

Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee Minutes

March 12, 2024

Members present on the call: Chair PDG Joe Miller, PDG Wayne Gerlock, Jill Pietrusinski, Jeff Thornton, Lynn Lenker, Debbie Miller, Tim Sipes, Mark Bearth

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

We have an MOU now for Shawnee Community College and Alexander County. A disaster drill will not be done in Southern IL due to the eclipse being used as a "drill". Joe reported joining with another organization for a drill would be our best option.

Multiple ILVOAD counties are trying to coordinate 5-8 counties for a COAD and are developing bylaws currently. Wayne is assisting with reference from a past document Ed Hoke was working on.

The Zones 30/31 Disaster subcommittee is finalizing a manual to distribute to include forming a district foundation. He has asked for a working copy to review. It will include organizational structure, job descriptions and District and Zone responses.

Wayne reported we are looking for help at PETS to man the table to include a 50/50 to raise funds as seed money for disaster immediate needs. A sign up sheet was distributed and D6580 and D6490 are helping. Wayne will be unable to attend. Joe will be giving a brief presentation at PETS orientation on Saturday and will invite them to the table at PETS. We will have a brief opportunity in the district breakout to address the participants. Joe reported we do have a PPT available now explaining what a VRC is.

Wayne reported April from the Zone subcommittee who works with SBP, and her entity has money available for Chicago flooding and he has forwarded that to the Chicago area. When FEMA goes through the claims, and hands down denials (up to 80%) SBP helps work with those denied arguing the case with FEMA for reconsideration. They have had success in many cases (\$3.2M to date). Wayne feels that will be a valuable resource if we are ever in that situation with denials from FEMA claims. Lynn reiterated the nightmare working with FEMA can be. More information as sbpusa.org

Jill reported the video done in Memphis during the disaster breakout of DNA-RAG is pending and the Zone is trying to reconcile the payment and receipt of the recording.

Next Zoom meeting: April 9 at 7:30 PM CT

Respectfully Submitted, PDG Jill Pietrusinski