



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Conan Smith, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Dan Myers, Director
Public Works

Richard Fleece, Director
Environmental Health

DATE: March 4, 2009

SUBJECT: Water quality monitoring in County lakes for *Cylindrospermopsis*

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the electronic submission of the grant application to the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality to monitor 7 County lakes for the presence of a potentially toxic blue-green algae *cylindrospermopsis* and its cyanotoxin.

BACKGROUND:

Washtenaw County's Environmental Health Division monitors 5 designated bathing beaches as required by the State of Michigan. Water samples for E Coli are collected throughout the summer to assure safe full body contact. Since 2005 the County's Public Works Division has developed and implemented lake management programs as requested by local townships and has 4 special assessment districts to control non-native invasive vegetation and monitor the health of the lakes. In partnership with our lake management consultant, Dr. Douglas Pullman, Lake Superior State University, and the Huron Clinton Metropark Association the County's Public Works seeks to have samples collected to determine the presence of a blue-green algae *Cylindrospermopsis* and its cyanotoxin. Dr. Pullman is currently under contract with Washtenaw County to provide consultation for the public works projects underway at Joslin, North, Sugarloaf, and Whitmore Lakes. Dr Westrick and Lake Superior State University have unique experience in testing and collecting the water samples for this type of algae and its cyanotoxin..

DISCUSSION:

Washtenaw County's Environmental Health Department currently monitor bathing beaches and the Department of Public Works monitors inland lakes to assure safe full body contact through sampling for E Coli bacteria. The County currently oversees 4 lake management programs for lakes with nuisance levels of invasive aquatic weeds. Blue-green algae blooms in late summer and early fall have affected several lakes in the County. Efforts to control the blooms which occur in late summer have affected the recreational capability. Some of the algae are potentially harmful through the toxins they produce. Cylindrospermopsis does produce a harmful cynaotoxin. Cylindrospermopsis can cause food-borne type illness for individuals who come in contact through full body contact. Under this grant proposal Washtenaw County's staff will sample 7 of the county's inland lakes to determine the presence of this type of algae. The staff members will collect these samples while taking their routine E Coli. Samples and during routine monitoring of those lakes with management programs. If cylindrospermopsis is present, contingency plans will be developed and provide recommendations in controlling this potentially harmful algae. Kent Lake in Livingston/Oakland County will also be sampled however no indirect match monies will be used for those sample events. The samples for Kent Lake will be collected by Huron Clinton Metropark staff.

IMPACT ON PERSONNEL:

None.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

The grant budget is for a total program amount of \$34,376, including \$24,140 in State revenue and \$10,236 in County in-kind match.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

Indirect costs are not included in this budget.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

None.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This action is in conformance with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:

Grant contract and appendices

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,376 FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 21, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 4, 2009

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Department of Public Works applied for a grant in the amount of \$34,376 through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Bathing Beach Program to monitor Washtenaw County lakes for the presence of *Cylindrospermopsis* and its cyanotoxin; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County's Environmental Health Department and Public Works will sample seven inland lakes of Washtenaw County for the presence of *cylindrospermopsis* and its cyanotoxin; and

WHEREAS, if *cylindrospermopsis* is found contingency plans and educational information will be developed to protect the citizens using the inland lakes of Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the grant monies will be used to collect samples and test samples for the presence of *cyolindrospermopsis* and its cyanotoxin; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County will partner with state, federal agencies, Lake Superior State University, Huron Clinton Metropark Association, and Aquest Inc. for the citizens of Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, the County Administrator's Office and the Ways & Means Committee have reviewed this application.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the signature of the Administrator on the application with The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in the amount of \$34,376 for the period from April 21, 2008 through December 31, 2009 as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the Budget, as attached hereto and made a part here of
3. Authorizing the Administrator to Sign delegate contracts, upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

Washtenaw County Department of Public Works
 Water Quality Monitoring Grant
 Business Unit: 10105800
 Fiscal Year: 2/21/09 – 12/31/09

Revenues		Original	Revised	Variance
50000	State Revenue	\$ 0	\$ 24,140	\$ 24,140
69000	In-Kind Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 10,236	\$ 10,236
		\$ 0	\$ 34,376	\$ 34,376
 Expenditures		 Original	 Revised	 Variance
80000	Other Services & Charges	\$ 0	\$ 24,140	\$ 24,140
93500	In-Kind Charges	\$ 0	\$ 10,236	\$ 10,236
		\$ 0	\$ 34,376	\$ 34,376