

Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Minutes
SE Health Center, July 15th, 1-2:30 PM

05/20/08 MINUTES

MOTION: A motion was made to approve 05/20/08 minutes.

SECOND: The motion was seconded.

MOTION PASSED The 03/18/08 minutes were approved with one correction. The next meeting read "July 15th 2009," and should have read "July 15th, 2008."

Introductions:

Dave Thomson, Mark Adams and Grady Maxwell introduced themselves.

A new committee member was introduced and welcomed to the VCEAC. She is a Registered Nurse at Doernbecher Children's Hospital and will begin her Masters in Public Health at OHSU this fall.

Present committee members discussed their background and interest in becoming committee members.

A committee member who is retiring was unable to attend her final meeting with VCEAC. Chris Wirth will deliver her gift to her home.

New mugs were distributed today to some committee members to recognize their commitment and involvement with VCEAC. We appreciate and thank you!

Old Business Updates:

- No Feed Ordinance. Chris Wirth reported that Bob Salinger, Conservation Director, Audubon Society of Portland has not yet determined if he will approach the no feed ordinance on a City, County or State level. Dave Thomson will assist in reviewing the current policy. Main issues include bird and squirrel feeding.
- Columbia County Collaborative: Chris reported that Columbia County's Vector Control budget increased. For now, we will wait and see how well the new collaboration works. If we end up with same model as previous years - change will occur.
- Budget Update: Chris presented FY09 Budget Summaries for Vector Control and WNV Surveillance. He explained how Vector Control's funding comes from the 'General Fund' and the WNV Surveillance funding is obtained from separate grants. The budget was accepted by Chair Ted Wheeler. Chris also attended the Chair's final budget meeting whereby Vector Control was recognized for the valuable work they provide to the community.

- Sentinel Chickens: Chris reported that it has been difficult to find a supplier to provide sentinel chickens this year. Many counties are not obtaining sentinel chickens because they are testing for other diseases in birds. Our efforts are focusing on mosquito collection and testing of dead corvids. In the summer of 2007 we had a dead corvid found in the Vector parking tested positive for WNV and our sentinel chickens which were 50 feet away never tested positive.
- Dead Corvid Collection: Chris reported that The Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife desired to alter the way in which dead corvids were to be collected and tested for WNV because they felt they were not receiving adequate results and were being kept “out of the loop.” Their new statewide policy required that we no longer picked up dead corvids and return them to Vector Control for testing. Vector Control was to begin swabbing dead corvids where they were left after they received complaints. ODF&W has since decided that agencies resume their prior practice of collection and testing.
- Japanese Beetle: Chris reported that Japanese beetles are attacking hemlock and other native trees in Oregon. There are some counties within the state that are using eradication programs where warranted.

New Business Updates:

- Kim Tierney (Homelessness): Kim has been employed with Multnomah County for over twenty years and currently leads the homeless program. Kim spoke of the many different programs the County currently offers to the homeless, persons with mental health, alcohol and drug related issues as well as those who lack medical insurance. Outreach efforts include providing care at eight sites in the metro area. These sites include but are not limited to health care clinics and satellite clinics at St. Francis Dining Hall and at NAFY for homeless youth, NARA and Central City Concern. Respite care is offered to homeless clients leaving hospitals. A medical van also offers a full range of services. Outreach in Clackamas County and Dignity Village also occurs. Kim provided meeting attendees with a handout identifying where their efforts are focused. This handout included a work sheet compiling disparities in health status.

Kim discussed Project Homeless Connect (PHC). Their goal is to find solutions to end homelessness and provide homeless clients with medical, dental and other services in their community. PHC started in San Francisco and has been adopted in most large and many small cities in the United States. The link to Portland’s Homeless Connect website is <http://www.portlandhomelessconnect.com/>.

- Title 13 Specified Animal Permitting Changes: Chris Wirth reported that the City of Portland code changed without our notification in February of 2008. The City

decided that the Director/Manager of Vector Control would now be the Director of Title 13. This took out any relationship related to dogs and cats, all domestic animals removed because they are within the Animal Services Division. Changes include reducing the distances for some specified animals from 200 ft to 150 ft and from 25 ft to 15 ft. In highly urbanized areas this could prove to be an issue. Changes also included removing the appeals process and is requiring the County to hold their own due process (hearing). We had to go back to Chapter 15 and 21 codes and add in specified animals. We also added language for all health licenses, including for restaurants, pool inspections, childcare, hotels and motels which are already being handled by Environmental Health. Multnomah County Vector and Code Enforcement is seeking approval of an ordinance from the Board of County Commission on July 17th to authorize a hearing process for residents who appeal a permit decision.

Dave Thomson reported that there are dissatisfied citizens unable to get animal control to address their particular concerns – customer service issues were not in touch with funding.

- Animal Services Update. Lila Wickham reported that Multnomah County currently provides animal services countywide, including for the City of Portland. They can no longer fund the level of animal services that are needed. Lila is participating in The Animal Services Taskforce which is chartered by the Portland City Council and the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners to study and evaluate options, make recommendations for appropriate and viable services levels, etc. The Taskforce's recommendations will be submitted by November 2008. Lila mentioned that Commissioner Randy Leonard wants to have a mechanism to address barking dogs in the City of Portland, a service that is not currently provided by Multnomah County Animal Services. .
- WNv Update: Chris updated attendees with national update to date on MCVNC's response to this public health threat. Chris provided a handout titled Oregon Public Health Connection, dated June 24, 2008 that summarized WNv cases reported to CDC as of July 8, 2008 as well as surveillance and related activities in Oregon from 2007. Multnomah County had 16 positive WNv birds only and he will provide an end-of-year summary.

Mark Adams reported to attendees about the ad placed in the Portland Parks and Recreation Guide that went out for spring/summer edition and another one will appear in the summer/fall guide. Mark has also been working on bus advertising that includes 36 bus ads on different size buses. Ads began running during Mosquito Awareness Week and will run for three months. Signage directs readers to the [fightthebiteoregon.com /](http://fightthebiteoregon.com/) <http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/dchs/westnile/index.htm>. This was a collaborative effort between the State of Oregon and Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties. Mark indicated that we hope to have a new Health Educator by August.

- Rodent Surveillance Presentation: Chris presented a slide show. This two year project tests for presence of disease and looks for disease risk invulnerable parties. The Oregon Dept. of Human Services will pay for the testing, lab funding, coordination and training of the project. The OSU lab will test for leptospirosis, Hep E and Toxoplasmosis. Portland State University will test for Seoul Virus. Grady Maxwell of Vector Control will assist in courier services and transporting samples. 47 sites will be used for purposes of trapping a mixed habitat (e.g., mature males). Euthanasia method includes live trapping (approved by CDC). A chamber is used to first knock down the live animal and step two includes placing in chamber with CO2.
- Orientation Follow-up: The consensus from Committee Members was that the orientation at Vector Control was great! There is continued interest by more than one person to go for additional field trips with Vector Staff.

Next Meeting:

September 16th, 2009, 1-3pm at the Southeast Health Center

Suggested Agenda Topics:

1. Update on Animals Services Group;
2. Schedule rodent inspection with Advisory Members;
3. Vector staff email Karol prior to setting traps so she can fence her horses;
4. WNV outreach at Multnomah County Fair, Summer 2009;
5. WNV outreach pamphlet to Equity Community Feed Stores and Coastal;
6. Lila will present on Healthy Homes grant findings. Focus on pests, mold, mildews and lead
7. Outreach for assisted living centers for mosquito control;
8. Chicken advocacy groups – Chris will explore;
9. Update on Title 13 Specified Animal Permitting changes;
10. HH Findings;
11. City of Gresham/City of Portland who develop/build subsurface structures (bio swells).
12. Urban chicken representative to present