

**Greene County COAD Meeting
April 6, 2010
9am Greene County Emergency Management Office
Minutes**

Attending: Candace Adams, Marcia Benbrook, Dave Claborn, Janet Douglas, Greg Gaines, Dave Johnson, Holly Johnston, Martha Love, Terri Luna, Gary Maddox, Joye McElwee, Debi Meeds, Richard Myers, Ryan Nicholls, Jennifer Olson, Pat Reiser, Ronnie Walker

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Debi Meeds called the meeting to order at 9:07am.

PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Martha Love presented the minutes for the January 5, 2010, meeting. Candace Adams moved that the minutes be approved. Joye McElwee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No Treasurer's report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Debi Meeds had accepted Treasurer Steve Kessler's resignation. Debi appointed Pat Reiser, Director of Community Investment at United Way of the Ozarks, to complete Steve's term of office which ends in December 2011.

LONG TERM RECOVERY COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2008 there were 17 declared disasters in Missouri. There are still 45-50 open cases in Greene County and 2008 will be the priority for current funds. A letter has been sent to each household but it is taking a long time to get the paperwork completed because three bids are required for each purchase request.

Dante Glinecki, Volunteer Coordinator at the State Emergency Management Agency, is collecting letters of support that will be sent to the Social Services Block Grant. Debi Meeds asked for a motion to have the Greene County COAD write a letter of support containing specific details about the cases. Joye McElwee made the motion and Gary Maddox seconded it. Motion carried.

The Long Term Recovery Committee will meet soon to learn more about the details of the remaining cases.

COMMUNITY FOCUS COMMITTEE REPORT

Ryan Nicholls reported that less than 20% of Americans say they are prepared for a disaster. The COAD has developed a community emergency preparedness survey to establish a baseline of information about the level of preparedness in Greene County. Missouri State University's Center for Social Research can conduct the telephone survey and prepare a report for \$2500. The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will fund half of the survey and Debi is asking the Community Foundation of the Ozarks for matching funds. The COAD will need to look for ongoing funding so the survey can be conducted every year.

MSU's Dave Claborn reported that the survey would be made up of three parts - demographics, social capital (how integrated in the community), and level of vulnerability of preparedness. MSU students have been asked to complete a similar survey.

AGENCY REPORTS

Ronnie Walker, Greene County Baptist Association Chain Saw Unit

- On March 6 the Unit trained 30 people on chain saw safety.
- The Unit currently has representation from 15 of the 80 Baptist churches in the region.
- A VOIP phone system has been set up to route calls for help to people who are available. Debi suggested that callers asking the American Red Cross about debris removal can be referred to the Unit.
- Some Southern Baptist churches have disaster trailers with shower units and the capability of setting up mass feeding sites.

Gary Maddox, Southwest Center for Independent Living

- There will be a "Pathfinders" training at SCIL from July 13-17. Pathfinders do the second level of damage assessment after a disaster. American Red Cross does an initial drive-through. Pathfinders do a walk-through and each organization can communicate information about critical needs. Candy Adams will send out more information.
- SCIL recently opened a 6700-square foot expansion with a meeting room that has a capacity of 60. There is no charge for the room.

Candy Adams, Region D Coordinator, State Emergency Management Agency

- Plans are being made for a national-level exercise in May 2011 to prepare for a major earthquake in southeast Missouri's New Madrid Fault area. After this type of disaster Region D will probably be asked to send different types of support and to provide support for people coming to this area. We have to be prepared with plans for evacuation routes and shelters.
- The SEMA annual conference was held April 20-22 in Branson.
- Southwest Missouri Emergency Support Organization (SMESO) is made up of emergency responders in an 18-county area in southwest Missouri. The April 14 agenda included a discussion of Region D's role in responding to earthquake disasters. One method of response will be to provide a Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)
- Candy is also on an Office of Emergency Management committee to update agriculture needs following a disaster; the committee is addressing mental, physical and economic issues.

Richard Myers, Outreach Coordinator, The Salvation Army

- Salvation Army offered disaster response training on April 24.
- The national SA's role in Haiti has moved to management of local disasters.

Greg Gaines, Region D Mass Care Coordinator

- Greg is attending a lot of training in mass care and shelter operations and is the liaison to many local, regional, and state organizations.

Joye McElwee, Lutheran Disaster Response

- Following disasters Joye finds out what role LDR can play in assisting with disaster response
- LDR helps to fund long-term recovery cases
- LDR puts together teams to go to disaster sites in the United States
- Joye works with amateur radio operators who can provide connectivity to disaster sites
- Joye co-chairs Missouri's Faith-Based Disaster Initiative to get congregations involved in emergency preparedness and disaster response
- LDR is developing a "spark plug initiative" to encourage individuals to step up and assist with disaster response
- Faith-based preparedness training will probably use the national "Ready In 3" materials

- LDR is planning a church intruder security program

Holly Johnston, CERT Coordinator

- Holly establishes Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) for the region and works out of the Greene County Office of Emergency Management.

Jennifer Olson, Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation

- OACAC offers a program called Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing for Greene County residents who don't live in Springfield. It provides rental and utility assistance. Call (417) 447-0554 for more information.
- OACAC is offering a monthly life skills program that teaches emergency preparedness.

Janet Douglas, Marcia Benbrook, Teri Luna, Family Support Division

- Marcia is the county manager of the Family Support Division
- The Division's clients are increasing but staff is not increasing
- FSD was asked to coordinate mass care and many staff have been trained to be part of GO teams; they can be ready to be deployed at short notice when they're needed to respond to disasters; the ten-member teams provide support (e.g., cooking, security, and registration) at mass care and shelter operations
- Teri is an FSD program director and sets up registration for emergency shelters

Dave Johnson, Missouri State University

- Dave is a political science professor; the political science department is participating in a "2+2+2" partnership with OTC; 2 more years in MSU's public administration program + 2 for a masters degree in emergency management and public safety

Deb Meeds, American Red Cross Greater Ozarks Chapter

- Region D recently obtained a hygiene trailer that provides showers for use during disaster response and recovery
- A ham radio tower is being installed

Pat Reiser, United Way of the Ozarks

- UWO's Volunteer Coordinator Kim Hopkins-Will is overseeing a new website for area non-profit organizations that manage volunteers. The site is called Volunteer Source. Call Kim at 863-7700 to learn how to register organizations and their volunteer opportunities.
- UWO also received funding for a second year for the Hands On For Seniors program. Kim matches volunteers with senior citizens who own their own homes and need small home repairs and have other projects that volunteers can do so the seniors can remain in their own homes.

Martha Love, Missouri 2-1-1

- Martha attended SEMA's 2-day training on Community Mass Care Management
- Martha is serving on an Office of Emergency Management committee to update the EOP's section on volunteer management.
- Martha is also serving on a Greene County SeniorLink committee to study disaster awareness needs for senior citizens; the Greene County Office of Emergency Managements' Sarah Gillespie is the new committee chair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COAD Flyer- Debi will be preparing quantities of the new COAD informational flyer.

NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Liability Laws

Debi distributed a portion of the Nonprofit Risk Management Center's "State Liability Laws for Charitable Organizations and Volunteers." A summary of Missouri's laws are on pages 66-67.

Coordinated Assistance Network (CAN) Update

Debi provided a handout that announces changes to the CAN website effective March 17. CAN was very helpful for agencies that were providing follow-up care after Hurricane Katrina.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Greene County COAD will be held at the Greene County Office of Emergency Management, 833 Boonville, Springfield, at 9:00am, on Tuesday, July 6, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Love, Secretary_____

Approved, Debi Meeds, Chair_____