

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: June 2, 2009

Date Submitted: May 15, 2009

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Padraic Juarez, Mosquito Control Director, Wakulla County Health Department

Subject: Request Board Consideration and Acceptance of Report on Current Mosquito Control Activities, and Approve the Chairman to Execute State Grant Documents for FY 2009/2010 Funding Request for Mosquito Control Program

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests Board consideration and acceptance of the Mosquito Control activities report, and approval for the Chairman to execute the grant documents for next year's request.

Background:

Every year the Board of County Commissioners Chairman must sign the documents submitted to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to begin the process that allows the County to receive funding for the Mosquito Control Program.

Analysis:

This analysis should answer many of those questions. Last years grant from DACS was for \$33,820 (this is a matching funds grant). The County contributed \$40,000. These funds pay for personnel costs, pesticides, repairs on equipment, and last year were to replace a vandalized truck. The current fleet of vehicles that Mosquito Control has access to, consists of three trucks equipped with adulticide spraying equipment and are fully functional. In addition, the WCHD uses several of its trucks to do the larvaciding.

The personnel for this program consist of one full time clerical person, four part-time sprayers, and one part-time director. The approximate costs of running the program to help better understand are listed as follows:

- Costs:
 - \$1 per mile personnel cost
 - \$15.68 per mile of pesticide cost
 - \$.15 per mile of equipment cost
 - Total \$16.83 per mile
- Total miles of County maintained roads 787 (no private roads, no driveways)

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- Cost to spray all of the maintained roads \$13,245.21. At current funding levels assuming that there are no equipment failures and unanticipated costs, Mosquito Control is able to spray the County 5 times before all funding would be depleted.
- Aerial Spraying Costs. This would be all areas that are not in the Wildlife Refuge, the US Forrest, or the State Parks.
 - Costs: \$1.79 per acre
 - Total acres in Wakulla county 387,840
 - Total acres minus the parks 289,588
 - Cost to spray via airplane onetime \$518,362

This would put us over budget by (\$444,542). In previous years when there has been a federal declared disaster, FEMA funds have been released and were used for aerial spraying of the County. Wakulla County has not been declared a disaster area and is not in receipt of funds for aerial spraying.

The grant documents require approval from the County in order to receive funding. The current documents are place holders and the final budget documents are not submitted until September. The grant will be approximately \$33,000 and is a matching grant. Any revisions will be included in the final documents prior to formal state deadline.

Current Mosquito Control Activities:

The numbers of spray requests received are significantly lower than last year.

- March 2008 = 1,400
- March 2009 = 666

The current pesticide that Mosquito Control is using is very effective and was first used last year. This new product does not damage vehicles and does not have the foul odor associated with the fog. More effective than the fog, which only kills the mosquitoes it touches, is the larvacide. This type is rated for working for 180 days and begins to degrade as soon as it hits the ground. Mosquito Control encourages public input to help us find locations to distribute the larvacide.

Options:

1. Accept the Mosquito Control activities report and approve the Chairman to execute the documents to grant funds.
2. Request additional information to be provided prior to executing the documents.
3. Do not accept the Mosquito Control activities report and do not approve the Chairman to execute the documents to receive grant funds.
4. Board direction

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Recommendation:

Option #1

Attachment(s):

1. Department of Agriculture Budget documents.

PJ/Mosquito Control