

Analysis

Item 36: Military Department

Water Crisis Response

Analyst: Julie Neburka

Request: Allocate \$123,275 from the Emergency Fund for costs associated with the state activation of the Oregon National Guard to support two water delivery missions for the City of Salem.

Analysis: In May and June 2018, the City of Salem issued advisory notices cautioning its vulnerable customers against drinking the City of Salem's water due to the presence of cyanotoxins above the Environmental Protection Agency's safety threshold. To ensure safe drinking water for its residents, the City established free water stations in various locations citywide, and the Governor issued an emergency declaration (#18-08), authorizing the Oregon National Guard to help the City and Marion and Polk Counties to provide clean drinking water. The National Guard provided eighteen citizen-soldiers and five trucks with water tanks to deliver drinking water, provided by the City of Keizer from its municipal water wells. This water mission lasted for three days. Similarly, when the city re-instituted its water advisory on June 6th, the Oregon National Guard served at water stations citywide, with 32 citizen-soldiers and four water tankers, which provided clean drinking water 24 hours per day for fifteen days. The two water missions delivered 66,000 gallons of drinking water and cost the Oregon Military Department \$123,275.

The Oregon National Guard serves both the federal government and Oregon's Governor. When called upon by the Governor to respond to an Oregon natural disaster or civil incident, National Guard members become temporary state employees, and "...shall receive not less than the pay and allowances of their corresponding grades in the Armed Forces of the United States in accordance with a schedule approved by the Adjutant General for the period of time in state active duty." (ORS 399.075). Costs incurred by the Military Department for the eighteen total days of State Active Duty included State Active Duty pay for fifty citizen-soldiers, equipment re-set costs, per diem, and lodging. The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training housed several National Guard members at the Public Safety Academy at no cost, which minimized the Military Department's expense; other lodging and per diem expenses were limited to General Services Administration per diem rates for the Salem area.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: Allocate \$123,275 from the Emergency Fund to reimburse the agency for costs associated with state activation of the Oregon National Guard to support two water delivery missions for the City of Salem in 2018.

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Oregon Military Department
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Request: Allocate \$123,275 from the State Emergency Fund for costs associated with the state activation of the Oregon National Guard to support water delivery missions for the City of Salem.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Governor issued an emergency declaration (18-08) for toxic algae impacting Detroit reservoir, the source of drinking water for the City of Salem, City of Turner, and several other water districts and associations, which created a threat to public safety.

The Oregon Military Department, Oregon National Guard was called to State Active Duty status to provide clean drinking water for the City of Salem.

The Oregon National Guard provided 18 members for the May 31, 2018 deployment and 32 members for the June 6, 2018 deployment. There were four separate locations manned with a truck and tanker on a 24-hour basis. The cost for the deployment and equipment are listed below:

OHA Water Advisory	Emergency Declaration	Emergency End Date	No. of Days of Active Duty	Cost
May 29, 2018	May 31, 2018	June 2, 2018	3	\$ 18,391
June 6, 2018	June 6, 2018	June 20, 2018	15	\$ 104,884
Total			18	\$ 123,275

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training offered housing during the deployments, which assisted in keeping the costs to a minimum.

Legal Reference: Allocation of \$123,275 from the State Emergency Fund to supplement the appropriation made by chapter 566, section 1(4), Oregon Laws 2017, for the Oregon Military Department, Community Support for the 2017-19 biennium.



OREGON MILITARY DEPARTMENT
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August 27, 2018

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Military Department respectfully requests \$123,275 General Fund appropriation for costs associated with the state activation of the Oregon National Guard to support two water delivery missions for the City of Salem.

Agency Action

On May 29, 2018 the City of Salem, at the direction of the Oregon Health Authority, issued an advisory that due to toxic algae blooms in the Detroit reservoir, children age 6 and under, as well as anyone who was pregnant, nursing, receiving dialysis or was immunocompromised should not drink city water. Beginning May 30, 2018 the City of Salem set up free water stations in multiple locations across the city. On May 31, 2018 the Governor issued emergency declaration #18-08 for Marion and Polk counties, authorizing the Oregon National Guard to support the City of Salem and Marion County in providing clean drinking water. This mission was performed by 18 National Guard members, utilizing five large trucks which hauled one water tank each. One truck and one tanker were stationed at four separate locations and provided water to citizens on a 24 hour a day basis. Water for the tankers was provided by the City of Keizer which uses well water that is not susceptible to algae blooms. The operational period for this mission encompassed three days and concluded on June 2, 2018 when the City of Salem lifted the advisory. Costs for this mission totaled \$18,391.

On June 6, 2018 the City of Salem, again at the direction of the Oregon Health Authority, reinstated an advisory that due to toxic algae blooms in the Detroit reservoir children age 6 and under, as well as anyone who was pregnant, nursing, receiving dialysis or was immunocompromised should not drink city water. Beginning that same day, the Oregon National Guard was called to State Active Duty status to support the City of Salem and Turner in providing clean drinking water. This mission was performed by 32 National Guard members, utilizing four large trucks which hauled one water tank each. One truck and one tanker were stationed at four separate locations and provided water to citizens on a 24 hour a day basis. The operational period

for this mission encompassed 15 days and concluded on June 20, 2018 when the City of Salem lifted the advisory. Costs for this mission totaled \$104,884.

Water distribution for both missions totaled approximately 66,000 gallons of water. The total cost of both missions was \$123,275.

Costs incurred for these missions include State Active Duty pay, equipment reset costs, per diem, and lodging. All costs for pay and equipment were based on the State Active Duty rates approved in OPLAN SMOKEY, per diem and lodging costs did not exceed the GSA rates for the Salem area.

The Military Department would like to thank the Department of Public Safety, Standards and Training for their support in housing several members of the water mission teams at their campus at no cost, and with very little notice. Their efforts helped minimize the total cost and provided safe and comfortable accommodations for several members of the National Guard.

Action Requested

Increase General Fund appropriation in the Community Support Program by \$123,275.

Legislation Affected

Community Support General Fund – Section 1 (4), Chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2017.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



David A. Stuckey
Deputy Director
Oregon Military Department