

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

Attending: Candace Adams, Janet Douglas, Chris Harmon, Steve Irwin, Martha Love, Terri Luna, Melannie McCollum, Joye McElwee, Karen McKinnis, Debi Meeds, Richard Myers, Ryan Nicholls, Carol Nutt, Rebecca Ray, Pat Reiser, Vera Trogdon, Ronnie Walker, Cari Wright

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Debi Meeds called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - Martha Love

The minutes for the April 6, 2010, meeting were presented. Joye McElwee moved that the minutes be approved with modifications. Steve Irwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Pat Reiser

There is \$9584.34 in the budget and there has been no activity in 2010.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - Debi Meeds

- Debi sent a letter to MIDRO (Missouri Interfaith Disaster Recovery Organization) to ask if some of their \$10,000 contribution for 2008 cases can be used for post-2008 cases.
- The Executive Committee discussed the Long Term Recovery Committee, the community focus survey, and the COAD's website. All of the topics will be addressed at this meeting.

LONG TERM RECOVERY COMMITTEE REPORT - Ryan Nicholls

- There are 45 cases in Greene County remaining from 2008 disasters; 31 are being actively addressed but it has been difficult to contact the others. Funds from a Social Services Block Grant are supposed to be committed by September 2010 and spent by December but Case Manager Supervisor Carol Nutt has asked for an extension. She is looking for reputable contractors so she can have several to choose from. The contractors must be able to work in Greene County but they don't have to be located in Greene County.
- The LTRC did not approve any additional funds and there are no 2009 cases.

DISASTER AND SOCIAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT - Ryan Nicholls

- The survey will be conducted by phone beginning the week of July 5 and Missouri State University students and American Red Cross volunteers will be making the calls. The survey will continue through September if more data is needed. The cost for MSU's Center for Social Research to conduct the survey and analyze the data is \$1200.
- The survey is also available online. **All COAD members are encouraged to take the survey and to encourage others to take it.** It was suggested that information about the survey be placed in church bulletins.
- The final report will include a color-coded map of the county to show the rural areas and urban neighborhoods that have the lowest levels of emergency preparedness.
- The COAD is interested in conducting the survey annually to track changes in awareness of and preparedness for emergencies. If the survey is successful it may be used regionally.

SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTERING (ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS) - Debi Meeds

“Access and Functional Needs” is the new term for providing access to shelters for people with special needs. FEMA is preparing new sheltering guidelines to include people with special needs. FEMA has a new director for special needs. Cari Wright (Southwest Center for Independent Living) explained that the biggest barrier with sheltering is access into the building. Chris Harmon (American Red Cross Greater Ozarks Chapter) said that about half of the (approximately) 200 shelters in Greene County aren't fully accessible. The Office of Emergency Management is prepared to support the American Red Cross with any mapping of Greene County shelters.

The Greene County sheltering plan won't change until the FEMA guidelines are finalized. Ryan is meeting with an ad hoc group of COAD members to discuss the proposed changes and he will make a report at the October COAD meeting. There is a lot of speculation about the guidelines that are being written. Debi asked COAD members to send comments about it to her.

NEW BUSINESS

COAD Website

Ryan demonstrated the COAD website that is going active on the www.greenecountyoeem.org site. Click on “COAD” on the menu bar. It will provide up-to-date information about the COAD that will be helpful to COAD members and will help the public understand the COAD's mission.

Pathfinders Training

Pathfinder train-the-trainer training is being offered August 3-7 in Springfield. An organization from Florida will train on their software. GPS information can be downloaded on cell phones during well-being checks and the information entered by volunteers and emergency response personnel can be uploaded into the phone and sent to the American Red Cross Safe and Well website and to the local Emergency Operations Center.

Using data from Pathfinders, the American Red Cross can give information about family members who have been affected by disasters. Inquirers must provide names, complete addresses, and phone numbers and will be told if emergency response workers have checked on them. Pathfinders data will also allow responders to record damage assessment. It has been successful in large disasters, like hurricanes.

It may be possible to have a presentation at the October COAD meeting from someone who has completed the August training.

MO-VOAD and Faith-based Partnership

The Missouri VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) and Faith-based Partnerships have met and are working on similar issues.

CAN Update

Debi emphasized that all of the organizations represented in the Greene County COAD should be signed up with CAN (Coordinated Assistance Network). Carol Nutt will bring a list of the local organizations that are in the CAN database to the October meeting.

AGENCY REPORTS

Rebecca Ray, Springfield-Greene County Health Department

- Rebecca attended the Points of Light National Volunteer conference in June. She learned about the "Cities of Service" designation that has been given to over 100 U.S. cities, including Kansas City and St. Louis. The designation means that the cities have made a commitment to volunteer service. Some grant monies may be available. Rebecca is interested in pursuing this for Springfield.

Chris Harmon, American Red Cross Greater Ozarks Chapter

- The ARC is working on providing consistent service throughout its 41-county area in southern Missouri.
- They are getting repeater tower equipment for amateur radio operators. It will be installed on the ARC property on West Bypass in Springfield.
- They are interviewing candidates for nine AmeriCorps positions.

Pat Reiser, United Way of the Ozarks

- UWO's new Volunteer Source website is set up for area non-profit organizations to promote their volunteer opportunities and allow prospective volunteers to register their interests. Call Kim Hopkins-Will at 863-7700 to learn more about it.
- The United Way kicks off its fall fundraising campaign with the annual Day of Caring on August 19.
- The United Way has a program called Suit Yourself. Donations of clothing suitable for working women will be provided to women in need who are pursuing employment and going back to work.

Candy Adams, Region D Coordinator, State Emergency Management Agency

- Plans are being made for an NLE (National Level Exercise) during the third week of May 2011 to prepare for a major earthquake centered around southeast Missouri's New Madrid Fault. Eight states that could be affected by a major earthquake in that area will be involved in the exercise.
- There will be earthquake-preparedness tabletop exercises at the Region D meeting on October 13 from 10am-2pm at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds.

Melannie McCollum, Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation - Greene County Center

- OACAC is offering a monthly life skills program from July-November to teach emergency preparedness to their clients whose incomes are under 200% of the federal poverty level.
- OACAC will be receiving funds to distribute full four-person disaster kits to clients in ten southwest Missouri counties.

Teri Luna, Family Support Division

- Missouri's Family Support Division has hired a person to address special needs.

Janet Douglas, Family Support Division

- As the FSD staff is reduced due to state budget cuts, Janet is updating rosters for the GO Teams that are trained to provide disaster shelter assistance.

Vera Trogdon, Southwest Missouri Office on Aging

- SWMOA has 38 senior centers in 17 southwest Missouri counties. Many of the centers provide cooling and warming site services for their communities during extreme hot and cold weather conditions.

Carol Nutt, Long Term Recovery Case Manager Supervisor

- Carol reported that \$31,111.19 from SSBG funds has been issued for 2008 disaster cases.

Steve Irwin, Convoy of Hope

- Convoy of Hope has been very busy. They are not a denomination but they are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Some of the countries where they have been addressing disaster response needs include Haiti, Chile, El Salvador, and the Philippines.
- They are continuing to provide outreach events in small communities. An event in Bolivar is scheduled on October 9. Check the website www.convoyofhope.org for more information.
- Convoy of Hope plans to use AID Matrix software that is for national donations management.

Joye McElwee, Lutheran Disaster Response

- There was no LDR meeting in May.
- Joye co-chairs Missouri's Faith-Based Disaster Initiative which provides training to help congregations get involved in emergency preparedness and disaster response. Three seminars have been presented since April.

Ronnie Walker, Greene County Baptist Association Chain Saw Unit

- Six volunteers from the Unit have completed CERT training.

Karen McKinnis, Springfield-Greene County Health Department

- Karen and Health Department staff are working on an Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 plan with other medical personnel
- This summer's weather has included four heat advisory days so far. Heat can cause many health issues.

Richard Myers, Outreach Coordinator, The Salvation Army

- The Salvation Army is extending their service to Christian, Stone, and Taney counties. Stone and Taney counties will be served out of the Branson office and they are looking for a site for the Christian county office. They will provide walk-in emergency social services by providing a social worker at the sites.

Martha Love, Missouri 2-1-1

- Martha attended the conference of the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) where she completed FEMA's basic ICS (Incident Command Service) training and attended several disaster resource management sessions.
- Haley Schwarz, the 2-1-1 Resource Specialist for northwest Missouri, is the chair of the MO-VOAD committee.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Greene County COAD will be held at the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, 833 Boonville, Springfield, at 9:00am, on Tuesday, October 5, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Love, Secretary _____

Approved, Debi Meeds, Chair _____