

The Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2026, in person at the office of the Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission, 2 Furnace Street, Oxford, New Jersey, with remote attendance available through *GoToMeeting*. This meeting was held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L.1975.

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 8:23 AM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Burke, Chairman	YES
Mr. Summers, Vice-Chairman	YES <small>(remote)</small>
Ms. Greason, Secretary/Treasurer	YES
Mr. Eriksen	YES
Ms. Cooke-Gibbs	NO
Dr. Vincent Zaccheo	YES
Ms. Ciesla, County Commissioner	NO

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Chairman Burke: Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a schedule of regular meetings of the Warren County Mosquito Commission to the Warren County Clerk, the Warren County Board of Commissioners, The Star Ledger, The Express Times, and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the office of the Board of Commissioners and the Mosquito Commission. The Warren County Mosquito Commission may take formal action at this meeting. The meeting was announced to include a link and a phone number to join the meeting remotely using a phone, computer, tablet, or smartphone, as well as attending in person. Public participation is encouraged. To ensure full public participation, those individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meetings were advised to submit any requests for special accommodation one week in advance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Gruener announced that the financial disclosure statements are due at the end of April.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Burke stated the Commissioners were provided with the minutes from the March 19, 2026, meeting. He asked if there were any corrections or modifications to the minutes. Two corrections were noted. Commissioner Eriksen made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Commissioner Greason seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORTS

Chairman Burke noted that the March 31, 2026, Budget & Treasurer's Reports were presented at the meeting for approval. Chairman Burke asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Budget & Treasurer's Reports. There being none, Commissioner Zaccheo made a motion to approve the reports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eriksen, and the motion carried.


E. Greason

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

The Investigator's Annual Report was submitted to the National Park Service for monitoring activities conducted in the DGNRA. Ms. Gruener and Ms. Giordano plan to give a tick presentation to park staff on May 8, 2026. The 2025 Pesticide Use Survey was submitted to the NJDEP. Mosquito control agencies asked if public and private mosquito control pesticide usage could be reported separately. In compliance with the School IPM Act, pre-notification was given to schools that have extended-release sites on their property. The annual policy review was completed with all full-time staff. Full-time staff were fit-tested for N-95 respirators in compliance with federal and state requirements. A survey from the NJ DOH regarding the tick grant funding was completed and submitted. The 2025 Annual Report was submitted to the director of the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station as required by the statutes. It was also sent to the secretary of the SMCC, as both the 2025 Plans & Estimates and the 2025 Annual Report were requested so a complete year of reporting could be reviewed. The seasonal training materials are being updated to include a bear safety video and poisonous plant safety materials. All required documentation has been received by the aerial contractor, and the contract has been fully executed. A notice was received from the NJ Department of Treasury stating the WCMEC was named as the registered agent on behalf of the Rebecca Lynn Flying Service, Inc. (RLFS). Ms. Gruener immediately notified RLFS that WCMEC did not agree to be the registered agent and instructed them to file a change of registered agent through the NJ Treasury website. Ms. Gruener also contacted the Corporation Filing Unit within the NJ Treasury Department and notified them the WCMEC did not agree to act as the registered agent. The Corporate Filing Unit responded that WCMEC was removed as the registered agent.

The Oxford rain gauge recorded 5.78" of precipitation, which was above the 10-year average of 3.54" for the gauge. The average precipitation across the state was 3.28", which is slightly below the 30-year normal of 4.2". Statewide, the average temperature was 45.1° F which is 4.1° above the 30-year normal. *Aedes vexans* were identified from a larval sample collected on March 25, 2026, and several collections since. *Aedes vexans* are a summer species not usually found until May. Two fish stockings took place. Access clearing and chain sawing have been done at the aerial larviciding inspection sites. The blockage at the Mountain Lake outflow was determined to be a beaver dam and was cleared.

Ground larviciding commenced on March 30, 2026. Both the Cougar ULV machine and the Pro-mist ULV machine were installed, however both are in need of repairs. Mr. Necina and Mr. Hagerty attempted to calibrate the Hyllo, at Chairman Burke's farm, but ran into issues.

Ms. Fisher staffed a booth at Maker's Day at the Richard Gardner Branch of the WC Library and provided STEM activities for children to participate in, such as using the microscope to identify mosquitoes and ticks. Mosquito and tick presentations were given to five classes of fourth grade students at Blairstown, Belvidere, and Frelinghuysen Elementary Schools.


New motors were soldered into the CDC traps along with new wiring and alligator clips. Truck supplies were restocked, lock boxes were power washed and stocked with pesticides to begin the season. The SDS book, Central File, and hazardous substance fact sheets were updated since new products were received for stocking the trucks and cleaning the fish tanks.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

Chairman Burke noted that master voucher M2026-04 (Resolution 2026-10) was presented at the meeting for approval. Commissioner Eriksen made a motion to approve master voucher M2026-04 (Resolution 2026-10) in the amount of \$40,378.68. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zaccheo and the motion carried.

COMMUNICATION

- J. Kohut, Director of Research NJAES to J. Gruener re: Plans & Estimates
- J. Gruener to S. Crans OMCC/SMCC re: Peeling paint on Kobelco
- W. Baskay, PMA Companies to J. Gruener re: Summary of Meeting


E. Greason

- J. Gruener to WC Library Northeast, R. Gardner Library, WCCC Library & Phillipsburg Free Public Library re: Distributing copies of the 107th & 108th NJMCA Proceedings
- J. Gruener to National Park Service re: Investigator's Annual Report submission
- NJIIF to J. Gruener re: LMS Online Training Program
- J. Gruener to WC Board of Commissioners re: 2025 Annual Report
- J. Gruener to NJ Affirmative Action Office re: Award of Aerial Larviciding contract
- J. Gruener to Oxford Volunteer Fire Dept. re: Annual Notification Pesticide List & Location
- J. Gruener to L. Lawson, Exec. Director NJ Ag. Experiment Station re: 2025 Annual Report
- A. Giordano to 2026 NJ Light trap Cooperators re: Installation of NJ Light traps
- J. Gruener to RLFS Inc. re: Additional documents for Aerial Larviciding Contract
- M. Senyk, Ocean County MEC to J. Gruener re: Changes to Pesticide Exam
- NJDEP Pesticide Control Program to J. Gruener re: Changes to Pesticide Exams
- J. Gruener to NJ Corp Filing Unit, RLFS, re: Removal of Registered Agent

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

2026 Salaries & Wages

Ms. Gruener stated that 2026 Salaries and Wages are open for discussion since the County has finalized the 2026 Budget. Last month the discussion of the increase for the Civil Service promotion from Inspector Trainee to Inspector title after one year was tabled. Ms. Gruener stated that the salary range for the Inspector position had not previously been set as it had been with other positions. After reviewing a copy of the union contract book loaned by Weights and Measures, Ms. Gruener found a comparable title at the Health Department of Public Health Investigator. Also, traditionally a 5% promotional increase is given with a title change. After some discussion, Commissioner Eriksen made a motion to set the salary range for the Inspector title to \$42,000-\$62,666, thus giving an increase of 5% to the newly promoted Inspector retroactively to March 24, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zaccheo.

Additionally, 2026 salary increases for full-time staff were discussed. Ms. Gruener stated that a 3% increase was included in the 2026 budget, since the hiring of the Heavy Equipment Operator has been delayed, the budget could handle more. For 2025, the County union contract gave a 2% increase and one step, which could be as much as 5%. The state CWA increase was 3.5%, the teacher union gave an 3.7% increase, Social Security gave an increase of 3.5% After some discussion, Commissioner Eriksen made a motion to give a 3.5% increase to the remaining full-time staff members for 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Greason and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Eileen M. Greason,
Secretary/Treasurer