

Minutes Hadley Mosquito Opt-Out Committee

January 13, 2022

Zoom Meeting convened at 7:00 PM by Toni Lyn Morelli, Vice Chair

Present: Toni Lyn Morelli, Michele Morris Friedman, Bobbie Kamen, Jane Nevinsmith

Absent: Shel Horowitz, Michael Docter

Minutes from the December 9, 2021 and Jan. 13, 2022 meeting will be reviewed on January 27. IN Shel's absence, Bobbie Kamen took minutes.

New Business:

Christopher Craig with the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) shared current and future plans for mosquito control for surveillance and control. Currently, in Hadley, PVMCD does only surveillance by trapping mosquitos in woodlands and wetlands on Mt. Warner, Bay Rd., Reservation Rd. and Venture Way. Historically, while no human cases have been detected in Hadley in 2021 one mosquito sample with West Nile was reported in Hadley as analyzed by the MA DOH. There is no history of EEE in Hadley.

2021 was a bridge year. Current resources are limited PVMCD is building capacity and is planning a standalone facility and services by the winter of 2022 for 2023. An a la carte menu of control services and fees will be available. Currently Hadley pays an annual fee of \$5000. A la carte costs will be assigned to cost of pesticides/ treatments, labor costs, overhead and culvert work. On the menu will be preventative larvacide treatments in the spring and summer to catch basins and storm drains and BTI (bacteria based chemical) for prevention in wetlands. Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) can occur in Winter and Spring to clean up and drain ditches and other habitats and to restore waterways. Going forward Christopher Craig offered his assistance as needed and can be contacted by email: Christopher.Craig@mass.gov.

Discussion of 2022 Opt-Out resources followed. Planning ahead, Hadley has been considered low risk for mosquito borne illness which may have impact on our Opt Out Planning approval. Data and resources for 2021 are limited. However, our plan can include:

1. Educational materials and literature on prevention, mitigation and personal precautions are offered by DOH and can be obtained through the PVMCD
2. Coordinate with the Hadley DPW in their current efforts to clear waterways –**Michele**
3. Participation in health events and April Earth Day events coordinated by the Hadley Conservation Commission (**date?**) - **Toni**
4. Work on creating a tire recycling program in coordination with PVMCD
5. Establishment and understanding of a baseline/threshold
6. *Monitoring and participating in advocacy and other developments in Mosquito Control through the Mosquito Control for the 21st Century and Local Engagement Subcommittee and with Jo Comerford's office. **Bobbie**

7. *Monitoring developments with PVMCD including future plans and costs. The Commission meetings are posted on the state website. (**Bobbie** will follow up with Town Treasurer regarding current dues status)

*Note that all state meetings are posted and open to the public.

Old Business

Vote was 3-0 to not to do a letter of outreach to farmers and also to eliminate a public meeting. No need to go to spring Town Meeting for plan approval.

Strategic Plan update (see attached)

Timelines were updated. Plan will be presented before Select Board and shared with Hadley BOH prior to submission. Gathering of approved Opt-Out plans from surrounding towns such as Northampton will be pursued (**Michele and Shel**). Committee will engage with Jo Comerford's office for 2022 Application updates and funding for Mosquito Control Districts. Monitoring of PVMCD plans will be ongoing.

Future Meeting Dates: January 27, 7-9 PM Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.