



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
GAMING CONTROL BOARD

1919 College Parkway, P.O. Box 8003, Carson City, Nevada 89702
555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 2600, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
3650 S. Pointe Circle, Suite 203, P.O. Box 31109, Laughlin, Nevada 89028
557 W. Silver St., Suite 207, Elko, Nevada 89801
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, Nevada 89511
750 Pilot Road, Suite H, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

MARK A. LIPPARELLI, *Chairman*
A. G. BURNETT, *Member*
SHAWN R. REID, *Member*

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 1 to Request for Proposal No. 1

DATE OF AMENDMENT: January 13, 2012

DATE OF RFP RELEASE: December 16, 2011

DATE AND TIME OF OPENING: January 31, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.

AGENCY CONTACT: Jackie Kingsland, Contracts Administrator (775)684-7714 or jkingsland@gcb.nv.gov

The following shall be a part of RFP No. *1* for *Equine Veterinarian Services*. If a vendor has already returned a proposal and any of the information provided below changes that proposal, please submit the changes along with this amendment. You need not re-submit an entire proposal prior to the opening date and time.

Questions and Responses to RFP:

OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

1. What are the likely and potential “required services”?

Numerous sections of Regulation 30 define the powers, duties and responsibilities of the State Veterinarian. Included within these duties are the supervision and disciplinary actions of other licensed veterinarians who fail to comply with these regulations or accepted veterinary practices.

The primary function of the State Veterinarian is to oversee the health, welfare, and ability of the horses to compete fairly in a legal and safe manner. In order to accomplish this, the State Veterinarian must be involved with several tasks prior to, and following the actual running of the race.

Listed below are several of the duties and qualifications specific to the State Veterinarian:

1. Is a veterinarian licensed to practice in this state pursuant to NRS Chapter 638.

2. Supervise the collection, security and shipment of sample specimens according to procedures approved by the Gaming Control Board (“Board”). Have an approved and licensed laboratory (currently Truesdail) conduct analyses of the submitted specimens for substances recommended by the State Veterinarian.

3. Provide proper safeguards in the handling of all laboratory specimens to prevent tampering, confusion or contamination.

4. Be responsible for the conduct of horses and their attendants in the receiving and detention barn.

5. Be available to the Racing Secretary and/or Board of Stewards prior to scratch time each racing day at a time designated by the Board of Stewards, to inspect any horses and report on their condition as may be requested by the Board of Stewards.

- 6. Maintain a list of all horses which are determined to be unfit to compete in a race due to physical distress, unsoundness, infirmity or medical condition.**
- 7. Must be present in the paddock during the saddling and on the race course during the parade.**
- 8. Shall examine every horse entered in a race.**
- 9. Shall examine any horse at the finish of a race which appears to be in physical distress, and give to the Board of Stewards his expert opinion as to the cause of the distress.**
- 10. May treat any horse in the event of an emergency, accident or injury and with implied or actual consent of the owner or trainer; humanely destroy any horse which, in his opinion, is so seriously injured that it is in the best interest of the horse to do so.**
- 11. Shall provide a written report at the end of each racing season detailing significant events and specifically covering any medication violations.**
- 12. Shall provide expert testimony as needed at scheduled hearings.**

2. What is the likelihood that the number of days in each locality will be changed?

Although the 2011 Mule Race meet in Winnemucca was cancelled due to concerns over the Equine Herpesvirus, the two day meet is traditionally the first weekend of June and prior to 2011 has run consecutively for over a dozen years.

The White Pine County Horse Races in Ely traditionally run for two days the third weekend in August. The association has requested three days of racing in the past, but due to participation will generally only run two days.

The Elko County Fair Board requests seven race days. They will conduct their meet the final weekend in August including Friday, and run four days through Labor Day weekend. The Elko County Fair and Horse Race meet in Elko is a 100+ year tradition.

Our current State Veterinarian is present on the race track the day before each meet, and does not leave until the day after our final race day.

3. When will the dates of required service be scheduled?

The racing associations in Nevada (Winnemucca, Ely and Elko) request race dates in January of each year. The Board reviews and approves the requested race dates following its April meeting.

ACRONYMS/DEFINITIONS

1. Regulation 30 defines the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the State Veterinarian. In the 1st paragraph of section 1 (Overview of Project) it seems to equate the would-be Awarded Vendor with the State Veterinarian. Will the Awarded Vendor essentially fill that role temporarily within the scope of the Gaming Control Board?

Yes, the awarded vendor would fill the role of the State Veterinarian temporarily (two year contact) under the direction of the Board.

SCOPE OF WORK

1. Under item 3.1: What specifically are the “tasks prior to, and following, the actual running of a race” which the State Veterinarian must be involved in?

- *Be available to the Racing Secretary and/or Board of Stewards prior to scratch time each racing day at a time designated by the Board of Stewards, to inspect any horses and report on their condition as may be requested by the Board of stewards.*
- *Must be present in the paddock during the saddling and on the race course during the parade.*
- *Shall examine every horse entered in a race.*
- *Shall examine any horse at the finish of a race which appears to be in physical distress, and give to the Board of Stewards his expert opinion as to the cause of the distress.*
- *Be responsible for the conduct of horses and their attendants in the receiving and detention barn.*
- *Supervise the collection, security and shipment of sample specimens according to procedures approved by the Board. Have an approved and licensed laboratory (currently Truesdail) conduct analyses of the submitted specimens for substances recommended by the State Veterinarian.*
- *Provide proper safeguards in the handling of all laboratory specimens to prevent tampering, confusion or contamination.*
- *Maintain a list of all horses which are determined to be unfit to compete in a race due to physical distress, unsoundness, infirmity or medical condition.*
- *Shall provide a written report at the end of each racing season detailing significant events and specifically covering any medication violations.*
- *Shall provide expert testimony as needed at scheduled hearings.*

2. Under item 3.3.2: Will the Awarded Vendor be responsible to “employ and compensate qualified personnel to assist in collection of sample specimens”? If not, who makes the personnel decisions? What criteria might be used?

The Awarded Vendor or State Veterinarian will be responsible to employ and compensate qualified personnel to assist in the collection of sample specimens. The employees must be licensed to practice in this state pursuant to NRS Chapter 638. They must be of good character and reputation, familiar with their duties, and capable of performing the duties of the job. All employees must also be in good standing and not under suspension or ineligible in any racing jurisdiction. The State Veterinarian is reimbursed the cost of employing test barn personnel.

3. Under item 3.3.2.1: What are the approved procedures for sample collection, security and shipment?

The approved procedures for sample collection includes maintaining a chain of custody, completing the required paperwork, and providing proper safeguards to prevent tampering, confusion, or contamination of the sample specimens. All specimens (blood and urine) are sealed, labeled, and inventoried with a corresponding tag. Our current State Veterinarian provides locks for all freezers, and shipping coolers to comply with the requirement.

4. Under item 3.3.3: Is there a lab which the State Gaming Control Board recommends? What samples will be collected? What tests will need to be run on each type of sample?

The current State Veterinarian utilizes the services of Truesdail Laboratory for all testing. The samples to be collected and the tests to be run will be determined by the State Veterinarian approved by the Gaming Control Board.

5. Under item 3.3.9: How extensive should the required examinations be?

The extent of the examination would be determined by the State Veterinarian. Unless a clear concern is noted, a simple observation for obvious signs of duress in the paddock and during the post parade is normally sufficient. Concerns regarding the soundness of a horse declared by a racing official or jockey would warrant a more extensive examination.

6. Under item 3.3.12: What are the compensation protocols in the event that a horse has to be treated or euthanized? Are the additional services included under the compensation agreed upon in the contract? If not, will the owner of the horse be expected to cover the expense? What safeguards exist to ensure the vendor will be paid (especially since most will not be current clients)? Can the vendor require that payment for additional services be paid at the time the services are provided?

In the event that a horse has to be treated or euthanized, the cost for the additional services is included under the compensation agreed upon in the contract.

7. Under item 3.3.13: How often are scheduled hearings set? How much advanced notice can be expected?

Hearings are sporadic, but do occur. Normally hearings for rule infractions are scheduled for the following day. Very few hearings require input from the State Veterinarian.

COMPANY BACKGROUND AND REFERENCES

1. Under item 4.1.11: Would “key staff” include employees of the vendor that will come to assist with the collection & handling of samples etc?

Yes, key staff would be the employees hired to assist the vendor.

REFERENCES

1. What is meant by “similar projects performed for private, state, and/or large local government clients within the last three years”? Do “similar projects” exclude routine equine veterinary care for individuals? Can “similar projects” be anything besides routine equine veterinary care for an individual? Must the past “similar projects” only include arrangements formalized by a contract?

Provide information relevant to all projects/services performed in the last three years. Projects would include routine equine veterinary care, and all roles or duties that were assumed subsequent to your practice as a veterinarian.

SUBCONTRACTOR INFORMATION

1. Under item 4.3.1.7: If the Gaming Control Board does request a different or new subcontractor, is it the sole responsibility of the vendor to find someone that meets the Boards expectations/needs? Under what possible circumstances might the “contractor” not have the necessary expertise? Is the term “contractor” in this paragraph synonymous with “vendor”?

Yes, subcontractors, and key staff are employees of the vendor. The Gaming Control Board reserves the right to replace subcontractors/key staff, or request additional subcontractors/key staff if the change becomes necessary to expedite the work or obtain expertise not available from the subcontractor/key staff.

COST

1. Under items 5.1 & 5.2: What are the usual anticipated hours to be worked on any given race day? How many hours per race day? Potential hours on other days?

Race day post times are normally 1:00 P.M. and depending on the number of races we generally finish by 6:00 P.M. The State Veterinarian is at the track four hours prior to post time, and until the final sample specimen is collected. On non race days, the State Veterinarian performs paperwork, packaging and shipment duties. The potential hours range from two to four.

PAYMENT

1. Will the State of Nevada Gaming Control Board be the entity making the payments to the vendor?

Yes, the vendor is compensated by the State of Nevada / Gaming Control Board.