



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
The State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board
NORFOLK COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
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ROBIN L. CHAPPELL NORMAN P. JACQUES RICHARD J. POLLACK, PhD LINDA R. SHEA
Commissioners

DAVID A. LAWSON
Director

CAROLINE E. HAVILAND
Operations Manager

**February 27th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes of The Norfolk
County Mosquito Control District Commission**

Held via Zoom

Commissioners present: Robin Chapell, Norman Jacques, Linda Shea, Richard Pollack

Commissioners absent:

Quorum: A quorum was established.

Others in attendance: David Lawson – Director, Caroline Haviland - Operations Manager, Lisa Golden – Administrative Assistant; Linda Callan – Sharon BOH

Note taker: Lisa Golden, David Lawson

- 1) **Call to Order – Establishment of Quorum.** The meeting was called to order at 1:02 P.M. by Chair Chapell.
- 2) **Agenda Item: Public Comment:** No public comment was made.
- 3) **Agenda Item: Approval of the minutes of the January 16th, 2025, Commission Meeting:**

Action: The minutes of the January 16th, 2025 Commission meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Pollack, second by Commissioner Jacques.

- 4) **Kaitlyn O'Donnell Presentation on MetaLarv application** – NCMCD entomologist, Kaitlyn O'Donnell presented a brief overview of the results of an application conducted in the Spring of 2025 in a cedar swamp wetland in Walpole. The results, though not scientifically rigorous, were fairly convincing that the application reduced *Cs. melanura* collections in resting boxes by 64% over the previous year. Following Kaitlyn's presentation, Dr. Pollack asked questions and a discussion ensued on the possibilities for conducting *Cs. melanura* control in a wider context in the NCMCD in coming years.

5) Agenda Item: Budget Overview

a) Projections for FY 2025

The Director noted that there is nothing of detailed significance to report regarding FY 2025. He highlighted, again, the continuing challenge of EV implementation and the possible financial repercussions from that for this fiscal year. If EV charging stations and electric vehicle purchases do not happen this fiscal year, the NCMCD rollover will be larger than currently projected. The Operations Manager is attempting to ‘purchase’ trucks through the OVM LEVI program (to be able to access a discount) which would put these on a 5 year lease timeline. This will spread costs out over the long-term and would also allow for a larger rollover than currently projected. The Director states that the district is in good shape no matter what happens on these fronts. NCMCD will have normal added costs soon with product purchases and with aerial larvicide in the spring. Additional unknowns are if flood plain application(s) might be needed before the end of the fiscal year – June 30.

Action: The Budget overview report was approved on a motion by Commissioner Shea, second by Commissioner Jacques.

6) Agenda Item: Field work overview

The Director shared a series of graphs highlighting the field work accomplished report as of 02/26/2025. He pointed out that ground work has been challenging due to the cold weather and precipitation this winter. The Operations Manager reported that the field crew is performing an intensive survey of beaver habitat across the District. This will be helpful as we move into the spring season to identify areas of concern for aerial and ground larviciding.

The Director shared some statistics on the frequency of requests for service by District residents and how these statistics surprisingly show a very low number of folks who request “chronically” throughout the summer season. “Chronic” being requests for ULV applications every week or most weeks of the season.

Action: The Fieldwork overview report was unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Jacques, second by Commissioner Pollack.

7) Agenda Item: Update on Pending Legislative Bills

The Director noted that there has been no new information regarding any pending legislative bills since April of 2023 when bills were sent to committee.

Action: No action taken.

8) Agenda Item: Update on EV First and Fleet Rightsizing initiatives from OVM

Operations Manager Haviland provided an update regarding the District’s efforts to install infrastructure for EV implementation. She is in the process of getting documents together for a grant application. There is currently around \$21,000 available at this time. She was issued a quote by the landlord which totaled around \$38,000. She is having a difficult time getting responses from people regarding vehicle availability.

Action: No action taken.

9) **Agenda Item: Next Meeting Date**

The next Commission meeting was set for March 20th at 1:00 pm to be held by Zoom Conference.

Other Notes or Information

New Business: Operations Manager Haviland presented a request by the Town of Dover's Recycling Committee for NCMCD to recycle some of the tires that they collect during their twice annual special recycling days. NCMCD is currently being charged \$3.50 per tire. Commissioner Chapell is concerned that it would set a precedent for other towns. Commissioner Pollack suggested that Dover and Needham communicate and work together as Needham allows residents to drop off tires and then recycles them. Commissioner Shea also expressed concern that it would set a precedent that would not be ideal. The Commission directed the Operations Manager to inform the Dover recycling committee representative that the District would not take their tires from a town recycling event.

The Directed noted that during the last SRB check-in meeting, the topic of drones was addressed. Jessica Burgess reassured the directors present that there was a move to put a proposal before EEA legal.

With the resignation of Commissioner Foley, the Director indicated that he would be starting the process to find a person to apply for the open position. He noted that Chairperson Chapell had suggested a particular person as a possible replacement commissioner to fill Commissioner Foley's spot. The Director shared that he and the Operations Manager have had discussion about possibly trying to find a replacement Commissioner from among either Conservation Commission agents or from among local DPW's. The Commissioners were supportive of this idea.

The Director also spoke about the recent process of travel authorization to attend the AMCA meeting in San Juan Puerto Rico and concerns about how that developed. The question being - do the Commissioners have the sole authority to approve travel for District personnel or does the EEA Secretary have the authority to overrule their approvals. A decision was made to put this topic on the next meeting's agenda with a look at the 'Roles and Responsibilities' document that was updated last year and signed by Commissioners.

At 2:06 p.m. the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Jacques, second by Commissioner Pollack.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Chapell, Chair