



COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION
ORVOAD Annual Election and General Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020 1:00 - 2:30 PM
Virtual Conference Call

Please email ORVOADleadership@gmail.com if you were in attendance but are not captured in these notes.

Attendees: 33 people in the call:

Alexis Fleming (Mercy Corps Northwest), Ann Geyer (American Red Cross), April Dembeck (National VOAD), Charlene Larsen (Oregon LIONs and Lutheran Disaster Response), Christian Burgess (Vibrant Emotional Health), Cindy King (Central Oregon COAD), Franchesca Gilbert (FEMA Region 10), Hayley Riach (Deschutes Sheriff's office), Ilyssa Plumer, Jamie Poole (Clackamas County), Jan Wierima (Lutheran Disaster Response), Jim White (The Nonprofit Association of Oregon), John Colvin (Mennonite Disaster Response), John Klosterman (Oregon Food Bank), John Legler (Portland NETs), Joseph Murray (OEM), Karen Layng (Oregon Emergency Management), Kori Nobel (Team Rubicon), Larry Johnson (United Methodist Church), Laura Pascoe (Adventist Community Services), Les Miller (Square Knot Preparedness), Melissa Swenson (CEDR Digital Corps), Michael Johnson (LDS Charities), Michelle Hamrick (American Red Cross), Michelle Liang (Tzu Chi Foundation), Nika Herford, Patence Winningham (Lane County Emergency Management, OR), Rashad Bauman (Salvation Army), Robert Worlock (Scientology Disaster Response), Roel Uleners (Corbett COAD), Susan Romanski (Mercy Corps), Teresa "Terry" Wood (FEMA), Wendy Colvin (Mennonite Disaster Service).

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introductions (Michelle)
2. Minutes approval (Robert)
3. Treasury Report (Wendy)
4. Update on the Blue Mountain LTRG & call for assistance (Charlene)
5. Update from FEMA VAL & State VAL (Karen / Franchesca)
6. General Updates from COAD Partners and/or members around COVID-19 programming (all members)
7. Elections for leadership positions (John Colvin)

Intro and Leadership Report: President Michelle Hamrick welcomed participants and reminded everyone that this is the annual elections meeting which is always the third Tuesday in May. She also reviewed what has been accomplished over the last two years.

Noted that ORVOAD:

- Has an important place in recovery and handling unmet needs of those within our communities impacted by disaster
- Can bring together the many voluntary organizations with public & government partners to foster a more effective response.
- Can serve as a support for COADs

Noted that over the last two years, the leadership has:

Developed a common Vision Statement: *ORVOAD envisions a resilient Oregon where communities prepare for, rapidly recover from and thrive after disasters.*

Created the mission statement - *Through the Oregon Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, association members maximize disaster preparedness, relief and recovery efforts for greater impact in communities in Oregon.*

Put together the ORVOAD Action Plan which covers many goals, indicators and committees working to accomplish the following 5 objectives:

1. Increase member engagement and strengthen relationship w/ emergency management
2. Use the most effective communication tools for members
3. Proactively engage in preparedness in order to effectively respond and recover from events in Oregon
4. Bolster the COAD relationship to identify common goals and solutions
5. ORVOAD operating effectively and efficiently with clear direction and purpose

Developed a common platform for capturing and archiving information, including after-action plans after events

Support the coordination of recovery in Douglas, Lane and Umatilla Counties

General support to the State as well as coordination around the COVID pandemic.

And has begun the important work of supporting COADs and getting all of you at the table!

Last meeting minutes

Robert Worlock indicated that the April meeting minutes had been sent out on May 1st to the membership. He asked if there are any corrections and no corrections were offered. The minutes were voted on and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Wendy Colvin reported that the starting balance in ORVOAD's account, \$8,613.29, increased by \$75 in dues for the final amount of \$8,688.29. .

Long Term Disaster Recovery (LTRG)

Lutheran Disaster Response - Charlene Larsen reported on recent LTRG efforts. The Blue Mountain LTRG meetings are on each Wednesday. Each committee is forming so that the united group can move forward on unmet needs in WA and OR. Public assistance granted in both states, individual assistance granted in Umatilla County and for tribal reservations.

The Blue Mountain United Way is moving forward with their work. After the first meeting for unmet needs, four co-chairs are working covering different regions and responsibilities. They looked at existing cases, prioritized and set the next meeting date. ORVOAD adds money, materials and manpower to this effort. Once the needs are fully known, the group will reach out to ORVOAD members but acknowledge that effects from the pandemic will make it more difficult. June 2nd is the cutoff date for individual assistance

Terry mentioned that the registration cutoff date has been extended to July 2nd.

OEM and FEMA updates

OEM - Karen Layng indicated that Joseph Murray has been supporting Umatilla efforts and that she was focused on COVID work, but that this had been slowing at the state level over the last three weeks and they are starting to look towards the fire season and how it might be different due to the pandemic.

FEMA VAL - Franchesca Gilbert commended ORVOAD for the work done and happy to see the organization grow. Current events are making ORVOAD and its relationships stronger. Pleased with the great work in Umatilla County. Recovery from COVID will be unique but ORVOAD will be instrumental in helping to handle this.

Lane County Emergency Management - Patence Winningham had a question for the group on COVID recovery – Women over 50 with jobs but don't have housing in respite. They see 130 people but transition housing to close by June 5th. She has staffed MARC and interest in individual assistance and what MARC could do for the area. Michelle is very interested in this, will investigate along with Terry. Susan said she'd dig through April's notes for similar, camp and shelter to recovery mode. Portland has tried to provide guidance but is still focused on sheltering.

Central Oregon COAD - Cindy King reported they're still building relationships, not very involved in COAD recoveries yet.

The Nonprofit Association of Oregon – Jim White – Survey being done by NAO and PSU on the recovery challenges for non profits in Oregon Watch for the survey in early June.

Member Reports

Red Cross – Michelle – focused on OR Food Bank and needed volunteers. With their mission of preventing house fires, they're also looking towards wildfire season and assessing that with the COVID affect. A new contact, Ann Guyer, supporting volunteer community engagement, will be the new Red Cross representative at ORVOAD meetings.

Church of Scientology Disaster Response – Robert Worlock – Across the US and internationally, the church is distributing free copies of a booklet called, "How to Keep Yourself and Others Well" by offering them to retail locations, groceries, clinics, any open businesses for their customers. Our Volunteer Ministers are working to get 14k copies into the Portland area. PDF copies can be found on our web site.

Lions - Lutheran Disaster Response - Jan Wierima reported Umatilla Lions working diligently in Umatilla to get people registered by cutoff date. Lutheran Disaster Response provided a webinar on responding during COVID. Lutheran Worldwide is responding with outreach through congregations with food pantry support. One of the synod's staff worked to help fund \$250K to go towards heating as they expect the effect to last a couple of years. With aging volunteers, they are looking at ways to engage younger members – many smaller food pantries can't get enough supplies due to lack of volunteers.

Mennonite Disaster Response - John Colvin – Charlene and I are involved in the LTRG efforts in OR and WA, also on unmet needs and housing commission. As volunteers in the high risk group, many members are involved with PPE and sewing masks for OR and nationwide. Working to think outside the box. Once we get the all-clear, can get back to work in Umatilla.

Mercy Corps – Susan Romanski – MC Northwest is still providing emergency grants to small businesses. More expansion recently into Vancouver, WA and Seattle areas. Has attended some National VOAD committee meetings and this has some good application to issues in the US.

National VOAD – April Dembeck – Working on food distribution and helping people with shelter. Will report more on NVOAD next time.

Oregon Food Bank - John Klosterman – Seeing a surge in need in May and June, see it peaking now. Maintaining staff but have backups in Team Rubicon and the National Guard. Preparing for summer disasters, tornado and wildfire season. Feel resources to be really stretched with 14+% unemployment going still higher.

Portland NETs - John Legler – NETs are assisting the Multnomah Co. ECC and have been invited to assist in contact tracing. NETs also involved in making and collecting masks for underserved communities. Working with portlandmaskproject.org.

Vibrant Emotional Health - Christian Burgess – Disaster Distress and SAMSA, focus on LTRG on suicide rates. May 26th, Basic Rights Oregon Seminar on LGBTQ suicide prevention. 37 states approved for crisis counseling programs but Oregon is not on that list. Christian will share when that happens and get information out at the next Emotional and Spiritual Care Committee meeting. NVOAD getting close to approving new guidelines on emotional and spiritual care.

Clackamas County - Jamie Poole – Working with vulnerable populations with unmet needs across the county. Doing a survey to determine what can be done to increase donations. Mentioned that at the last NVOAD conference, legal aid was important for folks in IA process and wondered how that was working in Oregon.

Tzu Chi Foundation - Michelle Liang – Supporting front line health care companies and two local hospitals. Now to help volunteers and their families to ensure all have PPE needed. Getting reusable masks from Taiwan and PPE to nursing homes, senior apartments and hospitals. If any organization needs help, contact Tzu Chi Foundation or ORVOAD leadership.

United Methodist Church - Larry Johnson – Methodists grounded due to age of volunteers. Trying to work with local food bank and source masks from FEMA to churches and community partners. Protocol set up nationally for this and trying to do so for missions locally.

Corbett Co. COAD - Roel Uleners – Not a ORVOAD member yet, forming a COAD

Annual Election for President and Vice President

Nominating Committee – John Colvin, Carie Bauer, Susan Romanski – On the slate there is the nominee for President and that is Rashad Bauman, with The Salvation Army. A short biography was sent to the membership on May 13th, 2020, and read during the meeting. John asks for a motion to nominate Rashad, Robert makes the motion, Christian seconds it and the membership votes unanimously by voice in the affirmative. Rashad's term will begin in July. John asks for a nomination from the floor for Vice President, hears none and indicates that the position will remain open.

Michelle – Thanks everyone for the support offered during her leadership over the last two years. She is looking forward to supporting ORVOAD from the sidelines. It has been her pleasure to serve with all the great people involved.

Susan – On behalf of the membership, she gives a huge shoutout to Michelle. It has been a privilege to work with her starting after a tough transition with virtually no handover. Both have had to build it back up with the help of Karen, the State VAL and members. It has taken energy and passion.

Michelle – This is the end of Susan's term also – strongest together and hoping to see the organization grow and succeed.

Next meeting – Third Tuesday, July 21st, 2020

Meeting ends at 2:25 pm. If you have any leadership or ORVOAD related questions, email ORVOADLeadership@gmail.com