

Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee Minutes

August 13, 2024

Members present on the call: Chair PDG Joe Miller, Jill Pietrusinski, Jeff Thornton, Wayne Gerlock, Tim Sipes

Chair Joe Miller called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

We have 2 additional MOUs. One from Johnson Co and the other from Pope County. We currently have 10 signed. DG Robin will work on the Eastern part of the District.

Joe reports Greg and he went to the trailers to do a 6 mo check on the AEDs and added Narcan to the emergency medical supplies. The generators were tested successfully.

Wayne inquired on a storage space and there may be an empty unit available to do an in-kind donation in return for a tax-exempt notification.

The manual being developed by the zone committee is almost complete. The goal is to have final by Aug 21 to be introduced at the Zone Institute in Huntsville in September. Copies will be provided to RI Director Beth and a few others. There will be a QR code available to access the manual.

The COAD in Southern IL is moving forward with 5 counties. At the July meeting Brian explained each IL Co is being required to establish a long-term recovery committee. He asked if that was a resource we can assist with. Wayne will reach out to Mayfield, KY to see if they have anything available. They have a new executive director and have developed a major operation to assist with long term recovery. They have contracted with an outside company but the information on the recovery process was proprietary and not available for release. Wayne does have some documentation from last year's floods that can be provided to them. Wayne has requested from the other COADs in IL how they handle the recovery. He was able to receive some documentation from other COADs and recommends a long-term recovery committee be under the COAD. That will be discussed at the upcoming meeting.

Wayne reports Johnson Co, with the 19 damaged/destroyed houses from the tornado is still being researched as to what their needs are. The Salvation Army wants to assist with their debris and trees to be removed but because they are on private property it is a difficult situation to help as the county can't help. The Salvation Army will bring to the county roads so then the county can remove the debris. The Mennonites are willing to do repairs if we can provide supplies. Mayfield, KY is still receiving donated goods from the Good 360 organization to include counters and bathroom supplies. They have extra materials in KY that can be re-allocated that they can't use. Wayne is receiving emails from the Good 360 organization now where they have materials for purchase as well. Wayne said the information being received is incomplete and difficult to assist without clarity of information on what is needed.

On Sept 21 Wayne will go to Champagne IL to discuss with EMS the VRC, and long-term recovery needs.

Joe reaffirmed the value of a long-term recovery component of the COAD would be valuable. There may be state funds available to offset the salaries of the long-term recovery staff needs that can be full time.

Jill asked about District Conference in November 8-9. We will do a table and 50/50. The conference hasn't been promoted other than at Robin's visit.

Wayne expressed continued concern of the lack of engagement by our district members to be part of this committee.

Tim suggested we revisit doing club programs. Wayne reiterated activities in Southern IL that is important to communicate. Joe will update the presentation material to incorporate some of the Zone manual reference for clubs.

Jill suggested Lynn Lenker as a possible lead for our long term recovery component.

Next meeting is Sept 10, 2024, at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

