

METROPOLITAN
MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

COMMISSION MEETING

December 14, 2022

6:00 PM

Information Packet

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

DECEMBER 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call
2. Welcome and Introduction

CONSENT AGENDA *The following items (3-5) 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 October 26, 2022
4. Financial Statements November 30, 2022
5. Approval of Checks and Claims
General 76735 – 76868

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Intergovernmental Issues – (Peg Larsen, Kim Scott)
7. Executive Committee Report for November 17, 2022
8. Executive Director’s Report
9. Public Comment MMCD Payable 2023 Total Levy and 2023 Budget
10. Approval of Payable 2023 Levy*
11. Approval of 2023 Budget*
12. Operations Report – Vector Update (Jon Peterson, Kirk Johnson)
13. Public Affairs Report (Alex Carlson)
14. Closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.03 to discuss labor negotiation strategy
15. Other Items
16. Adjournment

* Action Requested

(Proposed)

Organizational Meeting: Thursday January 5, 2023, 9:15 a.m.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 9:15 a.m.

Next Commission Meeting: Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 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
OCTOBER 26, 2022
9:15 AM

Chair Angela Conley called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. This meeting was in person.

Roll Call:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Commissioner Angela Conley, Chair | Hennepin County |
| Commissioner Gary Kriesel, Vice-Chair | Washington County |
| Commissioner Mandy Meisner | Anoka County |
| Commissioner Mike Gamache | Anoka County |
| Commissioner Robyn West | 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 Jim McDonough | Ramsey County |
| Commissioner Fran Miron | Washington County |

Staff:

Stephen Manweiler, Executive Director
Arleen Schacht, Business Administrator
Jon Peterson, District Operations Manager
Kirk Johnson, Vector Ecologist
Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Coordinator

Visitors:

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

Chair Angela Conley welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting.
Commissioner Nicole Frethem arrived after roll call.

Consent Agenda

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

Resolution 1:

The following administrative items were moved in one motion.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes for August 24, 2022

Approval of Financial Statements September 30, 2022

Approval of Checks and Claims. General 76495 – 76734

Commissioner Kevin Anderson seconded the motion. Chair Angela Conley asked all in favor to say “Aye” and those opposed to say “No.” The resolution was approved unanimously.

Intergovernmental Issues

Peg Larsen reported that with less than two weeks until the election, all efforts are focused on the campaigns and the polls are too close to make any solid predictions. There are about twenty House and Senate districts that could swing in either direction and will be the deciding factor in who will control the Minnesota House and Senate majorities.

We are being saturated with negative political advertisements and there will not be any relief until after the election. In Senate District 7, a canvasser was caught on camera removing political literature from a mailbox and the incident is being investigated for mail tampering. More than 172,000 votes have already been cast in early voting.

Kim Scott reported that currently, state agencies are finalizing their budget requests to the governor. If Gov. Walz is reelected, between the time of the election and January, the administration will work on finalizing the governor’s budget recommendations to be submitted to the Legislature. If Jensen is elected, the budget process will start from scratch with a new administration. Details on agency budget requests will not be made available to the public until they are released as part of the governor’s recommendations. The upcoming 2023 legislative session will be the first year of the legislative biennium, which is the year in which the Legislature must appropriate funding for state agency budgets, in order to avoid a state government shutdown.

With more than 50 new legislators expected in the 2023 Minnesota Legislature, there will be ample opportunity to educate new legislators on MMCD goals and priorities.

Click [here](#) to see who is running for 2022 elections in Minnesota.

Important Upcoming Dates:

September 23 - November 7: In person early voting for the general election

November 8: Election Day

January 3, 2023: 2023 Legislative session commences

December 21 Commission Meeting Date

Stephen Manweiler asked the Commission to move up the date of its December meeting one week. December 21, 2022 (6:00 p.m.) is the date of the December Commission meeting approved at the Organizational Meeting on January 6, 2022. Several crucial items need to be completed or approved at the meeting including:

- Public Comment MMCD Payable 2023 Total Levy and 2023 Budget
- Approval of Payable 2023 Levy
- Approval of 2023 Budget

In 2021, this meeting took place on December 15. We conducted a remote meeting because of the Covid pandemic. Severe weather threatened to prevent us from completing the meeting. In 2022, the Executive Director retires on December 23. If something (weather issues, lack of a quorum) prevents completion of required items on December 21, very little time remains to complete these items before the end of 2022.

Commissioner Mandy Meisner offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 2:

Resolved that the December meeting of the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission be moved to December 14 (6:00 p.m.) with December 21 (6:00 p.m.) held as a back-up date. A meeting on either date likely will be convened in person.

Commissioner Chris LaTondresse seconded the motion. Chair Angela Conley asked all in favor to say “Aye” and those opposed to say “No.” The resolution was approved unanimously.

Executive Committee Report

Stephen Manweiler reported that apparent supply chain disruptions have significantly delayed receipt of vehicles we ordered through the State of Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing Venture this year. We have received only one of 18 vehicles ordered in 2022.

At present, we are 24 vehicles behind our replacement process. If receipt of vehicles ordered through the State Cooperative Purchasing Venture continues to be delayed in 2023, we will be up to 36 vehicles behind by the end of 2023.

We have retained older vehicles resulting in many being older than 15 years, some of which have incurred increased maintenance costs. The situation has been manageable to date but will become less so if we cannot secure new vehicles soon.

We have contacted fleet managers at dealerships to determine potential availability and cost of vehicles comparable to those we have acquired via the State Cooperative Purchasing Venture. We found four trucks ranging in cost from \$35,000 to \$45,000 (including fees and license) that were available for immediate delivery. No source has had more than two trucks available; most

had zero or one truck. The total cost of vehicles available from a single source is much less than the threshold in the District's purchasing policy that requires sealed bids. We plan to continue our queries. We also plan to continue to order vehicles through the State Cooperative Purchasing Venture in 2023 and thereafter. The Executive Committee approved having MMCD purchase vehicles from fleet managers at dealerships for a total cost of \$425,000.

The Executive Committee met on October 7 and determined which candidate to hire to fill the Executive Director position. That candidate no longer was available, and no alternates were available.

The Executive Committee met on October 20 to determine our next steps. They approved having MMCD employ a professional recruiter, to recruit a suitable candidate for the Executive Director position with fees not to exceed \$60,000. They also approved asking Arleen Schacht, Business Administrator, to serve as Interim Executive Director and be provided an appropriate compensation beginning on December 24, 2022 until the next Executive Director can begin work at MMCD. Arleen was willing to take on the additional responsibility. Stephen stated that he and Arleen are working together to create Commission packets and review other information developed for orienting the next Executive Director to assist her until the next Executive Director can start work.

Executive Director's Report

Stephen Manweiler reported that on Thursday, October 27, we plan to enjoy our first in-person luncheon with all staff since before the beginning of the pandemic. The primary goal is to foster reconnection and a return to some sense of pre-pandemic normalcy. We hope to convene an employee recognition event in December.

Operations Report

Jon Peterson reported that field staff, both seasonal and full time, finished inspecting cattail sites on October 7. As expected, they found many dry and muddy sites. In total, staff found approximately 18,000 acres breeding, which is about 6,000 fewer acres than last year. These acres will be treated next spring.

Overall, with the drier conditions during these past two summers, both larval treatment acres and adult treatment acres were down for the 2022 season. Staff treated over 129,000 acres by ground and air for larval mosquitoes. Staff treated over 1,700 acres for adult mosquitoes, mainly for potential disease vector mosquitoes or public events. This was the lowest total acres treated in the last five years for both larval and adult mosquitoes. The weekly CO₂ traps also showed low levels of adult mosquitoes throughout the metro during the summer.

Staff were still busy this past summer doing important disease prevention work including treating catch basins, doing woodlot inspections, and eliminating potential breeding sources including tires. This year staff collected and recycled over 11,000 tires.

Field staff are now focused on their fall mapping. This includes updating maps on the computer and field-checking new and old areas for accuracy. Staff are also reviewing this year's data and already planning for next season. Hopefully this nice fall weather continues so field staff can continue with their mapping before sites are covered with snow.

It's been another interesting weather year so far for us at MMCD. Records have been set for the driest months. It started off very cool in April and May, heated up throughout the summer, gave us a quick freeze last week, and then temperatures have been warm again this week. Some of the predictions I have seen so far for this winter include being very cold and just about normal snow. I guess we will see what the weather brings us for 2023, and plan and adapt our treatment strategies accordingly.

Kirk Johnson stated, to date this year, CDC has reported 766 WNV illnesses among U.S. residents. The Minnesota Department of Health has reported six WNV illnesses to the CDC including two District residents (one each in Hennepin and Ramsey counties). There have also been five veterinary reports of WNV illness in Minnesota, four horses from outside the District and one reindeer kept in Ramsey County.

Forty-two mosquito samples of 617 tested in the MMCD lab returned positive results for WNV this year. The season's WNV infection rate of 3.56/1000 mosquitoes tested was slightly higher than the infection rate in 2021 (3.23/1000). Carver County was the only District county without a WNV positive mosquito sample. The earliest WNV positive mosquito sample was collected on June 22.

One La Crosse encephalitis (LAC) case has been confirmed in Minnesota this year (17 cases nationally). The infected individual is a resident of Olmsted County. Lengthy drought conditions impacted the *Aedes triseriatus* population in the District which remained below average most of the season. District crews responded in neighborhoods where *Ae. triseriatus* were found by inspecting properties for larval habitats and at times with adult mosquito treatments. Over the course of the 2022 season, MMCD employees removed 11,243 tires from the field for recycling and eliminated 1,087 container habitats and filled 92 tree holes.

The Minnesota Department of Health has confirmed one Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV) illness in Minnesota this year. The case is in a resident of Ramsey County who was likely exposed to the virus in another Minnesota county outside of the District. Wisconsin has confirmed two JCV illnesses this year including one in a resident of St. Croix County which borders the District.

A second consecutive summer of drought in the District reduced the amount of larval habitat available for the primary eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) vector, *Culiseta melanura*. Their population remained low in the District in 2022. Only four samples of *Cs. melanura* were pooled for testing in our lab. All four were negative for EEE virus.

Public Affairs Report

Alex Carlson reported that our presence in schools through classroom presentations and other events is increasing and we've made several new connections with teachers and school leaders.

In the past month we've been to Twin Oaks Middle School in Prior Lake, Cedar Park Elementary in Apple Valley, and Highland Park High School in St. Paul. Upcoming presentations are scheduled for Pillsbury Community School in Minneapolis and multiple elementary schools in Anoka-Hennepin where we will be providing after school programming for students and families. These presentations are valuable for the education they provide and the opportunity to show the value of mosquito control to people of all ages.

We continue to work with the Department of Agriculture to improve educational offerings for pesticide applicators statewide. Recently we participated in a workshop with the University of Minnesota Extension Office to re-evaluate the learning standards for licenses.

We are finalizing individual reports that summarize MMCD activity for each city and township in our service area. These will be sent out next week to city administrators, township clerks, and communications staff.

Other Items

Stephen Manweiler reminded everyone that during the September 28 Executive Committee meeting we decided to convene this October 26 Commission meeting in person based upon Covid transmission and risk. We also agreed to review the situation at this (October 26) meeting to decide how to meet on November 17. Stephen reported that current Covid transmission is lower than it has been between late May through now and proposed convening the November 17 Executive Committee meeting in person at MMCD's St. Paul headquarters. No Commissioners objected. Several noted that most other meetings currently are being held in person. We will hold the November 17 Executive Committee meeting in person.

Adjournment

Commissioner Angela Conley adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

| METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| FINANCIAL STATEMENT | | | | |
| November 30, 2022 | | | | |
| COUNTY | | 2022 LEVY | REC'D TO DATE | DUE |
| Anoka | \$ | 1,801,059 | 945,402 | \$ 855,657 |
| Carver | | 670,161 | 354,180 | 315,981 |
| Dakota | | 2,478,836 | 2,328,395 | 150,441 |
| Hennepin | | 8,793,964 | 4,490,412 | 4,303,552 |
| Ramsey | | 2,791,070 | 1,419,813 | 1,371,257 |
| Scott | | 902,433 | 475,628 | 426,805 |
| Washington | | 1,601,153 | 839,936 | 761,217 |
| Market Value Credit | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 19,038,676 | \$ 10,853,766 | \$ 8,184,910 |
| Tax Delinquent Income | \$ | 0 | \$ 53,040 | |
| Miscellaneous (Rent/Misc./Non-Levy) | | 100,000 | 112,054 | |
| Interest Income | | 25,000 | 217,758 | |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ | 19,163,676 | \$ 11,236,617 | \$ 7,927,059 |
| <u>BALANCE SHEET</u> | | | | |
| <u>ASSETS</u> | | | | |
| Cash and Investments | | | \$ 21,815,643 | |
| Accounts Receivable | | | 77,875 | |
| Prepaid Expenses | | | 0 | |
| Consumable Material | | | 1,730,298 | |
| Equipment net of Acc Depreciation | | | 2,097,476 | |
| Land | | | 1,118,867 | |
| Building net of Acc Depreciation | | | 2,696,985 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | | | \$ 29,537,144 |
| <u>LIABILITIES</u> | | | | |
| Vouchers Payable | | | \$ 100,268 | |
| Pass thru Revenue | | | 0 | |
| Deferred Revenue | | | 77,875 | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | | | \$ 178,143 |
| <u>NET WORTH</u> | | | | |
| Fund Balance: | | | | |
| Nonspendable | | | \$ 2,807,932 | |
| Prepaid | | | 0 | |
| Committed | | | 2,500,000 | |
| Assigned | | | 1,079,928 | |
| Unassigned for Working Capital | | | 19,858,493 | |
| Total Fund Equity | | | \$ 26,246,353 | |
| Assets-Equipment | | | 5,913,328 | |
| TOTAL | | | \$ 32,159,681 | |
| ADD Income | | | 11,236,617 | |
| DEDUCT Expenditures | | | 14,037,299 | |
| TOTAL NET WORTH | | | | \$ 29,358,999 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH | | | | \$ 29,537,144 |

| METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| CUMULATIVE OPERATIONS STATEMENT | | | | | |
| November 30, 2022 | | | | | |
| EXPENDITURES | | ACTUAL | | BUDGET | +OVER/- UNDER |
| <u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u> | | | | | |
| Operations | \$ | 941,946 | | | |
| Capital Items | | 0 | | | |
| Repairs | | 0 | | | |
| TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE | \$ | 941,946 | \$ | 996,808 | \$ (54,862) |
| <u>CONTROL DIVISION</u> | | | | | |
| Operations | \$ | 12,576,345 | | | |
| Capital Items | | 295,949 | | | |
| Repairs | | 223,021 | | | |
| TOTAL CONTROL DIVISION | \$ | 13,095,315 | \$ | 17,755,235 | \$ (4,659,920) |
| <u>COMMISSION</u> | | | | | |
| Per Diem | \$ | 0 | | | |
| Mileage/meeting expense | | 38 | | | |
| TOTAL COMMISSION | \$ | 38 | \$ | 2,636 | \$ (2,598) |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | \$ | 14,037,299 | \$ | 18,754,680 | \$ (4,717,381) |
| BUDGET REMAINING | | | \$ | 987,088 | |
| ORIGINAL BUDGET | | | \$ | 19,741,768 | |
| EMERGENCY FUNDS | | | | 0 | |
| TOTAL BUDGET | | | \$ | 19,741,768 | |

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2022
9:15 AM

Vice Chair Gary Kriesel called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

Roll Call:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Commissioner Robyn West | Anoka County |
| Commissioner Tom Workman | Carver County |
| Commissioner Liz Workman | Dakota County |
| Commissioner Nicole Frethem | Ramsey County |
| Commissioner David Beer | Scott County |
| Commissioner Gary Kriesel | Washington County |

Staff:

Stephen Manweiler, Executive Director
Arleen Schacht, Business Administrator
Cassie Sweeney-Truitt, Administrative Assistant

Visitors:

Kim Scott, RCS Consulting
Joe Langel, MMCD Legal Counsel

Vice Chair Gary Kriesel welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Approval of Minutes for September 28, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting

Commissioner Nicole Frethem offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 1:

Resolved, that the September 28, 2022, Executive Committee Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Commissioner Liz Workman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Gary Kriesel asked all in favor to say “Aye” and those opposed to say “No.” The resolution was approved unanimously.

Intergovernmental Issues

Minnesota 2022 General Election Results

The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL) swept the general election with Governor Walz winning his re-election over former state Senator Scott Jensen and his running mate, former Vikings player Matt Birk, and the Democrats taking control of both bodies in the Legislature. All 201 legislative seats in the state were up for election. After redistricting earlier in the year, about two dozen races were considered competitive, with many of the suburban areas around the Twin Cities being battlegrounds.

The DFL also won all of the constitutional offices, including, attorney general, state auditor, and secretary of state (all incumbents).

The Democrats now hold complete control over state government in a “DFL trifecta” for the first time since 2014. Based on current results, the DFL will have a narrow 70-64 majority in the House and an even narrower one seat 34-33 majority in the Senate.

The Twin Cities suburbs were the top voting bloc in the state (larger than Greater Minnesota and Minneapolis/St. Paul) with abortion being the top electoral issue, inflation and democracy coming in second, and crime, a more distant third.

Two House races, both long-time DFL seats on the Iron Range, flipped to Republican by a narrow enough margin to trigger an automatic recount of the votes (in District 3A, Roger Skraba leads incumbent DFL Rob Ecklund by 15 votes and in District 3B, the longest serving current legislator (46-year incumbent DFL member Mary Murphy) is down by 35 votes to Natalie Zeleznikar). This was also one of the few split districts where the DFL candidate won the Senate seat while the Republican candidates, pending results of the recount, won both House seats.

Legislative demographics:

There will be a combined 65 new members between the House and Senate with 19 new Democrats and 25 new Republicans in the House, and 14 new Democrats and 9 new Republicans in the Senate.

It will be the state’s most diverse Legislature with 35 of the 201 members of the Legislature being people of color. The House will also have its first openly transgender person to serve in the Legislature and the first lawmaker from Generation Z, four women of color newly elected to the Senate, including the first black women elected to the Senate and the first woman of Somali heritage elected to the Senate, the first black Republican man to serve in the House since the 1980s, the first nonbinary legislator in Minnesota (elected to the House), 11 legislators belonging to the LGBTQ community—a doubling of the current LGBTQ representation.

Minnesota garnered national attention for its divided government over the last four years (the only other state legislature in the country operating under a divided government is Virginia). With this DFL trifecta, Gov. Walz will have an easier time pushing his agenda through the

Legislature, he will have less concern over his commissioners being fired by the Senate, and much more control over how to spend the record \$9 billion dollar budget surplus that was left on the bottom line when the Legislature adjourned last May. The slim majorities in the Legislature are expected to have a moderating effect on final outcomes. Additionally, with the uncertainty of the global economy, much of the new spending may be one-time spending or tax relief. DFL leaders have previewed their priorities, including codifying abortion rights and paid parental leave and the broader spending priorities of funding for classrooms, health care, and public safety.

Legislative leadership:

Most committee chairs have yet to be named, but the Minnesota DFL Senate Caucus elected longtime Minneapolis Senator Kari Dziedzic as Senate Majority Leader. Sen. Bobby Joe Champion, also from Minneapolis, was elected as Senate President (he will be the first black person to serve as Senate President). Longtime environmental advocate and state senator of 36 years, John Marty, will be the powerful Finance Committee Chair and seasoned tax legislator Ann Rest will lead the key Tax Committee. The Senate DFL leadership has been criticized for a lack of geographic diversity, they hold few seats outside of the Twin Cities metro area and none with any seniority. Senate Republicans chose Sen. Mark Johnson, from far northwest Minnesota, as their Minority Leader; current Senate Majority Leader Jeremy Miller did not seek the post.

The DFL House caucus reelected Rep. Melissa Hortman as their Speaker, Rep. Jamie Long as Majority Leader, and Rep. Athena Hollins as Majority Whip. The House Republicans elected Rep. Lisa Demuth as their Minority Leader over Kurt Daudt; DeMuth will be the first biracial person to hold this position. Other than Speaker Hortman, the slate of legislative leaders is entirely new.

Districts that are split, reflecting swing districts/key swing votes:

District 3, on the Iron Range: Senate=Grant Hauschild (DFL); House districts were both flipped to Republican (contingent on the recounts); 3A=Roger Skraba (current Mayor of Ely), 3B=Natalie Zeleznikar [all newly elected legislators]

District 4, Moorhead/Clay County in western Minnesota: Senate=newly elected Rob Kupec (DFL); House districts are split: 4A=Heather Keeler (DFL), 4B=newly elected Jim Joy (R)

District 7, also on the Iron Range: Senate=newly elected Rob Farnsworth (R) (this was Sen. David Tomassoni's seat); House districts are split: 7A=Spencer Igo (R), 7B=Dave Lislegard (DFL)

District 14, St. Cloud: Senate=Aric Putnam (DFL); House districts are split: 14A=newly elected Bernie Perryman (R), 14B=Dan Wolgamott (DFL)

Final Election results for statewide races:

- GOVERNOR: DFL Gov. Tim Walz (52.3%) wins over Republican Scott Jensen (44.6%)
- ATTORNEY GENERAL: DFL A.G. Keith Ellison (50.4%) wins over Republican Jim Schultz (49.6%)
- SECRETARY OF STATE: DFL Sec. Steve Simon (55%) wins over Republican Kim Crockett (45%)
- STATE AUDITOR: DFL Auditor Julie Blaha (47.5%) wins over Republican Ryan Wilson (47.2%)

See also: [2022 Election Directory for the 2023-2024 Minnesota House](#)
[2022 Minnesota Senate Election Directory](#)

Some of Gov. Walz's key cabinet members will not be returning: Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm, Public Safety Commissioner John Harrington, Education Commissioner Heather Mueller, and Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Commissioner Mark Phillips have decided to leave their positions. Sixteen cabinet members will carry over and they will be looking to fill vacancies at the Department of Revenue and the Department of Labor and Industry.

Important Upcoming Dates:

The DFL House and Senate will release the committee structure for the 2023 legislative session by December 3.

January 3, 2023: 2023 Legislative Session commences

Legislative leaders say that the upcoming legislative session will be in-person, but likely to offer some testimony via remote options.

Approval of the Updated MMCD Purchasing policy

Arleen Schacht reported that the current MMCD Purchasing Policy was designed to satisfy the requirements of Minn. Stat. 471.345. A recent review of the policy and current statute language revealed that the decision threshold amounts in the current policy are below the same thresholds in current statute language. We believe the MMCD Purchasing Policy should be updated to agree with the current statute language.

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

Resolution 2:

Whereas, the current MMCD Purchasing Policy contains threshold values based on Minn. Stat. 471.345 that are lower than the current language in that statute and,

Whereas, the current MMCD Purchasing agreement language otherwise continues to satisfy Minn. Stat. 471.345,

Resolved, that the Commission approves the following MMCD Purchasing Policy that includes threshold values from the current language in Minn. Stat. 471.345.

Commissioner Tom Workman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Gary Kriesel asked all in favor to say “Aye” and those opposed to say “No.” The resolution was approved unanimously.

Approval to Remove Committed \$1,000,000 for the Anoka Lease Bond

Arleen Schacht reported that in 2013 the Commission approved a resolution that committed \$1,000,000 to early retirement of the Anoka Lease Bond.

The Anoka Lease Bond payments began in 2007 with the last payment scheduled to be made in February 2023. Based on the financial situation at the time the resolution was approved in 2013, the request for committing fund for early retirement of the bond made sense. However, the years 2014 – 2016 proved to be very high service demand years with expenditures exceeding revenues by nearly \$6M using much of the reserves available, eliminating the opportunity to take advantage of the early retirement of the bond. As of 2023, the District will have fulfilled the lease obligation and it is no longer necessary for the Fund Balance to include the \$1,000,000 committed funds.

Commissioner Nicole Frethem offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolution 3:

Whereas, the proposed Fund Balance Policy of the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District meets the needs of District operations providing information on the committed components of the Fund Balance,

Be it resolved, The Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission modifies the Fund Balance by removing the committed \$1,000,000 for the early retirement of the Anoka Lease Bond.

Commissioner Tom Workman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Gary Kriesel asked all in favor to say “Aye” and those opposed to say “No.” The resolution was approved unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report

Stephen Manweiler reported that he and Arleen are assembling resources to support her as the Interim Executive Director beginning on December 24, 2022. References developed for orienting a new Executive Director also will support the Interim Executive Director. These references include Commission needs and history. The other three managers (District Operations Manager, Technical Services Manager, Public Affairs Manager) also will support both the Interim Executive Director and new Executive Director. Stephen’s goal is to provide for Arleen everything she needs to lead MMCD.

After communicating with three professional recruiters, we have chosen DDA Human Resources, Inc. (based in Wayzata, Minnesota) to find our next Executive Director. Their all-

inclusive fee was the lowest. They explained how their experience placing Watershed District Executive Directors demonstrates that they understand how to fill positions with unique experience requirements (biological and managerial) like the MMCD Executive Director. They project being able to present screened candidates for the MMCC to choose from in April 2023.

Other Items

Stephen Manweiler reminded everyone that during the October 26 Commission meeting we decided to convene this November 17 Executive committee in person based upon Covid transmission and risk. We also agreed to review the situation at this meeting (November 17) to decide how to meet on December 14. Stephen reported that current Covid transmission is about the same that it has been since the beginning of October and proposed convening the December 14 Commission meeting in person at MMCD's St. Paul headquarters. No Commissioners objected. Several asked if we could have a hybrid or remote meeting if severe weather hampered in-person attendance. Joe Langel stated that notification of any off-site participation would need to be posted at least three days before the meeting. We will hold the December 14 Commission meeting in person unless a significant increase in Covid transmission or severe weather occurs. We will determine any change by December 11 to satisfy the posting requirements.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Gary Kriesel asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Tom Workman moved that we adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Liz Workman seconded the motion. Vice Chair Gary Kriesel asked all in favor to say "Aye" and those opposed to say "No." The motion was approved unanimously. Vice Chair Gary Kriesel declared the meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

TO: COMMISSION MEMBERS
FROM: STEPHEN MANWEILER
RE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
DATE: DECEMBER 2022

1. DIRECTOR'S INITIATIVES

After introductory meetings with three professional recruiters, we hired DDA Human Resources, Inc., to find the next Executive Director. Their experience finding Executive Directors best matched MMCD requirements, their fee is reasonable and they provided a realistic plan and timeline including a guarantee. Stephen, Arleen, and Jennifer (HR) met with Pat Melvin (DDA Human Resources) on December 6 to begin preparing for the search starting in January 2023.

On December 8, all regular fulltime employees participated in our annual Employee Recognition celebration. We convened the celebration in person and included a potluck lunch and trivia games to continue bringing people together after pandemic-related isolation.

2. MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICES

The cold, snow, and ice have arrived in Minnesota. The wetlands, if they had water in them, are now frozen over and covered in snow. The current US drought monitor, Figure 1 (below), shows most of the metro in the severe to extreme drought range. We will need a large snowpack this winter to help the area get back to normal water levels.

Last year, I described the 2021 season as one word, "Dry". For the 2022 season, I would have to repeat myself when describing the season, "Dry: Part 2". The drought that started in 2021 continued for the 2022 season. The acres treated for both larval and adult mosquitoes are less than last year, with 2021 and 2022 totals being significantly lower than the previous years. Table 1 (below) gives a summary of the District's field activities for 2022. Overall, staff did a fantastic job with all the work they performed during 2022 to help lower adult mosquito numbers and help prevent mosquito-borne diseases to the District residents.

On December 1, staff attended MMCD's annual District Operations Services review meeting. At this meeting staff reviewed the work that was performed during the 2022 season. Staff also discussed the issues they faced this season, and other issues that we believe may affect MMCD in the future. We also started to discuss the plans to address these issues before the 2023 season. We plan to meet again in early March to discuss and set plans for the 2023 season.

The Rosemount Facility partnered with the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District, for a second year in a row to have a natural prairie installed on part of the facility property on November 18. With this addition, Rosemount now has approximately five acres of prairie, creating a natural area for butterflies, bees, and other pollinators.

Field staff are continuing to review the 2022 data and update their field maps. They are also attending meetings, doing maintenance on equipment, and starting to prepare for the 2023 field season. The winter will go by fast with all that we plan to work on and accomplish.

Figure 1 – US drought monitor, State of Minnesota

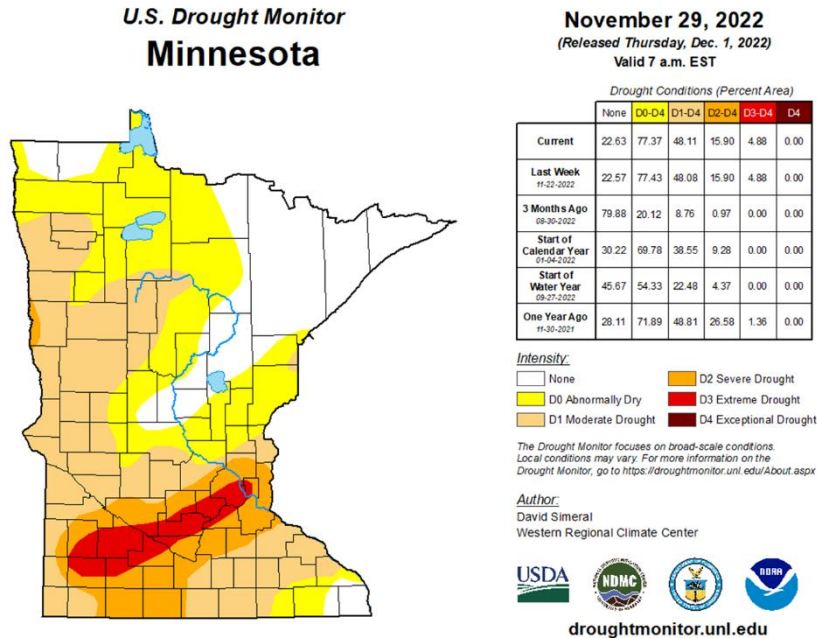


Table 1 – Summary of 2022 Field Activities

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Number of Mosquito Broods* | 10 |
| Larval Inspections and/or Treatments | 105,574 |
| Larval Treatments – (acres treated) | 129,480 |
| Adult Inspections | 7,959 |
| Adult Treatments – (acres treated) | 1,700 |
| Black Fly Inspections | 868 |
| Black Fly Treatments | 101 |
| Black Fly Treatments (gallons used) | 3,610 |
| Tires Removed | 11,752 |
| Customer Calls | 1,454 |

*(enough rain fell to react with the helicopter)

3. MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE

The Minnesota Department of Health has reported 12 West Nile virus (WNV) illnesses to CDC, additional illnesses remain under review. There was one fatality attributed to WNV in Minnesota in 2022. Two of the state’s cases occurred in residents of the District: one each in residents of Hennepin and Ramsey counties. There were eight veterinary reports of WNV illness in Minnesota: seven in horses from outside the District and one captive reindeer from Ramsey County. Forty-two of 617 mosquito samples tested in the MMCD laboratory were

positive for WNV in 2022. Nationally, 970 WNV illnesses and 169 WNV positive blood donors have been reported to CDC. Fatalities were reported in 74 of the WNV illnesses.

There were three La Crosse encephalitis (LAC) cases reported in Minnesota in 2022. One recently reported case is in Hennepin County. We will thoroughly investigate potential exposure sites once details of the illness are communicated to MMCD. The other LAC cases are in Olmsted and Wright counties. The CDC has received 19 reports of LAC illnesses nationally, 13 of which were in Ohio. MMCD field staff worked diligently to reduce LAC risk in the District in 2022 by eliminating larval habitats used by vector species including 1,087 containers, 92 tree holes, and 11,752 tires.

One Jamestown Canyon (JC) illness was confirmed in a Minnesota resident this year. The individual is a resident of Ramsey County who was most likely exposed to the JC virus in Minnesota but outside of the District. Nationally, seven JC illnesses have been reported to CDC from four states.

Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) was not detected in Minnesota in 2022. The virus was responsible for horse fatalities in Minnesota in each of the three prior years. The population of the primary EEE vector, *Culiseta melanura*, was very low in the District this year, the result of two consecutive summer droughts. Only four samples of the species were available to test for the EEE virus. All results were negative. Nationally, one EEE illness has been reported in a resident of Wisconsin. Veterinary reports of EEE illness have come from 23 counties in seven states with the nearest cases reported from Michigan and Indiana.

4. TECHNICAL SERVICES LAB

In November, we finished identifying larval samples (over 10,000 total) that were submitted by field staff last summer. We are currently identifying the remaining adult samples – namely the New Jersey light traps and the long-term CO₂ trap locations. We are identifying those samples to full species, rather than species groups. After all identifications are finished and the data is reconciled, we can begin analyzing the 2022 surveillance data. The surveillance information was used for the season wrap up at the District Operations Services fall meeting on December 1. Information presented there was preliminary, as we are still processing samples. Our data is also used in the surveillance chapter of the Annual Report to the Technical Advisory Board (TAB), and to guide us in refining surveillance strategies for the following year. Finally, we will be subsampling the collections made for the black fly program's nontarget study. Those subsamples will be processed by lab technicians next summer.

5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

School Presentations

MMCD continues to be active in local schools around the Twin Cities delivering presentations to students from third grade through high school. In mid-December we are partnering with Anoka-Hennepin Schools Community Education to run a week-long workshop of education about mosquitoes, ticks, and more at various elementary schools.

Summarizing Calls in 2022

Throughout 2022 we received a total of 1,454 calls from residents to request service or report mosquito annoyance, which was up from 1,173 in 2021. The most common calls were to report mosquito annoyance (856 calls) or to request a tire pickup (376 calls). Calls peaked in June with below average call volume in July and August, likely due to dry conditions and low mosquito numbers. Here is where the calls came from in 2022:

- Anoka County - 546 calls
- Carver County - 95 calls
- Dakota County - 88 calls
- Hennepin County - 324 calls
- Ramsey County - 80 calls
- Scott County - 115 calls
- Washington County - 174 calls
- Uncategorized - 32 calls

Look for more details about calls and customer relationship building in the TAB report.

Looking Ahead to 2023

As we prepare for another great year in 2023, we are working on a couple of projects related to public affairs:

- Improve Public Notifications - We currently have a workgroup exploring how to improve notifications to residents about MMCD activity.
- Increased Event Attendance - We are hoping to increase our public appearances in 2023 as events grow in size due to lessening pandemic concerns.
- Updated Displays - We are revamping some of our display material to prepare for 2023.
- Website Improvements - More online activity will be coming in 2023 including some improvements to the educational offerings on our website.

We appreciate the support commissioners have provided in 2022 and look forward to another great year in 2023!

6. TICK-BORNE DISEASE

Tick Vector Field Projects

Tick surveillance field work for 2022 began on April 25 and was completed on October 27. Mammal and tick identifications and data entry is in progress.

Collaborations with Other Public Health Agencies

- School of Public Health. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
Dr. Jon Oliver (School of Public Health, UM) gave the dataset of our tick surveillance to his student, Jacob Classen. He has been working on various items such as associating our larval deer tick numbers with weather patterns, average numbers of deer tick nymphs on mammals with tick-borne diseases, etc.
- Public Health Agency. Canada.

Our tick data set has also been provided to Dr. Nicholas H. Ogden and colleagues of the Public Health Agency of Canada, National Microbiology Laboratory. They plan to use the data and combine various variables across time to better understand how and why tick-borne disease risk has changed over time.

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 December 3, no Asian longhorned ticks or red sheep ticks have been reported as being found in Minnesota.

Public Education/Outreach

- We continue to inform our Facebook/Twitter/Instagram/Tik Tok followers of items of interest as they occur.
- Our 2021 tick surveillance report is available on our website (<https://www.mmcd.org/docs/publications/tickreport2021.pdf>).
- Our Tick Risk Meter is currently TURNED OFF.
- Signs to remind the public of deer ticks and disease prevention measures may be posted at dog parks and additional locations throughout the metro. For various reasons some signs remain up year-round.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
COMMISSION MEETING

DECEMBER 14, 2022

Requested by:

Stephen Manweiler
Arleen Schacht

Action requested:

Approve Property Tax Levy for Payable 2023

Resolution:

Whereas, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission has reviewed the proposed property tax levy for payable 2023 considering the needs of the program, and

Whereas, the 2023 levy is proposed in the amount of \$19,419,470, a 2% increase over the 2022 original levy of \$19,038,696, and

Whereas, the Commission has held a public hearing conforming with truth in taxation requirements,

Be it now resolved, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission adopts the payable 2023 levy in the amount of \$19,419,470 to the Minnesota Department of Revenue, a 2% increase over the 2022 levy of \$19,038,696, and authorizes staff to certify the levy to the Minnesota Department of Revenue and the Counties of the District.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
COMMISSION MEETING

DECEMBER 14, 2022

Requested by:

Stephen Manweiler
Arleen Schacht

Action requested:

Approve Budget for 2023

Resolution:

Whereas, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission has reviewed the proposed 2023 operations budget of \$19,933,874, a 1% increase from the original 2022 budget (\$19,741,768), which is sufficient to meet the needs of the program, and

Whereas, the operations budget includes capital equipment and maintenance of \$527,520 for replacement equipment and facility maintenance, and

Whereas, the budget leaves intact the MMCD's unassigned working capital account which needs to cover approximately 55% of expenditures and leaves \$8,652,020 for emergency disease control, employee benefits, control materials, and other assigned funds,

Be it now resolved, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission approves the final 2022 operations budget in the amount of \$19,741,768, and adopts the proposed 2023 expenditures budget in the amount of \$19,933,874, an increase of 1% from the 2022 budget.