



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(revised 03/25/11)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 4/14/11
Agenda Item #: R.11
Est. Start Time: 11:35 am
Date Submitted: 4/7/11

Agenda Title: Sole Source Exemption Request to purchase chemicals used for mosquito control
aerial spraying

Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: 04/14/11 **Amount of Time Needed:** 20 minutes
Department: Health **Division:** Environmental Health
Contact(s): Chris Wirth
Phone: _____ **Ext.** 83464
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Chris Wirth, Vector Control Manager

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approval of Sole Source Exemption Request to purchase chemicals used for mosquito control aerial spraying from: Clarke Mosquito Control

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results. Program Offer 40008 Vector borne disease prevention and code enforcement.

The Health Department has been purchasing mosquito control products under BID # B05-8469 since 2005. It was recently brought to our attention by Central Purchasing that we can no longer purchase the mosquito control products using procurement authority B05-8469.

Multnomah County Vector Control and Code Enforcement is required by ORS 452 to produce an annual pesticide use plan that provides detail about planned surveillance and control activities. Including specific information on materials we propose using, rates per acre and habitat types that we will be making applications into. This plan is submitted to the

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Oregon Department of Agriculture and the State Health Division for review and approval.

The principals that guide creation and implementation of our Pesticide Use Plan utilize scientifically planned management tactics and control strategies to reduce the abundance of target pests in a timely manner. This method is commonly referred to as “integrated pest management” (IPM). This comprehensive program incorporates five basic methods: public information and education, mosquito and vector surveillance, biological control, physical control, and microbial and chemical control.

The Health Department is reaching a critical situation regarding larvaciding material and mosquito control production this spring. Samples collected in the last two weeks in the floodplain environments in the County have found *Aedes vexans* larvae. This species caused much concern and problems throughout most of the County last summer. This species is beginning to come out of its winter hibernation sooner than expected and we can expect to see large scale hatching as soon as spring freshets begin on the Columbia River, normally around mid April. Currently we do not have enough products in stock to treat the three thousand acres per flood season that’s required. If we do not receive material by the end of April we will be unable to treat these species leaving much of the County facing a significant vector/nuisance level of mosquitoes and if West Nile Virus reappears this summer there will be a significantly higher risk for transmission in the human population as well.

There has been a significant amount of research and planning that has gone into determining the best product to use for mosquito control. If the products are changed, it will require reeducating all property owners and stakeholders each time we switch materials before making applications. This process can be very time consuming, requiring at times large public town hall meetings to individual sessions with dozens of agencies or property owners.

We currently have a contract with Western helicopter Services to provide the areal spraying of the mentioned chemicals. This contract is valid through June 30th and has language stated in the agreement for the specific use of the following chemicals: Vectobac G, and Vectolex CG. The chemicals specified in the contract as well as other recommended chemicals are supplied by a sole company (*see ATTACHMENT for chemicals*). Western Helicopter Services will continue to provide aerial application pesticides for the West Nile Virus for the purpose of assisting Multnomah County Vector Control in the provision of mosquito control on property maintained by the Port of Portland and other mosquito breeding properties in Multnomah County.

Multnomah County is responsible for providing mosquito control and we are able to accomplish this by: (*see ATTACHMENT*)

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

For the current fiscal year, Vector Control has spent approximately \$68,438 and spent approximately \$101,418.36 last fiscal year.

The chemicals we are purchasing – are prevention based, low in toxicity, safe for humans and the environment, but yet target mosquitoes. If we do not use a prevention based product we will lose the window of opportunity to control the spread of mosquitoes and would result to using a harsher chemical, and that would cost the County a considerable amount more, which is not part of the integrated mosquito management plan.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

- ORS 452 under agreement with OR fish and wildlife

We are required by law and stakeholders (communities and local business partnerships) to use materials that have the least impact on the local environment, yet have the maximum impact on mosquito control.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

There have been recommendations set forth by the Vector and code enforcement advisory board.

Required Signature

**Elected Official or
Department/
Agency Director:**

KaRin Johnson for:

Date: 4-6-11


