

## Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee Minutes

January 9, 2024

Members present on the call: Chair PDG Joe Miller, Debbie Miller, PDG Wayne Gerlock, Jill Pietrusinski, Tim Sipes, Mark Bearth, Jeff Thornton, Greg Jones, Charlie Pitts

Chair Joe Miller called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM CT

Joe reported the last he heard from Clarksville, TN they weren't sure about the current need. Approximated 350 people affected were connected to Fort Campbell and now they are down to 82 displaced. Disaster Aid USA responded with a member from OH to assess the need last week and did some mutt and grunt on 7 houses but there haven't been many requests. Clarksville and Henderson, TN were the hardest hit areas. Wayne sent some samples from Mayfield, KY through DNA RAG to the DG in TN but no response.

Wayne reports some frustration with the DNA RAG and the DAUSA change to the system to honor their bylaws which states they can only have one board member per Zone so Larry Agee as a founding member will take that place for Zone 31 as the Executive board and Wayne will serve on the "regular board" which isn't a voting position. They seem to want members who can actively mutt and grunt on site in disasters.

Wayne discovered another lead by a Crisis response team, Crisis Cleanup.org is taking the lead in TN vs DNA RAG. This organization directs which organization can do what. Operation Blessing is another organization Wayne feels would be valuable to connect with. The St. Louis area is best known for donations vs manpower.

Joe is going to meet with the director in Alexander Co to get the MOU signed.

Wayne wondered if we are making sure the DG line is getting copies of our minutes. Wayne will make sure they are added to the committee in DAC to ensure they receive copies of the minutes. Some districts are reporting regularly to the G line and introducing their committee's function to the incoming governors.

Wayne reported on Global Giving which is used by DAUSA regularly as well as the former "network for good" which is now known as Bonterra for fund raising. Wayne is researching if with our new website partner team merchant

can recurring giving be set up for members. DAC is apparently working on developing that feature. Wayne will follow up and then we can market to our members about recurring giving.

Clarksville, TN had been pro-active after the Mayfield, KY tornado to build a disaster "fund" which is primarily for grants, and they have step by step processes and forms developed which has reduced their need for outside resources. Wayne thinks we need to be more pro-active about building our Disaster fund and then structure a grant disbursement process that can be rapidly deployed if needed.

Dan Flynn from 6060 reached out to Wayne about the DR module in DAC and Wayne has been able to set up our "disaster club" with outside district members for others to evaluate. There is a "block" as the developers are looking at transitioning this to the imember platform and the members seem to be part of DNA RAG and is limiting our ability to add members. Wayne will work with DAC on this.

Wayne is coordinating all of the pieces in the DAC module and in our individual profile in DAC, click on "id" top right, and then choose the Disaster Response Club instead of our home club and then you can see the other members and in club files > secure you will see folders for the Disaster Committee documents. Wayne is logging files, plans and bylaws from other districts for us to have access to an archive of best practices to share.

There is a COAD meeting Jan 24 at the Marion Univ of IL extension office 1:30-2:30. Wayne plans to attend. He is recommending to all Districts that they become part of their local VOAD. Brian Gress is the organizer and Joe said he is the new EM for Williamson Co. Wayne has received invitations from several other organizations with upcoming meetings he will explore to see if they are valuable to attend.

Jill proposed we redefine our District 6510 Disaster Response Committee purpose, organizational structure and clarify our message and needs to articulate to our members. She feels this is hurting our ability to recruit into the committee. The DNA RAG is working on a guideline to assist districts in this. The best practice is 5 designated layers in the recommended structure: Chair, finance, volunteer, NGO liaison, communications. D6490 has developed a plan following this structure. Wayne recommends we wait until March around PETS time when that should be released. Jill will be working with DGE Robin on PETS orientation and will try to include the Disaster Committee.

There will be 2 tables in Land of Lincoln PETS. Jill will be helping DGE Robin with PETS curriculum and Wayne will work with the other LOL PETS districts for exposure as well while in Effingham in March. Jill recommends we look at incorporating the Rotary Action Plan into how Disaster response fits in every one of the action plan priorities. She referred to [rotary.org/actionplan](https://rotary.org/actionplan) for more information to get some ideas.

Next Zoom meeting: February 13 at 7:30 PM CT

Respectfully Submitted, PDG Jill Pietrusinski