

Norfolk County Mosquito Control District

Commission Meeting

February 20, 2013

The Meeting was called to order at 4:02 P.M. at The District Headquarters

Those present were: Robin L. Chapell, Chairman
 Richard Pollack Maureen MacEachern
 Linda R. Shea David Lawson, Director

The minutes of the January 17, 2013, Commission Meeting were unanimously accepted on a motion by Mrs. MacEachern, seconded by Mr. Pollack. The Commissioners made some comments affirming their sense of success at the turnout at the Budget/BOH evening ULV meeting on January 17th. Mrs. Chapell noted Mrs. Shea's efforts at helping to get many Board of Health members to attend.

The Director presented a brief summary of the overall budget situation. The District is in a stable financial situation as it enters the second half of the fiscal year. The Director updated the Commission on progress regarding truck and ULV sprayer purchases. Two trucks have been received, and 5 of the 6 sprayers have been received. The Director showed the Commission the new tablet that will be the field computer platform for the new ULV system. The Director showed a chart of the towns that have responded to the SRB-3 form. Ten support notices have been received as of this meeting date. The Commission asked the Director to make contact with the remaining towns to encourage their timely response. The Director spoke of the few towns that have contacted the Director with concerns regarding the move to an evening ULV application, and plans to address these concerns. The budgetary review report was accepted on a motion by Mr. Pollack, seconded by Mrs. MacEachern, and unanimously accepted.

The Director reviewed the field work accomplished report. The Director noted the current emphasis on water management work; and the lack of extensive field work since late January due to excessive cold and snow. The Director updated the Commission on a change to how the District will engage school properties as 'no spray' zones in regard to the Children's and Families Protection Act. The Director noted that at a recent meeting Taryn LaScola, Pesticide Inspector from the Department of Agriculture had stated that no buffer around the schools was required by the Act as the District had previously thought. Starting this season, schools in the NCMCD will no longer have a 300' buffer for ULV applications. Residential "no sprays" will continue to have a 300' buffer. The Commission unanimously voted, on a motion by Mrs. MacEachern, seconded by Mrs. Shea to accept the field work accomplished report.

As new business, the Commission entered into a discussion regarding the current personnel policy of the District. The Director noted that he has considered the Commonwealth's so called 'Redbook' Policy to be the policy of the District. The Director shared a document, he had created, highlighting some relevant historical events in regards to the evolution of District policy. He noted that The Commission has over the years adopted Redbook policy as needed, but it had seemingly never formally voted to fully adopt the entire Redbook Policy. After discussion, it was clarified that the Commissions intent had been to fully adopt the Redbook Policy, since having two working policies that had conflicting information was dysfunctional. The Commission voted to "reaffirm", that the Redbook Policy supersedes any previous NCMCD policy handbooks. The vote was unanimous on a motion by Mr. Pollack, and seconded by Mrs. Shea. The Director noted that he had asked the Field Operations Manager to work on a "supplement" policy that would govern any in house District policy issues that were not covered in any way by the Redbook Policy.

Mr. Pollack presented a summary of discussion items at a recent DPH meeting. Mr. Pollack also reviewed with the Commission a handful of state legislative acts that have been proposed in regards to Mosquito Control in Massachusetts. The Commission asked that this topic be put on next meeting's agenda so the Commission will have up to date information on any legislative action that occurs.

The next meeting was set for March 28th, at 4:00pm at District Headquarters.

At 5:12 P.M. the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mrs. MacEachern

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Chapell, Chairman