

TOWN OF LANCASTER
BOARD OF HEALTH
Prescott Building Nashaway Meeting Room
September 12, 2019

Present: John Farnsworth and Katherine Holden

Also Present: William Brookings, Agent, Nashoba Board of Health

List of Documents:

- Agenda for September 12, 2019
- MDAR news Release concerning Aerial Spraying for EEE
- Nashoba Regional School District memo to staff and parents dated September 10, 2019
- NRSD letter to staff and parents dated September 9, 2019 concerning EEE
- NRSD letter to staff and parents dated August 27, 2019 concerning EEE

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM.

Discussions

EEE and West Nile Virus Issue-Chairman Farnsworth talked about the EEE virus and ways to protect against the disease. Take precautions, clothing and sprays. He said your health and safety begins with you. Lancaster is in the moderate area. Shirley, Lunenburg, Bolton and Sterling have reported cases of the EEE virus in mosquitos. The CMMCP test regularly and they are very vigilant. He read the MDAR new release concerning additional aerial spraying for EEE in critical and high risk communities. The Board is trying to find the best way to use resources to protect the community.

NRSD Superintendent Brooke Clenchy said Nashoba has sent out three communications to staff and parents concerning the EEE virus. She said they are being proactive. The school is spraying the tree lines around the buildings. They have restricted no evening games or practices. For activities after dusk, insect repellent is available.

Tim Dechance, Executive Director CMMCP (Central Mass Mosquito Control Program) said Mass Department of Public Health creates zones and we do pre and post trapping. Chairman Farnsworth asked if there are benefits to aerial spraying. Mr. Dechance said it is set up by the state. Lancaster is not critical or high. The challenge is the weather such as wind and temperature. CMMCP sprays at night, testing is done on a weekly basis. He said any proactive service CMMCP provides is a benefit to keep the mosquitos down. The spray has no impact on amphibians.

The Board decided to issue an urgent advisory notice and place it on the website and send it out on the reverse 911 system.

Chairman Farnsworth said he would like to reach out to the Animal Control Officer and ask if any dead animals are found they be tested for the virus. Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco said he would coordinate it.

Adjourn

John Farnsworth made a motion to adjourn; Katherine Holden seconded. VOTE: 2-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Dennis, Lancaster Board of Health Office Manager