Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee

Minutes for the July 11, 2023, meeting

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

Chair Joe Miller called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and reported that we have a water training day planned for Sunday, July 30th starting at 1:30 PM for the committee members and 2:00 PM for the public. We will use the river that runs through New Athens, IL. Jeff is going to contact a videographer to take video for us to use in a presentation at the Rotary Zone meeting in Memphis in September. He is bringing a table to be used to put out disaster material and for volunteers to sign up. Wayne will bring the disaster material and sign-up paperwork, as well as clip boards for the volunteers to use.

Joe is working on the installation of the solar system lighting in the water trailer before training day.

We still need to get an inventory of items in both trailers but will wait until later and the weather is cooler.

Wayne is to help facilitate one of the break-out sessions at the Memphis Zone meeting. Now we need to produce a video about the water filter system. Wayne has gotten Disaster Aid USA to pay the cost of a booth and hand-outs.

Wayne is working with the 4 districts in LOLPETS for a grant for Ukraine for $100,000. However, the Club in Ukraine that we were working with has been taken off the list by Rotary International. We are now working in the same district but in a different Rotary Club, per Rotary International. Just waiting on them to pick out the emergency piece of equipment we are to fund.

Allen has gotten the M O U for Wabash County and is still working on Edwards County. While Joe and Wayne have gotten the M O U for Williamson County. We now have a standard M O U to where only the name at the very start of the M O U must be added. The 3 Master pages of the M O U can be found in the District Files in DAC under “Disaster Response Committee” then “Master M O U pages 1 – 2 – 3”.

Disaster Aid USA is signing up to be a member of “National VOAD”. Once this is complete, we then can put the VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) logo on our trailers. The details and graphics were sent to Joe.

DAUSA is also signing up to be an authorized vendor for FEMA, which means that DAUSA can file claims with FEMA for reimbursement of expenses incurred while working in an authorized disaster.

We are currently working on an easier and less expensive way to handle credit cards. This will not require us to change any “QR” codes.

Wayne is working with district 6490 in setting up their “Disaster Response Committee”. While doing so he found out that district 6960 in Florida has added a course on disaster to their RLI training system. Jill will work with Florida to get the information, so we can add it to our RLI Training system.

He has also supplied district 6580 with a long list of disaster response forms for their disaster committee to integrate into their disaster system.

Still working on getting connected to Home Depot’s Foundation disaster grant and discount system.

Next Zoom meeting: **Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7:30 PM**

Respectfully Submitted, PDG Wayne Gerlock