Secretary reminded the attendees that Dr. Slaff is due to offer his final report on “Surveillance Quality and Assurance.”

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kent stated that Dr. Robson has made the Rutgers Eco Center in Burlington County available for future meetings. The Assunpink Wildlife Management Area building is also always available. Ms. Semple recommended going to a county that needs more support like Camden, or Cumberland, or different areas of the state. All members approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Assistant Commissioner Boornazian expressed his interest in mosquito control and the relationship to the counties. He noted that mosquito control addresses the Departments number one goal, that is “Comprehensive Environmental Management.” He noted that there are no boundaries or property lines with regard to natural resource management. He added that he visited the Hackettstown Hatchery and observed the production of mosquito-fish. The staff there was enthusiastic about an end-state resolution to mosquitoes. The Assistant Commissioner has met with the Secretary in the regard of working on additional resources.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.