

ORVOAD

7/21/15

Met at the Church of the Brethren. 12727 SE Market St., Portland OR 97233

Meeting called to order at 1:27 p.m.

Welcome - Dean Alby, President ORVOAD

Introductions of Attendees/Organizations:

Dean Alby, OR Food Bank, President ORVOAD; Christian Burgess, Link2Health Solutions; Wendy Colvin, Mennonite Disaster Service, ORVOAD Treasurer; Tracey Calhoun, Hope Animal Assistance Crisis Response; Mike Johnson, LDS Charities; Kim Pettina, Salvation Army, VP ORVOAD; Sam Pellecer, Adventist Disaster Services; Brent Carlson, Church of the Brethren; Cara Sloman, American Red Cross; Curtis Peetz, American Red Cross; Dan Mosler, Methodist Church; Robert Worlock, Church of Scientology; Elizabeth Rockett, Team Rubicon; Tanner Mullen, Team Rubicon & American Legion; Tom Hogan, Clackamas COAD; Denise Everhart, Red Cross; and Steve Sirkin, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, ORVOAD Secretary; Scott Reuter, former ORVOAD President (on the phone).

President's Statement

Dean Alby (ORVOAD President) welcomed all to this meeting and reminded us there are organizations that were not able to attend such as Catholic Charities St. Vincent De Paul, and perhaps 20 other groups. We need to make an effort to invite these organizations to be part of ORVOAD. In the coming months and meetings, Dean stressed a need to finish the work started by former ORVOAD presidents such as Sandy Hinmon and Steve Courtney. He would like for us to complete and ratify the new ORVOAD bylaws at the next membership meeting after giving the group a 30 day commenting period and some time for leadership to respond to these requests for changes. After this is completed, two other pieces of unfinished work need to be completed and voted on, this would be the policies and procedures for a Long Term Recovery Committee written by Sam Pellecer and his team and the Strategic Plan led by Mike Johnson. Dean reminded us all there is no such thing as a perfect document and we should move these projects to completion instead of waiting for final feedback from voices that come late to the discussion. If something needs to be changed we can do it in the future. There is a communications piece for Scott to follow up on. That will be reviewed and be brought to the membership around November. The Strategic Plan will springboard us into activities for the next year including developing membership and training. This will complete the work that has been pursued over the past few years and, as a result, honored the people who did the work.

Dean described the Oregon Food Bank and his work as the Disaster Liaison for it's network of hunger-relief organization across Oregon and Clark County Washington. He also sits on the Mass Care committee of NVOAD, representing the Feeding America national network as well as he is the state of Oregon Feeding Task Force lead under ESF 6 and ESF 11.

Introduction of Officers

Kim Pettina is the VP for Urban. There is a VP for Rural, Charlene Larson. We meet most often in Portland. Wendy Colvin is the Treasurer with experience across the organization. Steve Sirkin is the Secretary. His notes are very in depth. The goal is to have the notes out by the end of the week and they will be online. All training opportunities will also be on the website. We will also refer to events happening in counties across the state.

We work through dues. Wendy has the dues information and passed out forms. It is \$75 a year. Dean would like to increase it to around \$100. If there is a cost issue Dean suggested we can scholarship you in.

We meet the third Tuesday of "odd" months. The next one will be on September 15th. In between are Leadership Meetings.

Introduction of Organizations

Dean called on participants in the room to describe the organizations they represent and how they deploy for disaster.

Sam described the chainsaw efforts. They were deployed to the fires in Washington. He works on the COW "Commodities on Wheels." It's a 27-foot trailer carrying food. They go to communities where the poverty level is high. It's a small grocery store on wheels.

Dean noted the food bank talks to multiple resources. He shared the challenge of using food from restaurants and the potential of receiving cans from individuals where pantry insects come along. There are 700-800 pod locations across the state with resources on the ground for emergencies.

He described a number of the complications ORVOAD organizations deal with in response and LTRC efforts. An example of "legalities" that are faced was when a tree was leaning on a house and the chainsaw folks could not work on it. Asbestos is another issue. Scott noted the new FEMA flood heights causing the need to raise a home around 20 inches. Another had to be torn down and replaced by a trailer. There is an issue with controlled substances or weapons, which would require volunteers to step out until they were removed.

Team Rubicon responded "grab your PPE and get to work" described how they worked. Mucking out, mold abatement, damage assessments.

Curtis indicated Red Cross damage estimate goes to Case Workers and then to local Emergency Managers. The work done on a house in The Dalles was described and pictures shared. It was noted that it takes 18 to 24 months before they can begin the work because of legal, financial, and logistical issues.

Kim described how The Salvation Army assists victims of disaster.

A question arose over in a major disaster having flexibility in legal process to expedite rebuilding. The barriers were shared. Team Rubicon brings their own facilities for housing their volunteers. Methodists have some ability to provide salary to individuals with specific skills (UMCORPS).

Brent indicated a long-term recovery entity has to be set up for people who have lost their homes to apply for assistance.

Dean noted we really need to be working with, and encouraging, COADs. "Keep it local."

Christian asked that we not forget the spiritual care functions. He is involved with the National VOAD. There is a meeting coming up. He pointed out that no matter how prepared individuals are to face the situations they are facing there might still be a need for stress and mental health support. He related the Disaster Distress Helpline disasterdistress.samsa.gov and text "TalkWithUs." There are links to people of a variety of faiths as well as language and hearing issues. Christian can provide additional information, including topical brochures. There is a free application to become familiar with the symptoms of distress.

Dean finished up the discussion with the question "how are we helpful to the state in preparing for the Cascadia Peril event?"

Adjourned at 3 p.m.