

## Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Minutes

SE Health Center, January 15, 2008, 1-3 PM

### 11/20/07 MINUTES

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MOTION: A motion was made to approve 11/20/07 minutes.

SECOND: The motion was seconded.

MOTION PASSED The 11/20/07 minutes were approved with two spelling corrections.

#### Old Business Updates:

- Mosquito Control Impacts on Birds: Lila Wickham informed the committee about a community member's concern that larvicides are impacting local birds. Chris Wirth responded to the concern, a copy of the response provided to committee members. Current research does not indicate bird food sources are negatively impacted by larvicides. MCVNC will continue to look for resources to conduct a scientific study on this topic.
- Recruitment of New Members: Lila Wickham reported that Chris Wirth will collaborate with the Public Affairs office to place an advertisement in The Oregonian for recruitment new members.
- By-Law Review: Lila Wickham discussed the benefits of using staggered terms for committee members and reported that the by-laws do not stipulate term limits. The committee discussed the importance of maintaining the expertise and continuity of the committee. It was decided that committee members may serve additional terms.
- Vector Control Abatement Ordinance Revisions: Lila Wickham reported that under County Attorney advisement, the Vector Enforcement ordinance does not limit enforcement to the Unincorporated Multnomah County. To improve clarity on this issue an ordinance amendment will be requested. A meeting with the Gresham City attorney and the Multnomah County Attorney occurred on January 15<sup>th</sup> to create documentation of the agreement that Multnomah County Vector Control has the authority to abate vectors/nuisances in the City of Gresham. Cross training with Enforcement Staff with our Nuisance Office will be scheduled.

#### New Business:

- County Budget Update: Lila Wickham reported that the County is using a different budget process this year. Commissioners will continue to use Advisory Committees' for budget input but the general community meetings have been eliminated. The budget hearing process will continue. Departments are doing internal processes to assure resources are being spent on higher priority items. The final budget will be approved June 12, 2008.

Lila presented a FY09 Vector Control Budget Summary. Lila responded to advisory member's questions about budget expenditures and then gave a description of how the budget impacts MCVNC program and services. Analysis has been conducted to identify the most strategic use of resources. This year's budget constraint limits increases to less than 3% (cost of living) increase. Chris Wirth was able to submit a budget with a 2.6% increase by assessing and prioritizing resources. The committee reviewed a chart

illustrating mosquitoes trapped in Multnomah County. The chart helped to illustrate that prioritization of large scale aerial larvicide applications in lieu of catch basin (CB) work is successful in suppressing mosquito populations and helps us stay within the budget.

A committee member inquired if there is a correlation between illness and the use of larvicides/pesticides and if individuals come forward with complaints? Lila Wickham confirmed that MCVNC does receive complaints and reported that MCVNC's Integrated Pest Management Plan is submitted to the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW). ODFW reviews the plan to assure we are using the least toxic biological larvicides and/or *Bacillus thuringiensis*, subspecies *israelensis* (Bti's). These Bti's do not cause health issues. Additionally, we post signs to give the public notice of when aerial application will take place. A suggestion was made that committee members attend an aerial application. Lynn George will coordinate in Spring/Summer.

Lila reported that we plan to collaborate with Columbia County to abate mosquitoes on Sauvie Island. A map was distributed that illustrates that 73% of the *Ae vexans* mosquitoes trapped in Multnomah County are identified on Sauvie Island. It will be valuable to increase abatement on the Columbia County portion of Sauvie Island.

Mosquitoes are capable of migrating 22 miles, making it valuable to coordinate mosquito abatement work. A committee member requested information about the Washington State mosquito control program. Chris Wirth will present information on Washington State, and Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties during the next advisory meeting

- **Vectors and Elderly:**  
Thomas Vanderbraak (from Program Impact, an Oregon Project Independence District Center) presented on how vectors impact seniors. He gave three examples of how rats are commonly found in and around senior's properties. He explained how OPI District Centers, Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services (ADS) Gatekeepers and Case Managers can be a resource to help seniors 60+ and younger individuals with disabilities reduce/eliminate their rat problems. Lynn George will send advisory members a list of Oregon Project Independence District Centers.
- **Vectors and Vulnerable Populations:**  
Muriel Grimord-Isham (Salvation Army) conducted a presentation on how vectors impact vulnerable populations. The committee discussed that more education and outreach is needed to make social service, community-based organizations aware of vector issues and MCVNC services. A member suggested using Public Service Announcements (PSA's) as an effective way to coordinate our message to these populations
- **Vectors and Global Climate Change:**  
Lila Wickham presented how global climate change will impact vulnerable populations. Current global climate literature was provided to the committee. A committee member asked what the County was doing about global climate change. Lila Wickham reported that the County is focusing on decreasing environmental impacts with their purchasing practices, purchasing "green" cleaning supplies, working with facilities to create

alternative light and heat requirements, offering bus passes to employees to encourage mass transit use.

**Next Meeting:**

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 1-3pm at the Southeast Health Center

**Suggested Agenda Topics:**

1. Chris to present on Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties Vector services.
2. Chris to present on the City of Portland's Office of Sustainable Development and what the City plans for the mixing of garbage and food waste.
3. Vulnerable population connections.
4. Vector Control Abatement Ordinance Revisions