

The NCMVCA Attends the N.C. Vectorborne Disease Workgroup Meeting July 1, 2011 Raleigh N.C.

North Carolina began the new budget on July 1, 2011. In this budget, many changes were made to the mosquito control infrastructure in the State. The most notable was the dissolution of Public Health Pest Management. NCMVCA President Tyler Mckeithan attended the work group meeting to identify our new State contacts and offer the NCMVCA's assistance as they transition many of the functions of the Pest Management Section from DENR to DHHS/DPH.

Topics included administration of the State aid for mosquito control funds, mosquito pooling, post disaster response, ULV calibration and the sentinel chickens program. In spite of being laid off the day before, Dr. Engber and Marcee Toliver attended the meeting along with Dr. Nolan Newton who is now the section chief of the Sleep Products Section for the Department of Agriculture. They provided input and suggestions to aid the transition and move forward. North Carolina and the NCMVCA will miss their expertise greatly.

Of immediate concern is the maintenance of the sentinel flock program for the rest of 2011. Dr. Carl Williams, the chairman of the workgroup and the designated Public Health State Veterinarian is our new contact for issues related to the sentinel flock program. His contact information is:

Carl Williams DVM, MA, DACVPM *Designated SPHV*
State Public Health Veterinarian
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health
1902 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27612
Phone: 919-733-0391 fax: 919-870-4807 e-mail: carl.williams@dhhs.nc.gov

Please contact Dr. Williams for replacement chickens. Joey Johnson, Supervisor of the Special Serology section of the State Lab will receive and process samples, as well as report results to program participants.

The other mosquito control issues that were brought to the attention of the Vectorborne disease workgroup are currently a work in progress. The issues have been identified and the NCMVCA will be working with the appropriate State leadership to develop a workable solution to the void left by the elimination of NCPHPM.

Your Legislative Committee