

Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Minutes

SE Health Center, September 18, 2007, 1-3 PM

Facilitator: Kari Lyons, Multnomah County Environmental Health Department

Voting Members Present: Leon Tiger, Sue Ruonala, Dave Lenhart, Charlotte Matthews, Ruth Jones, Bill Belanger

Absent: Karol Dietrich, Mariel Grimord

Others Present: Lila Wickham, Program Manager, Mult. Co. Environmental Health; Chris Wirth, Program Manager, Mult. Co. Vector & Code Enforcement; Lynn George, Program Development Specialist, Mult. Co. Environmental Health; Carl Pierce, Vector Control Specialist, Mult. Co. Vector Control & Code Enforcement

ELECTION: CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

- Leon Tiger volunteered for the position of Chair
- Ruth Jones volunteered for the position of Vice Chair

MOTION: Charlotte Matthews motioned to elect Leon Tiger as Chair and Ruth Jones as Vice Chair

SECOND: Dave Lenhart

IN FAVOR: Leon Tiger, Sue Ruonala, Dave Lenhart, Charlotte Matthews, Ruth Jones

OPPOSED: none

MOTION PASSED

05/17/07 MINUTES

MOTION: Sue Ruonala motioned to approve 05/17/07 minutes

SECOND: Ruth Jones

IN FAVOR: Leon Tiger, Sue Ruonala, Dave Lenhart, Charlotte Matthews, Ruth Jones, Bill Belanger

OPPOSED: none

MOTION PASSED

CODE ENFORCEMENT: NEXT STEPS

- Chris Wirth provided an update and brief history of the new Code Enforcement Ordinance:
 - The County Board unanimously approved the ordinance.
 - Two cases were presented to the County Counsel as test models; however, both cases have resolved without the need to utilize the new ordinance.
- -After the ordinance was approved, conflicting language was discovered stating that ordinance only applies in Unincorporated Multnomah County. It is believed this can be remedied with some simple language changes. The Health Department County Attorney will be approached for implementation of the amendment. The County Attorney has made it clear that the Health Department currently has the authority to enforce an issue that poses as an

imminent public health threat (a mosquito breeding site in the presence of West Nile Virus). .
See supporting documents for additional details.

REVIEW: WEST NILE VIRUS SEASON

- Chris Wirth provided history and summary of local West Nile virus statistics:
 - 11 birds have tested positive for WNV in Multnomah County this season.
 - Robins and squirrels are proving to be good indicators of WNV in urban areas. Public message has been modified to encourage citizens to report dead robins.
 - Oregon is home to 50 different mosquito species. 19 are found in Multnomah County, nine of which are known to be WNV vectors.
 - WNV on the west coast is a different gene mutation than WNV found on the east coast, and both are a different mutation than the original strain from Uganda.
- See supporting documents for additional details.
- Kari Lyons provided an outreach and education update:
 - There was more mainstream media this year than ever before.
 - 237 different instances of media attention (not including grass roots efforts) since beginning of outreach.
 - Highlights of this year's outreach included:
 - E-newsletter
 - Updated WNV website
 - Public forum with Senator Avel Gordley (district 2)
 - Grass roots campaign involving posters and door hangers
 - Participation at Kenton Neighborhood Fair
- Lila Wickham presented Power Point of a Lancaster County, Nebraska study:
 - Study focused on long term effects of those afflicted with WNV including financial and productivity impacts.
 - Study provided clear evidence for the need for preventative measures.
- Kari Lyons' Community Health Educator position with Vector Control will no longer be funded. Ms. Lyons will continue with Environmental Health in a role focused on public health and housing disparities. Multnomah County Health Department intends to fund an educational component for Vector Control at some level.

RESEARCH UPDATE: HOW CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS MOSQUITO POPULATIONS

- Chris Wirth presented Power Point examining the connection between global climate change and vector-borne disease
- See supporting documents for additional details.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 20th, 2007.
- Committee members brainstormed potential topics:
 - What health risks do rats pose?
 - Bats, possums, raccoons and other urban vectors not managed by Vector Control.

ADJOURN MEETING

MOTION: Leon Tiger motioned to adjourn the meeting

SECOND: Charlotte Matthews

IN FAVOR: Leon Tiger, Sue Ruonala, Dave Lenhart, Charlotte Matthews, Ruth Jones,
Bill Belanger

OPPOSED: none

MOTION PASSED