

MARIN COUNTY
WEST NILE VIRUS TASK FORCE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, June 19, 2006

10:30 AM – 11:05 AM

899 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903

Attendees: Fred Schwartz MD (Chair), Shanna Cronan, Nancy Barnard, Mary Castro, Bobbi Kimball, Ronald Keith, Randy Saxe, Marci McEwen, Loretta Rogers (Secretary)

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes of May 15, 2006 WNV Task Force Meeting, 6/14/06 WNV Surveillance Update, "Fight the Bite" brochures

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Action |
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| Welcome and Introductions | <p>Dr. Fred Schwartz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.• Announced that Dr. Anju Goel would not be present today as she was attending another meeting and that Andrew Horvath is on vacation.• Announced that Ursula Hanks of OES informed him that due to competing needs, she will not be attending the WNV meetings on a regular basis; that it will be more beneficial for her to attend only if there is a special opportunity or need to contribute OES Operations-related information to the WNV Task Force. <p>All attendees introduced themselves and identified their agencies.</p> | None. |

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| <p>6/14/06 WNV Surveillance Update</p> | <p>Fred Schwartz for Andrew Horvath:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announced that he would do this agenda item as Andrew Horvath is presently on vacation. As Andrew did the handout on Wednesday, June 14th, Fred supplemented the hand-out by giving the most updated information from the CDHS website verbally. The CDC website is updated every Friday. <p><u>National:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was one human case in Mississippi and two in Texas. Avian, animal or mosquito infection has been detected in California, Missouri, Arkansas, West Virginia and Florida. <p><u>California:</u> (as of June 16th)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No infections have been documented in humans or horses. Infections have been found in 28 dead birds so far in 2006. To update the footnote, Orange County had 15 positive dead birds, Sacramento had 3 and Yuba had 1. The rest of the numbers are the same as in the handout. 10 positive mosquito pools have been detected. The first sentinel chicken flock had a positive test in Los Angeles County, but there was a note that further testing had to be done to differentiate WNV from St. Louis Virus. There is evidence of WNV activity in 11 counties as of last week. San Mateo County is the one closest to Marin. <p><u>Marin:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So far this year, no positive tests have come back for humans, animals or mosquitoes. <p>Marty Castro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The California report that I saw on Friday also included Colorado as a state where WNV activity has been detected. | <p>Loretta Rogers to post announcement</p> |
| <p>Late Breakers / Round Table</p> | <p>Fred Schwartz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I emailed to all of you on the WNV Task Force a copy of the State's latest "Mosquito-Borne Virus Surveillance and Response Plan" in pdf format. A copy in a binder was passed around. | <p>Loretta Rogers to post announcement on WNV webpage about invitation of public to next meeting, and will send out updated</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next month’s meeting is the one we are opening up to the public. We will do a short press release, put a notification on the web site and use the same room at 555 Northgate. The meeting will start one-half hour earlier i.e. the meeting will go from 10:00 to noon. • At a previous meeting the question was brought up as to whether our meeting would be subject to the Brown Act if and when we merged with the Avian Influenza Task Force and therefore would be required to make all meetings open to the public. Clarification was provided by Chris Godley, Manager of OES and vice-chair of the Pandemic Influenza Task Force: The Pandemic Influenza Task Force is not subject to the Brown Act because it is a temporary task force. It was put together by Supervisor Cynthia Murray in her role as the director of emergency services. Therefore, any working groups or sub-committees of the Pandemic Influenza Task Force, such as the Avian flu task force, is not subject to the Brown Act. | <p>press release to Marin IJ, Point Reyes Light, and Novato Advance.</p> |
| <p>Late Breakers / Round Table</p> | <p>Marty Castro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a “West Nile Virus Educator/PIO/PR Conference Call” tomorrow, Tuesday, June 20, 2006, from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. (Passed around a flyer.) • The “Mosquito-Borne Virus Surveillance and Response Plan” that Dr. Schwartz mentioned is not on-line yet but will be shortly. | <p>None.</p> |
| <p>Late Breakers / Round Table</p> | <p>Ron Keith:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have received 73 dead bird calls and tested two birds, both negative • We have processed 31 mosquito pools. All are negative. • We have received approval for the purchase of an RT-PCR machine for testing. • We have started spraying. The heat and wind will also help keep the mosquito population down. Our traps are catching low numbers. | <p>None.</p> |

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| Late Breakers / Round Table | <p>Fred Schwartz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This year human cases will be counted by the county of residence even if it is suspected that the person was infected elsewhere because it's hard to prove that. However, the case report form includes travel history so that information, along with our local surveillance information, could be used to determine if infection may have been acquired elsewhere. | None. |
| Approval of the minutes for the May 15, 2006 meeting | <p>Nancy Barnard motioned to approve the minutes. Bobbi Kimball seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously.</p> <p>Shanna Cronan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested a change on Page 6 in the bottom box. One statement attributed to Shanna Cronan "Carlos Porata would be another resource" was not said by her. It may have been said by Linda Ferguson. | <p>Minutes approved.</p> <p>Loretta will check with Linda Ferguson and make the correction, as needed.</p> |
| Risk Communications Work Group | <p>Shanna Cronan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our task group met regarding outreach to migrant workers, day laborers, and generally people who work outdoors a lot and thus increase their chances of becoming infected with WNV. Attendees included representatives from Environmental Health, the Board of Supervisors, Agricultural Commissioner, and Public Health. We came up with a plan to identify 3 or 4 natural leaders in a pilot group that would be in the Canal area. David Escobar will identify these natural leaders. There will be a half day training for them on WNV and will also include hand-washing. The trainers would come from the Agricultural Commissioner's office and Public Health Nursing. The natural leaders would go back to the community and do training of workers in a small-group setting, usually in the early morning. We hope to have this up by August 2006. We will provide them with products to hand out, including repellent, hand gel and sun screen. | |

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| Risk Communications Work Group | <p>Fred Schwartz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those trainings would be a good opportunity to hand out the brochures we brought today • Attendees should be sure to take brochures with them for their agencies to hand out. | Attendees to take brochures to hand out at their agencies. |
| Risk Communications Work Group | <p>Shanna Cronan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has no update regarding the “warm line.” Linda Ferguson wanted to wait until there was some activity in Marin. It’s just a generic message. We will just update it with 2006 information. <p>Ron Keith:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because there are some things that need to happen in order to execute the update, it would be best to have this done ahead of time. It would be preferable to have this done within the next couple of weeks. He asked that Linda contact him about this. | Linda Ferguson will be asked to update the recording for the “warm line,” and to contact Ron Keith about assistance with digital recording. |
| Risk Communications Work Group | <p>Loretta Rogers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda contacted me and asked if I had any information regarding which media had been contacted in the past to broadcast WNV PSA’s. I told her I had nothing in my files. <p>Fred Schwartz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSA’s: We have the distribution lists. This is an action item to be continued for the next meeting. | Linda and Anju to assure PSA’s are distributed to local Marin media outlets, with a request that these media outlets play them. Will utilize existing distribution lists for this purpose. |
| Adjournment | <p><i>The next WNVTF meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2006, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, at 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903, 1st floor conference room. Dr. Fred Schwartz will chair the July 2006 meeting.</i></p> | Adjourned meeting at 11:05 AM. |