

Greene County COAD Executive Committee Meeting
December 17, 2010
2:00pm Greene County Emergency Management Office
Minutes

Attending: Martha Love, Debi Meeds, Ryan Nicholls, and Pat Reiser. Dr. David Johnson attended to make a preliminary report on the Emergency Preparedness Survey.

Chair Debi Meeds called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Presentation and approval of minutes: Secretary Martha Love presented the minutes from the September 28, 2010, meeting of the Executive Committee. Pat Reiser made a motion to approve the minutes and Ryan Nicholls seconded the motion. Motion carried. The minutes from the October 5, 2010, COAD meeting were reviewed for approval by members at the January 4, 2011, meeting.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Pat Reiser reported that the COAD's budget has a balance of \$9584.34. No expenditures have been made since the last meeting.

Committee reports:

1) Long-Term Recovery Committee (LTRC): Ryan reported that local SSBG funds were extended but local case managers, including Carol Nutt, will be laid off. Two positions will be filled at the state level to manage cases. Carol advised the LTRC that the COAD will probably need to use most of the the COAD's funds to cover remaining cases from 2008 disasters.

2) Community Focus Committee (Emergency Preparedness Survey): Ryan deferred to Dr. David Johnson for a preliminary report on the survey (see Unfinished Business).

Unfinished business:

Preparedness Survey - Dr. David Johnson

Dr. Johnson showed slides of the findings of a "Hazard Assessment Vulnerability" study. There are 277 hazmat facilities in Greene County and the slides illustrate the areas where those facilities pose the worst threats to citizens. The information was collected at the U.S. Census tract level.

The Committee was asked to consider how prepared the county's citizens are in terms of "social capital." Factors that are considered include areas where people are under-educated, disabled, linguistically isolated, female heads of household, minorities, and elderly. In the slides the color red showed the highest threat based on these factors and areas in green were the best.

Dr. Johnson also reviewed the findings from the COAD's emergency preparedness survey that was conducted online and by telephone. There were 431 respondents, of which 63% were women. Respondents ranged in age from 18 to 70+ and the median age of respondents was 59.

He posed the question, “how much does being prepared reduce your vulnerability?” and explained that it is very subjective. Due to the unpredictability of disasters, if a person is 100% prepared they may still be vulnerable.

The data from the survey could be used to apply for grants to increase emergency preparedness throughout the county. Dr. Johnson will present the final report at the April 5 COAD meeting.

New Business

1) Public Safety Center - Ground was broken on December 9 for the county's new Public Safety Center which will be located a couple of blocks north of the current Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management. Ryan talked about the new facility's floor plan, security features, and the emergency service agencies it will house.

2) Meeting Locations in 2011 - It has been proposed that some of the COAD's 2010 quarterly meetings be held at the offices of COAD members. Debi will ask members at the January meeting if they would like to do this and, if so, what locations should be visited. The following sites were suggested by Executive Committee members: Southwest Center for Independent Living, Ozarks Food Harvest, American Red Cross Greater Ozarks Chapter, The Salvation Army, and Convoy of Hope.

3) MO-VOAD and Faith-based Partnership - Debi will give an update at the January COAD meeting.

4) New Officers - The 3-year terms of the four members of the Executive Committee end in October 2011. At the April meeting Debi will ask COAD members to let her know if they are interested in running for any of the offices – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. According to the COAD's by-laws the Treasurer is required to be a representative from the United Way of the Ozarks, the organization holding fiscal responsibility for the Greene County funds. Debi will appoint a nominating committee at the July 2011 meeting. That committee will present a slate of officers at the October meeting when the election will take place and the new officers begin their terms on the first day of the calendar year beginning after the elections.

Next COAD meeting: The next meeting of the Greene County COAD will be on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at 9:00am. The meeting will be held at the Springfield-Greene County Emergency Management office.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by _____ Martha Love, Secretary

Approved by _____ Debi Meeds, Chair