

METROPOLITAN
MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

COMMISSION MEETING

April 27, 2022

9:15 AM

Information Packet

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

APRIL 27, 2022 9:15 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Welcome and Introduction

CONSENT AGENDA *The following items (3-4) are administrative in detail and will be approved in one motion unless a commissioner wishes to withdraw an item for discussion.

3. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes for February 23, 2022
4. Approval of Checks and Claims
General 75773 – 75950

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Technical Advisory Board (TAB) Report –Mr. Christopher Smith, Minnesota, Department of Transportation*
6. Intergovernmental Issues – Peg Larsen, Kim Scott
7. Executive Committee Report for March 23, 2022
8. Report of Executive Director Performance Review Panel*
9. 2022 Plans and Initial 2023 Budget and Levy Discussion
10. Executive Director’s Report
11. Operations Report – Jon Peterson, Kirk Johnson
12. Public Affairs Report – Alex Carlson
13. Other Items
14. Adjournment

* Action Requested

Next Executive Meeting: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 9:15 a.m.

Following Executive Meeting: Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 9:15 a.m.

Next Commission Meeting: Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 9:15 a.m.

COMMISSIONER	COUNTY	COMMISSIONER	COUNTY
___ Mandy Meisner	Anoka	___ Angela Conley	Hennepin
___ Mike Gamache	Anoka	___ Chris LaTondresse	Hennepin
___ Robyn West	Anoka	___ Jim McDonough	Ramsey
___ Gayle Degler	Carver	___ Nicole Frethem	Ramsey
___ Tom Workman	Carver	___ Rafael Ortega	Ramsey
___ Mary Hamann-Roland	Dakota	___ Michael Beard	Scott
___ Laurie Halverson	Dakota	___ David Beer	Scott
___ Liz Workman	Dakota	___ Gary Kriesel	Washington
___ Kevin Anderson	Hennepin	___ Fran Miron	Washington

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2022
9:15 AM

Chair Angela Conley called meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely using GoToMeeting software. Roll call votes were recorded for each item because this meeting was conducted remotely.

Roll Call:

Commissioner Angela Conley, Chair	Hennepin County
Commissioner Gary Kriesel, Vice Chair	Washington County
Commissioner Nicole Frethem, Secretary	Ramsey County
Commissioner Mike Gamache	Anoka County
Commissioner Mandy Meisner	Anoka County
Commissioner Gayle Degler	Carver County
Commissioner Tom Workman	Carver County
Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland	Dakota County
Commissioner Liz Workman	Dakota County
Commissioner Kevin Anderson	Hennepin County
Commissioner Chris LaTondresse	Hennepin County
Commissioner James McDonough	Ramsey County
Commissioner Rafael Ortega	Ramsey County
Commissioner David Beer	Scott County
Commissioner Fran Miron	Washington County

Staff:

Stephen Manweiler, Executive Director
Arleen Schacht, Business Administrator
Kirk Johnson, Vector Ecologist
Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Coordinator
Jon Peterson, District Operations Manager
Cassie Sweeney-Truitt, Administrative Assistant

Visitors:

Joe Langel, MMCD Legal Counsel
Peg Larsen, RCS Consulting
Kim Scott, RCS Consulting

Chair Angela Conley welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 1:

The following administrative items were approved in one motion.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2021
Approval of Organizational Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2022
Approval of Checks and Claims
General 75595 - 75772

Commissioner Tom Workman seconded the motion.

The Commissioner voted as follows.

Commissioner Angela Conley	Yes
Commissioner Gary Kriesel, Vice Chair	Yes
Commissioner Nicole Frethem	Yes
Commissioner Mike Gamache	Yes
Commissioner Mandy Meisner	Yes
Commissioner Gayle Degler	Yes
Commissioner Tom Workman	Yes
Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland	Yes
Commissioner Liz Workman	Yes
Commissioner Kevin Anderson	Yes
Commissioner Chris LaTondresse	Yes
Commissioner Rafael Ortega	Yes
Commissioner David Beer	Yes
Commissioner Fran Miron	Yes

Peg Larsen reported that the session has gotten off to a fairly fast start. The Senate is operating in a hybrid fashion and the House is remote. Masks are no longer required on the House floor for lawmakers and staffers will return to the State Office Building on limited days starting March 21.

*Intergovernmental
Issues*

For the entire biennium, there have been 3,689 bills introduced in the House and 3,380 in the Senate. This is an extreme amount for both bodies but especially for the Senate. Many of these bills deal with capital investment since this is a bonding year.

The real distraction so far has been redistricting. Notably, Senate Minority Leader Melissa Lopez-Franzen and her colleague Senator Ron Latz now live in the same district and Sen. Latz has already announced that he will be running (the new district encompasses about 75% of Latz's old district). New Senate retirement announcements include longtime senator Mary Kiffmeyer (30, Big Lake), Senate Finance Chair Julie Rosen, Sen. Tomassoni, who is battling ALS, and Sen. Newman.

Sen. Dornick will be moving to avoid running against Sen. Carla Nelson, who announced that she will not be running for Congressional District 1.

Sen. Bigham will not be running for her senate seat, instead she will run for the Washington County Board.

In the House, notably, Minority Leader Kurt Daudt is matched up with his colleague Rep. Sondra Erickson. Many House members are now making a run for Senate, including Jordan Rasmusson (District 9) and Cal Bahr (District 31).

Rep. Leon Lillie will be moving to avoid a match up against Rep. Peter Fischer, and Rep. Frank Hornstein will be moving to avoid a match up against Rep. Jamie Long. Legislators must be legal residents of the districts in which they intend to file by May 31. Congressman Jim Hagedorn passed away and the special election for his seat will take place on August 9. The primary for the newly redistricted CD1 will also take place on August 9. Names to watch for this election include, Hagedorn's widow, Jennifer Carnahan, state Rep. Jeremy Munson, Austin city council member Jason Baskin, former state Rep. Brad Finstad, Dan Feehan, and state Sen. Nick Frentz.

Legislators Who are Paired After Redistricting:

Senate (12 Pairings)

Ruud vs Eichorn (Both R)

Ingebrigtsen vs Westrom (Both R, Ingebrigtsen retiring) Gazelka vs Utke (Both R, Gazelka running for Governor)

Kiffmeyer vs Mathews (Both R, Kiffmeyer is retiring) Nelson vs Dornink (Both R, Dornink is moving)

Rosen vs Draheim (Both R, Rosen is retiring) Abeler (R) vs Newton (D) (Newton retiring) Lopez Franzen vs Latz (Both D)

Osmek (R) vs Stewart-Johnson (D) Marty vs Isaacson (Both D)

Bigham (D) vs Housley (R) (Bigham running for Cty. Bd.) Torres Ray vs Fateh (Both D, Torres Ray retiring)

House (21 Pairings)

Igo (R) vs Sandstede (D)

Bliss vs Green (Both R) Lueck vs Kresha (Both R)

Rasmusson vs Backer (Both R, Rasmusson is running for Senate) Scott vs Bahr (Both R, Bahr is running for Senate)

Daudt vs Erickson (Both R)

B Olson vs Bennett (Both R) Pierson (R) vs Liebling (D) Hertaus vs Robbins (Both R) Feist vs Bernardy (Both D) Carlson vs Elkins (Both D)

Winkler vs Freiberg (Both D, Winkler running for Henn Co Atty)
Fischer vs Lillie (Both D, Lillie is moving)
Richardson vs Reyer (Both D) Franke (R) vs Hanson (D)
Hornstein vs Long (Both D, Hornstein is moving)
Morrison vs Acomb (Both D, Morrison running for Senate) Miller vs
Baker (Both R, Miller is retiring)
Schomaker vs Hamilton (Both R, Hamilton is retiring) West vs Raleigh
(Both R) Stephenson (D) vs Heinrich (R)

Others running for Senate:

Rep. Eric Lucero (running for District 34)

Rep. Steve Drazkowski (running for District 20)

Peg and Kim have been keeping an eye on a couple of bills to ensure that they do not impact MMCD's work:

HF2618, authored by Rep. Hansen with bipartisan support in the House. The bill would require cities to allow native landscapes on private land. The bill has been heard in the House Local Government and State Government committees.

SF2701, authored by Sen. Dziedzic, which would prohibit certain pesticides, it refers to neonic seed coatings.

Other main topics at the Legislature: criminal justice--no-knock warrants, sports betting, mental health for students. The 2022 committee deadlines were agreed to by House and Senate leadership in a signed letter from legislative leadership.

- March 25, 2022 – 1st deadline for committees to act favorably on bills in the house of origin
- April 1, 2022 – 2nd deadline for committees to act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, that met the first deadline in the other chamber
- April 8, 2022 – 3rd deadline for committees to act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills
- April 9, 2022 through April 18, 2022 – Easter/Passover break
- May 23, 2022 – Session adjourns.

Stephen Manweiler reported that the Executive Committee discussed two items at their January 26 meeting. The first was the annual Executive Director performance appraisal process. At the beginning of February, a Survey Monkey questionnaire was sent to all Commissioners, all of Stephen's Direct Reports, and a few randomly

January 27, 2022
Executive Committee
Report

selected MMCD employees. The response due date was February 23 (today). To date HR has received seven responses. We will resend the Survey Monkey questionnaire and request feedback by March 9. A panel comprised of the Executive Committee and any other interested Commissioner will review the feedback with Stephen before the March 23 Executive Committee meeting to determine what Stephen should focus upon during the next year.

The Executive Committee also discussed the Budget and Levy development schedule which is the next agenda item (agenda item 8).

Stephen explained that page 19 of the information packet summarizes a calendar of different steps in the 2023 levy and budget development process. The dates have been updated to reflect 2022 but otherwise steps have not been changed. Page 20 includes a legal explanation of why the Commission needs to approve a preliminary levy at its July meeting, a requirement that is a bit different than for other agencies.

*Budget and Levy
Development Schedule*

The annual Technical Advisory Board (TAB) meeting was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. Each year the TAB reviews MMCD's programs. The status of MMCD's financial situation and implications for control services (especially as impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic), work to identify and respond to recent black fly issues associated with a formerly rare species (*Simulium tuberosum*) with surveillance and larval control, potential District operational responses if the monarch butterfly is listed as threatened, and work to integrate drone technology into MMCD surveillance and control were reviewed at this meeting. The TAB made recommendations for 2022. The Chair of the TAB will report their evaluation of the program at the April 27, 2022 Commission meeting.

*Executive Director's
Report*

Staff are finalizing their plans to restore all 2017 service cuts this year. More details will be presented in the Operations Report (next agenda item).

MMCD will be involved in two cooperative research studies by U of MN researchers. Recent genetic analyses of the Omicron variant have revealed similarities with corona viruses that infect mice suggesting to some researchers that the Omicron variant arose in mice. One group of researchers will test rodents collected as part of MMCD's tick surveillance program for COVID-19. Initial rodents collected in October 2021 were all free of COVID-19.

The other group will test rodents collected as part of MMCD's tick surveillance program for many pathogens to better understand how new pandemic pathogens arise in animals and then jump to humans. Resources used to collect rodents for MMCD tick-borne disease risk

assessment also will be used to learn more about COVID-19 and other corona viruses and potential future pandemics.

Jon Peterson reported that although yesterday gave us another nice healthy dose of snow, current precipitation maps indicate we are still in the moderate drought range. Hopefully we will continue to get precipitation over the next couple months to fill up the wetlands.

Operations Report

Planning is continuing for the 2022 field season. Staff are working with their teams to finalize their plans, utilizing the District's IPM plans for vector mosquitoes, annoyance mosquitoes, black flies, and ticks. It's a balancing act throughout the summer, as these types of work overlap. All staff will attend a preseason planning meeting to review the plans, and to help with communication and understanding of each plan's priorities in mid-March.

Staff are continuing to work on the District's drone program. For the 2022 season, we are planning on hiring two seasonal staff with drone experience, to focus on drone treatments throughout the summer. We are excited to see how many treatments and how many acres these two specialized staff are able to treat.

Applications have started to come in for the seasonal positions. To date, we have received over 140 applications. Over the next few months, managers will interview and hire approximately 190 seasonal staff.

We also hired two Field Operations Supervisor positions, one in Scott County, Trevor Novotny, and one in Hennepin County, Charlie Guenther. These supervisors will start on March 7.

Jon summarized District plans to restore services, as Stephen has mentioned over the last few months. We are planning on restoring services back to the level they were at prior to the 2017 season.

We have been analyzing the 2020 census data to ensure our Priority 1 is expanded to cover such areas where there has been increase in populations. We are also looking at areas that are not counted in the 2020 census, where developments have been expanded and built. We will first focus on these increasing population areas when treating by helicopter.

We will continue to monitor our material budget throughout the season and try to treat as many acres as possible in these P2 areas. Staff are looking forward to providing treatment to residents further into P2.

Kirk Johnson reported that we are planning mosquito-borne disease risk reduction services, including training seasonal staff in disease

prevention. La Crosse encephalitis training will focus on recognizing risks and eliminating larval habitat (tires, containers, tree holes).

2021 was a high West Nile virus (WNV) transmission year. We expect an above average number of infected mosquitoes to survive the winter. Once circulating, WNV amplification occurs rapidly with warm weather. We are anticipating an early detection of WNV this year. Larval control of WNV vectors will begin in late May, and we will be training staff to treat catch basins, other stormwater management structures, and wetlands for *Culex* mosquitoes, the primary vectors of WNV.

Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) was active in northern Minnesota again in 2021 (horse – Itasca Co.). Last year’s drought resulted in a reduction of larval habitat for the EEE vector, *Culiseta melanura*, still EEE is the most severe mosquito-borne illness in America (mortality > 30%, 90%). We maintain a control strategy targeting *Cs. melanura* and we are prepared to employ additional risk reduction efforts if we happen to detect the virus or learn of a local infection.

Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV) is transmitted by spring *Aedes* species. We will be starting the season with an assist from Mother Nature when it comes to JCV risk. Spring *Aedes* populations have been low over the past two years due to dry spring conditions. A continuing dry pattern into this spring will further reduce risk around the state. Our regular spring larval control efforts will greatly reduce JCV risk in the District.

Alex Carlson reported that County summaries have been sent to each commissioner via county administrators and Stephen and Alex have been to several counties to provide an update that reviews 2021 and outlines plans for 2022. If any commissioners want city-specific summaries, please contact Alex Carlson.

Public Affairs Report

We are currently planning out our summer events, which we hope to increase in 2022 to look more like pre-COVID. We are for sure attending the same county fairs we have in the past along with some city-specific festival and parades.

We are creating a number of new materials for the 2022 events season including stickers and tattoos for kids and more simplified brochures and handouts for adults. One of these will be a new Residents Guide handout which is a companion to the webpage and video we launched in 2021. When this is completed, we will deliver copies to county buildings to have on hand.

The communications team at MMCD is helping with recruiting by posting ads on social media and attending various job fairs. On February

23, two Field Operations Supervisors from our East facility went to Como Park Senior High School for a career and trade fair for students.

Chair Angela Conley asked if there was any other business remaining for the Commission to consider. Hearing none, Chair Angela Conley declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Adjournment

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 27, 2022

Requested by:

Stephen Manweiler

Action requested:

Approval of 2021 Operational Review and Plans for 2022

Whereas, the Chair of the District’s Technical Advisory Board (TAB) has reported that the TAB reviewed District operations in 2021 and plans for 2022; and

Whereas, the TAB and MMCD staff discussed in detail 2021 operations and plans for 2022; and

Whereas, the TAB commends the MMCD for engaging in active planning for the future, including re-examining the agency's structure, staffing, and operations; and

Whereas, the TAB recognizes MMCD’s current efforts to minimize non-target impacts associated with adulticides and recommends that MMCD staff follow USFWS monarch butterfly threatened or endangered species listing discussions, as well as review current research and past incidents, to minimize further non-target impacts; and

Whereas, the TAB commends the MMCD Tick Management Program for writing up the findings from its long-term monitoring study to share what has been learned with the broader scientific community; and

Whereas, the TAB supports the program presented in the 2021 Operational Review and 2022 Plan and acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of the MMCD staff on its presentation; be it

Resolved, that the Commission accepts the report of the TAB Chair and approves the 2021 Operational Review and Plans for 2022.



Commissioner Angela Conley, Chair
Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission
2099 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Commissioner Conley,

The Technical Advisory Board (TAB) met on February 16, 2022 to review and discuss MMCD operations in 2021 and plans for 2022. Since the Board's formation in 1981, the member representatives have met at least once per year to provide independent review of field control programs and to enhance inter-agency cooperation.

After an excellent interchange of questions and information between the TAB and MMCD staff, the TAB approved the following resolutions.

1. The TAB thanks Dr Stephen Manweiler for his years of service and leadership and wishes him well in his future endeavors.
2. The TAB appreciates MMCD's ongoing efforts to reduce how District operations might affect nontarget species and recommends MMCD staff reinstate conversations with USFWS Ecological Services Field Office on species of concern such as the rusty-patched bumble bee (RPBB) and monarch butterfly.
3. The TAB supports the program presented in the 2021 Review and 2022 Plan and acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of the MMCD staff on its presentation.
4. The TAB commends the MMCD for engaging in active planning for the future, including re-examining the agency's structure, staffing, and operations.
5. The TAB commends the MMCD Tick Management Program for writing up the findings from its long-term monitoring study to share what has been learned with the broader scientific community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Smith'.

Christopher E Smith
2022.04.12 12:13:37 -05'00'

Christopher Smith
Chair, Technical Advisory Board
Minnesota Department of Transportation

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2022
9:15 AM

Commissioner (Chair) Angela Conley called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely using GoToMeeting software and recorded. Roll call votes were recorded for each item because this meeting was conducted remotely.

Roll Call:

Commissioner Tom Workman	Carver County
Commissioner Liz Workman	Dakota County
Commissioner Angela Conley	Hennepin County
Commissioner David Beer	Scott County
Commissioner Gary Kriesel	Washington County
Commissioner Michael Beard	Scott County

Staff:

Stephen Manweiler, Executive Director
Arleen Schacht, Business Administrator

Visitors:

Kim Scott, RCS Consulting
Peg Larsen, RCS Consulting
Joe Langel, MMCD Legal Counsel

Chair Angela Conley welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Gary Kriesel offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

*Approval of
January 26, 2022
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes*

Resolution 1:

Resolved, that the January 26, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Commissioner Tom Workman seconded the motion.

The Commissioners voted as follows.

Commissioner Tom Workman	Yes
Commissioner Liz Workman	Yes
Commissioner Angela Conley	Yes
Commissioner David Beer	Yes
Commissioner Gary Kriesel	Yes
Commissioner Michael Beard	Yes

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Legislature is going at full steam ahead! There are additional hearings and longer meetings than usual this week. They are discussing everything from legal counsel for minors in police interrogation to slashing emissions statewide. Once again, there is little if any agreement between the bodies and the rumor is that they won't get anything done. Since it is not a budget year, they do not have to get anything done, but bonding is essential.

Legislative Update

The Governor met with legislative leaders and talked about pay for frontline workers and the need for a bonding bill this year. The first committee deadline is this Friday, March 25. Committees must act favorably in the house of origin and by April 1, committees must act favorably on bills that met the first deadline in the other body. April 8 is the third deadline whereby committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills. (This does not apply to Ways and Means, Taxes, Capital Investment, and Rules Administration.)

At this point in time, just about anything could happen. They could actually come together and get some good work done or they will stay at a stalemate. The Legislature already missed a deadline to pay back the federal government \$2.7 billion that was lent to Minnesota to help pay unemployment benefits during the pandemic. The Speaker was in a meeting with Majority Leader Miller regarding unemployment insurance and frontline worker pay, Miller wanted to separate the two issues, saying the previous offer of \$250 million for frontline workers had expired. Speaker Hortman was not happy with that, and the quote was, "it was a pile of crap on top of a pile of bull crap!"

That might give you an idea of how feelings are running at the Legislature right now.

The Minnesota Legislative Reference Library keeps a running list of legislative retirements, which may be found [here](#).

Arleen Schacht reported that the District and Commission have not waived the statutory limits in the past. Arleen recommended that the statutory limits again not be waived.

*Insurance Liability
Waiver*

Commissioner Liz Workman offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 2:

Resolved, that District not waive the statutory insurance liability limits.

Commissioner Michael Beard seconded the motion.

The Commissioners voted as follows.

Commissioner Tom Workman	Yes
Commissioner Liz Workman	Yes
Commissioner Angela Conley	Yes
Commissioner Michael Beard	Yes
Commissioner David Beer	Yes
Commissioner Gary Kriesel	Yes

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Liz Workman advised in the past the meeting be closed for discussion about the Executive Directors performance review. The committee agreed to close the meeting. All participants other than Commissioners left the meeting.

*Executive Director
Performance Review
Process*

Chair Angela Conley reopened the meeting and opened the discussion to consideration of any action. Participates who left the meeting returned.

Chair Angela Conley reported to Stephen Manweiler about the conclusions of his performance review agreed by Commissioners during the closed discussion. Their conclusions and findings regarding Mr. Manweiler's performance were very positive, finding that he had fulfilled all of the responsibilities of the job very well. They are confident in his leadership in maintaining the financial and operational integrity of the District including addressing all employee issues and supporting a positive work environment.

Commissioner Liz Workman offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 3:

Whereas, the District’s Executive Director, Stephen Manweiler, is approaching the end of his eighth year in the position; and

Whereas, Mr. Manweiler, by the terms in his employment agreement is to be evaluated annually concerning his performance by the Executive Committee that would draw conclusions and make findings regarding his performance and eligibility for salary increase with a recommendation to the Commission: and

Whereas, the Executive Committee undertook and completed gathering relevant input about Mr. Manweiler’s performance from both Commissioners and staff; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee is confident in his leadership in maintaining the financial and operational integrity of the District including addressing all employee issues and supporting a positive work environment; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee’s conclusions and findings regarding Mr. Manweiler’s performance were very positive, finding that he had fulfilled all of the responsibilities of the job very well and that the Executive Committee further found that he would be eligible for and would recommend him for a salary increase; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee diligently assessed Mr. Manweiler's performance and found that it would serve the Commission's, its taxpayers' and the District's best interests to continue Mr. Manweiler's employment; be it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee finds that Mr. Manweiler has performed at a Highly Successful level in his eighth year as the District’s Executive Director, that his fine performance is acknowledged and appreciated, that he be recommended for a salary increase equal to the amount approved for other employees, that the Executive Committee finds that his employment be extended into the third year of his three-year employment agreement, and that all of these findings be recommended for approval by the full Commission.

Commissioner Gary Kriesel seconded the motion.

The Commissioners voted as follows.

Commissioner Tom Workman	Yes
Commissioner Liz Workman	Yes

Commissioner Angela Conley	Yes
Commissioner David Beer	Yes
Commissioner Gary Kriesel	Yes
Commissioner Michael Beard	Yes

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

They asked Mr. Manweiler to include in the information packet for the April 27, 2022 Commission meeting the resolution containing their recommendations, his KDAs and accomplishments for the past twelve months, and KDAs for the remainder of 2022.

Stephen reported that we have hired two new FOS to fill positions vacated by retirements. Trevor Novotny began work at our Jordan facility on Monday, March 7. Charlie Guenther also began work at our Maple Grove facility on Monday, March 7. Both Trevor and Charlie have been seasonal employees with the District.

*Executive Director
Report*

Samantha Peterson will join our St. Paul office as our Human Resource/Payroll Specialist beginning March 28, 2022. Samantha was a seasonal employee from 2017 to 2020 at the Oakdale facility. Samantha has a BA in business with a specialization in Human Resources. Samantha will fill the position vacated by Megan Cook who resigned on January 28, 2022.

We have made wearing a mask optional beginning on Monday, March 14 in line with CDC recommendations released in late February. We do not intend to change other safety requirements yet (including social distancing, one person per vehicle, remote meetings, or reporting potential or known exposure and symptoms) to see how transmission rates change and to be ready to react to the appearance of any new COVID-19 variants. Our goal is to maintain an environment in which all staff continue to feel as protected as possible. We also plan to retain pandemic-related changes that have improved our ability to complete our work.

Chair Angela Conley asked if there was anything else to come before this meeting. Stephen Manweiler asked if we should convene a remote or in-person meeting on April 27.

*Other Issues and
Adjournment*

Stephen reminded everyone that in December 2021, we had decided to convene all meetings through March 2022 remotely because of ongoing COVID-19 transmission. We also agreed to determine at the March 23, 2022 meeting if we should continue remote meetings in April. Joe Langel briefly reviewed and contrasted the statutory requirements of remote meetings during normal times and pandemic conditions. Last

November Joe concluded that, during pandemic conditions, the Executive Director had the authority to convene meetings remotely if convening an in-person meeting safely was not feasible. While the CDC currently rates COVID-19 risk as “low” in the seven-county area, some recent data including the weekly doubling of the percentage of new infections caused by omicron BA2 (the newest, most contagious variant identified to date) and increased transmission in some parts of the USA and other places including Hong Kong, the UK and several EU countries, suggest that risk may increase significantly during the next few weeks. For this reason, Stephen decided that we would convene a remote meeting on April 27, 2022 and review the situation again during that meeting.

Chair Angela Conley asked if there was any other business remaining for the Commission to consider. Hearing none, Chair Angela Conley declared the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 27, 2022

<u>Requested by:</u>	<u>Action requested:</u>
Executive Committee	Approval of Recommendations Resulting from Executive Director’s Performance Appraisal

Whereas, the District’s Executive Director, Stephen Manweiler, is approaching the end of his eighth year in the position; and

Whereas, Mr. Manweiler, by the terms in his employment agreement is to be evaluated annually concerning his performance by the Executive Committee that would draw conclusions and make findings regarding his performance and eligibility for salary increase with a recommendation to the Commission; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee undertook and completed gathering relevant input about Mr. Manweiler’s performance from both Commissioners and staff; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee is confident in his leadership in maintaining the financial and operational integrity of the District including addressing all employee issues and supporting a positive work environment; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee’s conclusions and findings regarding Mr. Manweiler’s performance were very positive, finding that he had fulfilled all of the responsibilities of the job very well and that the Executive Committee further found that he would be eligible for and would recommend him for a salary increase; and

Whereas, the Executive Committee diligently assessed Mr. Manweiler's performance and found that it would serve the Commission's, its taxpayers' and the District's best interests to continue Mr. Manweiler's employment; be it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee finds that Mr. Manweiler has performed at a Highly Successful level in his eighth year as the District’s Executive Director, that his fine performance is acknowledged and appreciated, that he be recommended for a salary increase equal to the amount approved for other employees, that the Executive Committee finds that his employment be extended into the third year of his three-year employment agreement, and that all of these findings be recommended for approval by the full Commission.

KEY DEVELOPMENT AREAS (April 2021 - 2022) Progress update January 2022

1. Stephen should work with the Commission to forecast financial needs and review and update the District's budget/levy strategy for the next two to five years. In 2021, we resumed the long-term plan by approving a 2% increase in the 2022 levy and 1% increase in the 2021 budget. We also determined that the extra savings achieved in 2020 in response to a predicted 10-15% levy deficit that largely did not occur would be enough to restore all 2017 service cuts in 2022.

Stephen should continue asking his staff to propose other ways they can make operations more efficient to maintain and improve services. Each year staff are tasked with planning how to use all resources to serve the greatest number of District residents. Beginning in autumn 2021, staff were challenged to determine how best to restore all 2017 service cuts in 2022. This includes referring to 2020 census data to update the District area within which the most residents live so we know where to provide the most services.

Stephen should continue to work to maintain a very positive work environment. In 2021, we concentrated on improving communication among all employees. Better communication was a top required improvement they identified in feedback collected in 2020. We provided communication training for all staff. Stephen and upper managers personally communicated with staff more frequently in 2021 and plan to continue this in 2022.

Stephen should continue to balance budget (expenditures) and resources (levy) to preserve long-term financial viability of the District. Current District reserves contain sufficient resources to weather at least one high service demand year while also restoring all 2017 service cuts as long as the long-term plan is implemented through 2025.

2. Stephen should continue to focus on Succession Planning. In 2021, the District's Technical Services group at the St. Paul office was reorganized to (1) prepare for the retirement of the employee who oversees the surveillance and treatment data system and (2) hire a Technical Services Manager to oversee all Technical Services functions in preparation for the retirement of the Executive Director. Seasoned Managers to oversee all four District core functions (Technical Services, Field Operations, Public Affairs, Administration/Finances/Human Resources) now are in place to maintain District functions while the next Executive Director establishes himself in 2023.
3. Maintain the image of the District as a preserver of the environment while providing excellent service to District citizens as expressed by the District's Mission statement. In 2021, Stephen and District lobbyists worked with Sen. Dzierdzic, Rep. Jordan, and Rep. Vang to ensure that their proposed legislation would not negatively impact MMCD's work.

In preparation for the probable listing of the monarch butterfly as threatened in 2024, Stephen assembled relevant research in preparation for an informal consultation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service as was completed by the District for the rusty patched bumblebee in 2019. Stephen, the Public Affairs Manager, and Technical Services staff collaborated with Monarch Joint Venture to access their monarch migration information for staff to consider when planning adult mosquito control to minimize potential non-target impacts.

KEY DEVELOPMENT AREAS (April – December 2022) (specific issues for 2022)

1. Stephen should work with the Commission to forecast financial needs and review and update the District's budget/levy strategy for the next two to five years. Inflation and health insurance costs among other increasing expenses are impacting how MMCD provides services. At the same time, the District's population is increasing and new exurban development is expanding the need for services. [Prepare plans to respond to the impacts to District expenses due to higher inflation in late 2021 and 2022.](#)

Stephen should continue to work to maintain a very positive work environment [including more frequent communications to all employees about the District situation and plans. Support improved communication between different District core functions.](#)

Stephen should continue to balance budget (expenditures) and resources (levy) to preserve long-term financial viability of the District. This should include longer-term steps to expand services as required by increasing population and development within the District area. [Deliver all services including restoration of all 2017 cuts and continue to determine where future services will be required to extend the long-term plan so required resources are available.](#)

2. Stephen should continue to focus on Succession Planning.

Retirements can be an opportunity to modernize District functions. Stephen should continue to work with staff to reevaluate job positions to best satisfy current District needs as efficiently as possible and hire the best candidates to successfully satisfy the requirements of those job positions.

Stephen should continue to work with staff to ascertain their advancement desires and provide growth opportunities that enable them to compete for future District job positions. [Support managers and staff responsible for the four District core functions to ensure maintenance of District operations while the next Executive Director establishes himself in 2023.](#)

3. Maintain the image of the District as a preserver of the environment while providing excellent service to District citizens as expressed by the District's Mission Statement. Communicate and protect our treatment services while recognizing the importance of pollinators and the District's ecological footprint. [In anticipation of the probable listing of the monarch butterfly as threatened in 2024, Stephen assembled relevant research in preparation for an informal consultation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service as was completed by the District for the rusty patched bumblebee in 2019. The Assistant Entomologist has assumed responsibility for completing the informal consultation when required.](#)

Be prepared to respond to challenges such as the recently introduced legislation designed to protect pollinators. Mosquito control operations and environmental protection can complement each other. Citizen health and quality of life are important too. [Work with District lobbyists to interact with legislators to mitigate potential negative impacts of proposed legislation to the District's ability to deliver services, especially public health protection.](#)

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 27, 2022

Requested by:

Stephen Manweiler
Arleen Schacht

Informational:

2022 Plans and Initial 2023 Budget and
Levy Discussion

Background:

Because of the economic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic we implemented the following steps to preserve the District's financial health beginning in spring 2020.

- In April 2020, we cancelled all planned partial service restorations except increased cattail mosquito treatments, froze regular fulltime staff hiring, and postponed certain large capital purchases such as scheduled replacement vehicles
- We paused the long-term plan by not increasing the 2021 budget and levy over 2020 levels
- We successfully limited 2020 expenditures to \$14,353,143
- In 2021, we chose to restore services enabled by the long-term plan (about one third of services cut in 2017) because our financial situation supported these service restorations
- In July 2021, we resumed the long-term plan by approving a preliminary 2022 levy of \$19,038,676 which is a 2% increase over 2020 and 2021 (\$18,665,369)
- In October 2021, we decided to fully restore in 2022 all 2017 service cuts
- In February 2022, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the Consumer Price Index, Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington area – January 2022
 - Area prices were up 7.2 percent from a year ago (January 2021 – January 2022)
 - Energy prices increased 29.5 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (40.8 percent)
 - These increases accelerated in late spring 2021 through the present (Figure 1)
- These increases significantly impact projected fuel and wage expenditures in 2022 and 2023

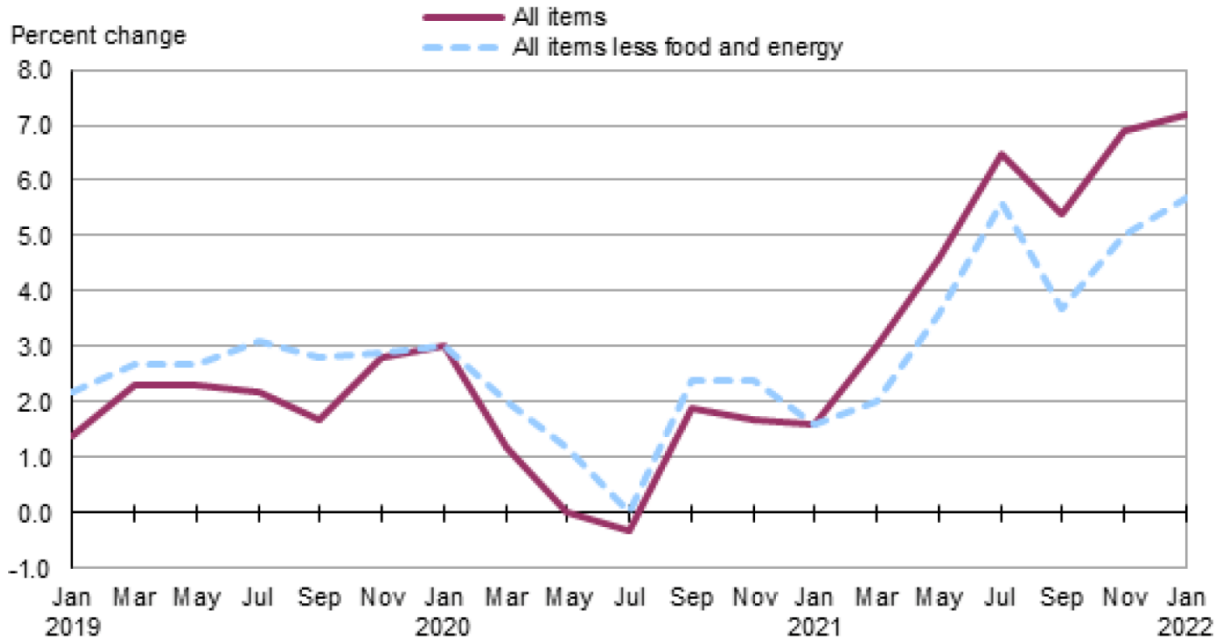


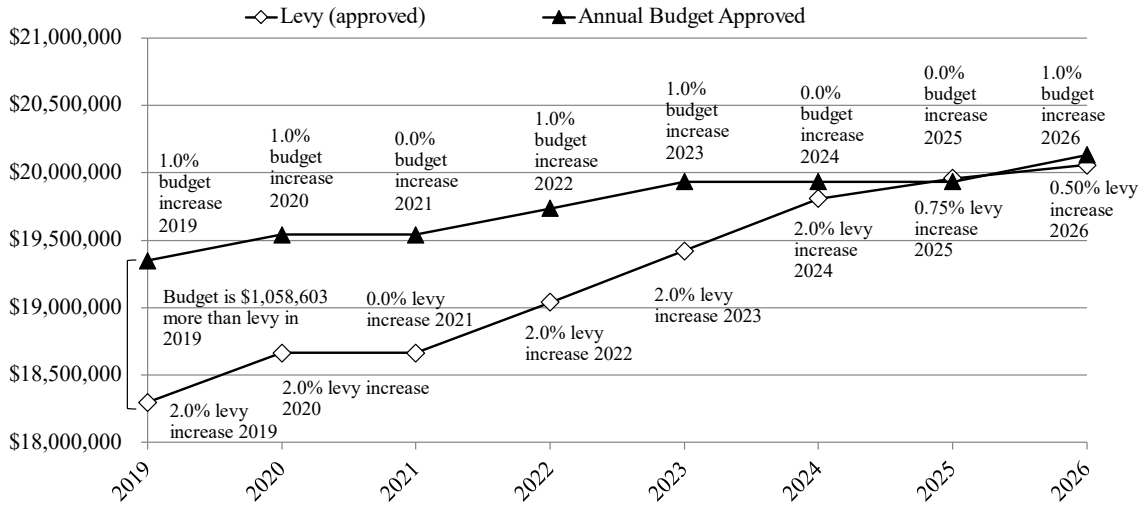
Figure 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Minneapolis – St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI, January 2021-January 2022 (https://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/news-release/consumerpriceindex_minneapolis.htm).

Recommended next steps:

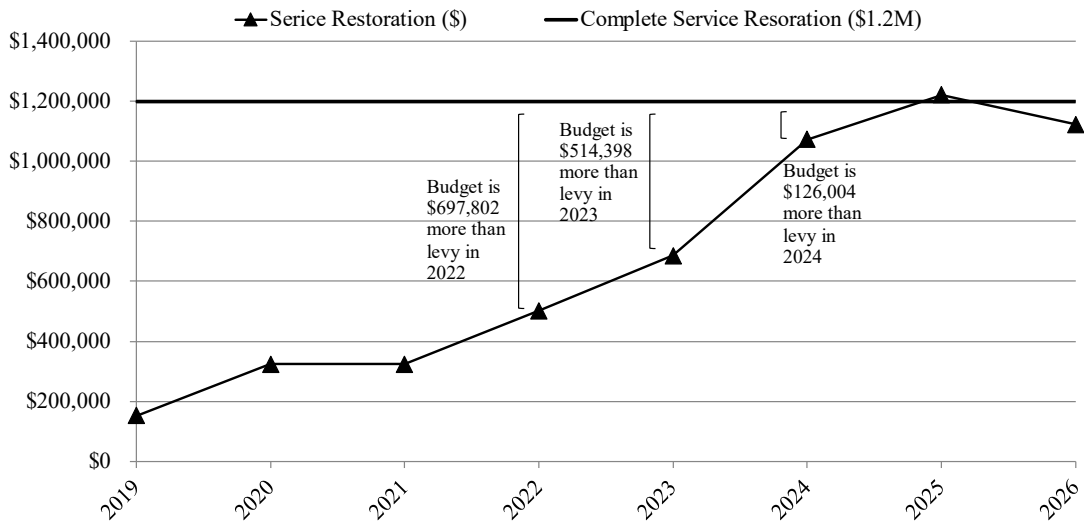
- The long-term plan currently includes the following:
 - No (0%) budget increase in 2023 (1% budget increase in 2024)
 - A 2% increase in the 2023 levy followed by another 2% increase in the 2024 levy (minimal levy increases in 2025 and 2026)

- We recommend the following (Figure 2):
 - A 1% budget increase in 2023 followed by a 0% budget increase in 2024 (Table 1)
 - A 2% increase in the 2023 levy followed by another 2% increase in the 2024 levy (minimal levy increases in 2025 and 2026)
 - This will not impact our ability to restore all 2017 service cuts in 2022 and maintain service in 2023 and 2024

A: Long-term plan Funding and Budget (2019- 2026) - 2% Levy Increases 2022-24



B: Completely restore services Funding and Budget (2019- 2026) - 2% Levy Increases 2022-24



Cumulative total to restore all services in 2022 -24 is \$1,338,204

Figure 2. District levy and budget (2019-2026) and impact upon funds available to restore services (\$1,200,000 worth of services cut in 2017) beginning in 2022.

Table 1. Actual expenditures 2019-2021, budgeted 2022 expenditures and proposed 2023 levy and budget. Amount of fund balance used assumes 2022-23 expenditures equal budget.

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	ADMINISTRATION	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROPOSED
1	Salary and Wages	\$761,158	\$694,649	\$717,995	\$799,966	\$807,966
2	Building Expense	\$57,013	\$56,073	\$47,264	\$53,298	\$53,831
3	Office Supplies	\$59,746	\$15,717	\$25,700	\$34,209	\$34,551
4	Travel and Mileage	\$2,377	\$1,164	\$560	\$4,293	\$4,335
5	Insurance	\$11,287	\$9,336	\$10,194	\$12,625	\$12,751
6	Interest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	General Expenses	\$119,702	\$123,951	\$122,357	\$115,140	\$116,291
8	Repair and Maintenance	\$1,347	\$0	\$0	\$505	\$510
9	Total Admin. Operations	\$1,012,630	\$900,890	\$924,070	\$1,020,035	\$1,030,236
10						
11	Administration Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12						
13	Total Administration -	\$1,012,630	\$900,890	\$924,070	\$1,020,035	\$1,030,236
14						
	COMMISSION					
15	Per Diem	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
16	Travel and Mileage	\$2,780	\$705	\$624	\$3,660	\$3,660
17						
18	Total Commissioners -	\$2,780	\$705	\$624	\$3,660	\$3,660
19						
	CONTROL/MONITORING					
20	Salary and Wages	\$6,561,904	\$6,407,924	\$6,671,683	\$7,728,669	\$7,805,956
21	Rent and Building Costs	\$851,853	\$836,572	\$814,924	\$903,607	\$912,643
22	Supplies & Expenses	\$321,860	\$320,460	\$323,273	\$284,669	\$287,515
23	Control Materials	\$4,013,552	\$3,541,119	\$4,031,856	\$5,889,310	\$5,948,203
24	Helicopter	\$1,746,405	\$1,487,582	\$1,588,428	\$2,552,836	\$2,578,364
25	Transportation Expenses	\$156,594	\$120,679	\$173,442	\$188,254	\$190,136
26	Insurance	\$239,335	\$220,445	\$230,214	\$271,195	\$273,907
27	General Expenses	\$109,931	\$80,442	\$149,452	\$158,196	\$159,814
28	Repair and Maintenance	\$198,509	\$167,050	\$207,002	\$213,817	\$215,955
29	Total Control Operations	\$14,199,943	\$13,182,273	\$14,190,274	\$18,190,552	\$18,372,494
30						
31	Control Capital	\$667,746	\$269,275	\$365,746	\$527,520	\$527,520
32						
33	Total Control Division -	\$14,867,689	\$13,451,548	\$14,556,020	\$18,718,072	\$18,900,014
34						
35	TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET	\$15,883,099	\$14,353,143	\$15,480,714	\$19,741,768	\$19,933,910
	Levy	\$18,139,782	\$18,525,337	\$18,661,553	\$19,038,696	\$19,419,470
	Revenue - other sources	412,655	80,788	166,410	125,000	125,000
	Fund Balance (end of year)	\$15,598,370	\$19,851,513	\$23,198,762	\$22,620,690	\$22,231,250
	Amount from FB used for exp.	(\$2,669,338)	(\$4,252,982)	(\$3,347,249)	\$578,072	\$389,440

TO: COMMISSION MEMBERS
FROM: STEPHEN MANWEILER
RE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
DATE: APRIL 2022

1. DIRECTOR'S INITIATIVES

The House environment omnibus bill (H.F. No. 4492) includes a prohibition on pollinator-lethal pesticides. This bill also includes an exemption for MMCD. We very much appreciate Representatives Rick Hansen and Sydney Jordan for working with us to craft legislation that does not impact MMCD's ability to protect public health. This exemption is essentially the same as language included in the House environment omnibus bill last year.

Kim Scott and Peg Larsen report that it is not very likely that the House and Senate will agree on a final omnibus bill that includes this provision (or an omnibus bill at all), but if they do, then we are in a good place with the current language. Also, since this provision seems to pop up each session, it will help us in the future that the language was corrected as subsequent iterations will likely include the corrected language.

2. MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICES

The month of March gave us a few days that were in the 50s and 60s. The warmer weather allowed for mosquito larvae to hatch in some of the wetlands. MMCD's staff found the first larva on March 18 in a wetland near our Oakdale office. Since that time though, it has been cold. The cold temperatures to start April have slowed larval growth and hatching in wetlands, giving our staff time to inspect and treat the sites. The spring *Aedes* species that staff are targeting will potentially continue to hatch through early May.

On April 11, fifty-two seasonal technicians started at MMCD, which is about ten less than started on the first day in 2021. We are still approximately thirty seasonal staff short for our planned 2022 hiring. For those seasonal staff that have started, Field Operations Supervisors have been conducting orientations, training, and promoting safety with the seasonal employees that are currently working in the field. Staff will continue to be hired on, every Monday, through the first or second week of June.

There are many tasks that will be completed in April and early May (Figure 3) with our lower number of seasonal staff. Staff will continue to check and treat smaller wetlands throughout the month of April. Staff will start to inspect larger air sites, potentially the last week of April, with a goal to fly them the first week of May. Black fly small streams and large rivers (Minnesota River initially) will start to be inspected during the week of April 18. The first tick route of the year will be the week of April 25. Then in early May, we will start applying our ground pre hatch to the smaller wetlands.

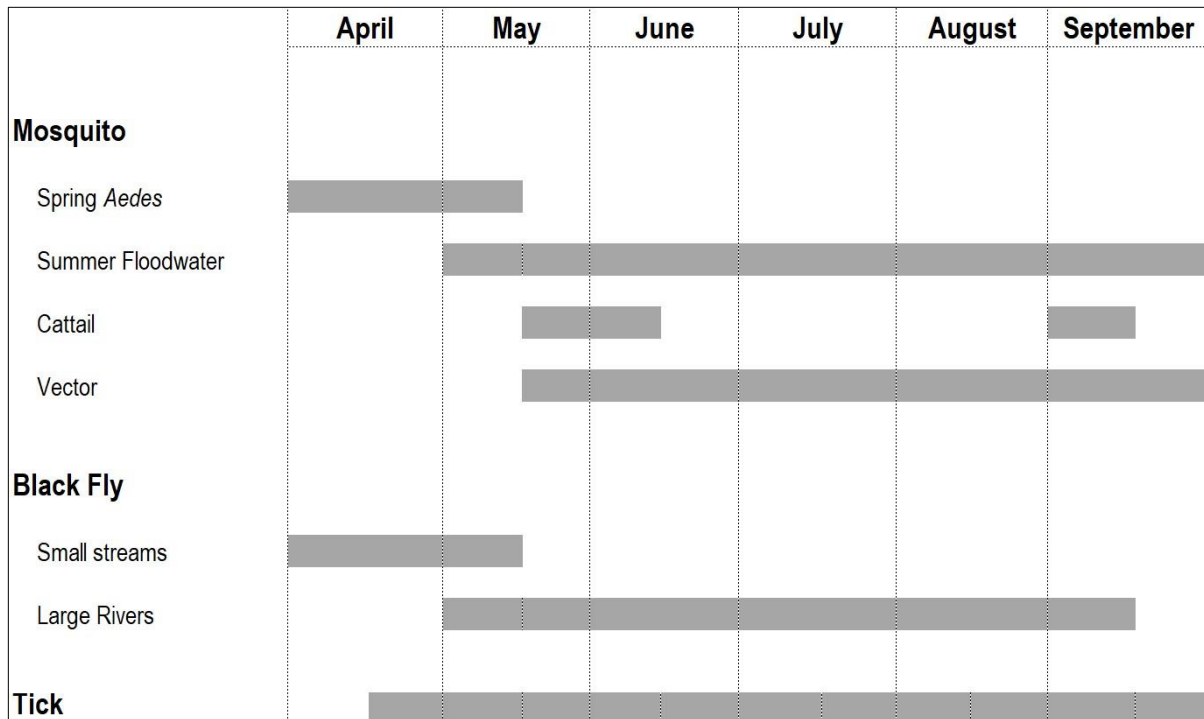


Figure 3. Periods during the control season when different services are delivered.

Calibration of the six helicopters is planned to occur at the Le Sueur Airport the week of April 25. The six helicopters will be calibrated to treat with four different larvicide materials. During calibration, staff will work with the pilots to test the AgNav units which are GPS systems used to record treatments.

Staff are working safely, efficiently, and effectively to provide the citizens of the District the best services possible. As the season starts off, cold and a bit rainy, we will have to wait and see what the rest of the 2022 season has in store for MMCD staff. At this point, I think we are all looking forward to some warmer weather.

3. MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE

Spring floodwater mosquitoes (spring *Aedes*) have already started hatching and surveillance and control activities are underway. Several spring mosquito species are suspected vectors of Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV), and spring larval control work greatly reduces the likelihood of JCV transmission in the District. In addition, we continue working with partners through the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-borne Disease to investigate JCV in the Midwest so that we improve our ability to further reduce the risk of transmission to District citizens.

Our technicians are also already involved in La Crosse encephalitis (LAC) prevention this year. The LAC vectors, *Aedes triseriatus* and *Ae. japonicus*, are species that we can control even before their eggs hatch simply by eliminating discarded tires and other water-holding containers. Field Technicians removed 170 tires and nine water-holding containers in their first week on the job.

Interaction with and education of citizens are additional benefits of inspecting properties for these mosquito habitats.

Last year's West Nile virus (WNV) season was active; therefore, we expect that many chronically infected mosquitoes overwintered locally. Warm May temperatures will energize those mosquitoes and they will begin feeding on birds, thereby initiating the 2022 WNV cycle. Warm spring and hot summer conditions will contribute to rapid amplification of the virus. If cooler temperatures prevail, circulation of the virus might be inhibited until midsummer. Larval control of WNV vectors will begin in late May and will be ongoing through September.

We have been making arrangements with staff from local municipalities for cooperative control of WNV vectors in underground aquatic habitats. We already have commitments from several cities that have participated in the program previously. We are following up with additional cities whose citizens will benefit from our cooperative efforts.

4. TECHNICAL SERVICES LAB

Staff spent most of March and April attending team meetings, reviewing IPM plans, and planning for the upcoming season. Staff attended the North Central Mosquito Control Association meeting on April 6. Scott Larson presented a talk there entitled "How drought impacts mosquito populations in the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District." This meeting was virtual, and topics included mosquito and tick-borne diseases, technology, resistance, and adult and larval control. Participants and speakers were from the North-Central Region, Canada, and even California. Staff have also been editing and updating the Overview (internal report) and the Report to the Technical Advisory Board.

We are readying for the field season by mending equipment and ordering supplies and providing field staff with surveillance equipment. One seasonal technician started on April 18; he is a returning employee with knowledge in mosquito and black fly taxonomy as well as mechanical skills. He is instrumental in helping us with the spring black fly and mosquito identifications. Other technicians will start in May and June.

The first larval mosquito sample was collected on March 18. Since then, we've only had a few relatively warm days; it has been a long, cool spring. Field staff report many of the spring sites are dry. What larvae they are finding are still very small. Larval growth in the spring is heavily dependent on water temperatures. The Climate Prediction Center outlook for the rest of the month is leaning to above normal temperatures (40-50% chance for above normal) and precipitation (40% chance for above normal). We shall see.

5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

City Notices on Mosquito Control Season Start

In mid-April we sent press releases to 121 cities and townships within the MMCD service area to notify the public about our season start and to alert residents that they may see MMCD staff in parks and neighborhoods. The press release was targeted at communications staff, city administrators, and

township clerks. Many large cities have already posted notices via their websites and social media. Here are some examples:

- St. Louis Park Facebook Post: <https://www.facebook.com/stlouispark/posts/349766317174368>
- Golden Valley Website: <https://www.goldenvalleymn.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=205>
- White Bear Lake Instagram Post: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CcYvtAnLRrp/>

We sent the press release earlier than normal because we wanted to include mention that we were still seeking seasonal staff. View the full press release here: <https://mmcd.org/2022/04/13/press-release-mosquito-control-activity-begins-this-april/>

Community and School Presentations

Executive Director Stephen Manweiler and Public Affairs Manager Alex Carlson concluded county updates with presentations to Washington County on March 22 and Scott County on April 5.

On Thursday, March 24 Alex Carlson delivered a training session on Category L for pesticide applicators in partnership with the U of M Extension office and Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

We have several upcoming community presentations at schools and city groups in April and May.

MMCD in the Media

We had our first state-wide news coverage this year with a story by WCCO on April 11 about mosquito predictions based on the cold spring weather:

<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/video/6224492-minnesotas-chilly-spring-may-lead-to-fewer-mosquitoes/>

Social Media

Our social media has been active this month with a focus on recruiting and alerting about the start of mosquito control activity. Here is how metrics have changed:

- Facebook – 1,746 Page Likes (Up 14 from March 14)
 - Facebook.com/metromosquitocd
- Twitter – 876 Followers (Up 3 from March 14)
 - Twitter.com/metromosquito
- Instagram – 356 Followers (Up 8 from March 14)
 - Instagram.com/metromosquito
- TikTok – 345 Followers (Up 1 from March 14)
 - tiktok.com/@metromosquito

6. TICK-BORNE DISEASE

Deer Ticks Will Be Out Soon!

As of April 20, daytime highs have been above the threshold when ticks become active. We recommend checking yourself for ticks after having been out in their wooded/brushy habitat as you may encounter them.

MMCD Collaboration to Detect Exotic Ticks (Asian Longhorned Tick, Red Sheep Ticks)

Agencies involved in collaborative surveillance include Indian Health Services (northern MN), Minnesota Board of Animal Health, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Minnesota Department of Health, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, University of Minnesota, and the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota. As of April 20, no Asian longhorned ticks or red sheep ticks have been reported as being found in Minnesota.

Manuscript Submitted to the Journal of Medical Entomology

Thirty years of tick surveillance data was compiled, and the results have been submitted to the Journal of Medical Entomology. The manuscript is currently under peer review.

Tick Vector Field Projects

Our 2021 tick surveillance report is being written. Laboratory work, tick identification, data entry and most data compilations have been completed. The first round of surveillance in 2022 will commence the week of April 25.

Public Education/Outreach

- We continue to alert our Facebook followers to tick activity and other items of interest and are periodically reminding people that we would like any unusual ticks mailed to us.
- Our Tick Risk Meter is currently off. Ticks could quest any time temperatures are above freezing.
- Signs to remind the public of deer ticks and disease prevention measures will be posted at dog parks and additional locations throughout the metro.