

Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee Minutes

November 12, 2024

Members present on the call: Chair PDG Joe Miller, Aur Beck, Jill Pietrusinski, Wayne Gerlock, Jeff Thornton, Chris Clark, Mark Bearth

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

Aur and Joe worked on the Disaster Aid trailer and the batteries apparently needed water added and that maintenance will be added to the list.

We received \$315 dollars from the District Conference 50/50 that was deposited into our account.

IEMA Region 8 (near East St. Louis) requested a presentation at their regional meeting. Jeff Thornton and Jill Pietrusinski attended November 7 in Fairview Heights, IL 0900-1200. We shared the map of our MOUs and our VRC as well as what we can do for neighboring counties. The VRC is a very important component as we help them keep track of the volunteer hours. That is a component of receiving funding in a disaster. They also appreciated we can support the donations financially and track those as a donation manager. Money sent directly to a municipality is a mess. That is a value added to the emergency managers that Rotary can support the VRC needs in a disaster and that is a requirement in all their planning documents. Becky White, Disaster Services Program Manager of the United Way is very interested in us joining the newly formed COAD. They meet the 2nd Wed at 1000. Jill has a suggestion for a potential D6460 partner she knows from the Mississippi river work. Scott Rayho. Washington Co has a mobile command center available, and they had at the meeting. The radios apparently use different frequencies and aren't in sync. The EMAs were very pleased that we can be a resource for them in a VRC and with the financials. IDOT was also present. They have a shortage of resources to fill sandbags as many of the prisoners who used to support are now released.

Joe recommended we always have a representative at the Region 8 meetings which are quarterly and usually on Tuesday. He asked Jeff and Jill if they would be willing to attend. Jeff also asked if we can be involved in some of their exercises to include their tabletop exercises. Doug Downey, Region 8 Coordinator seemed open to the idea.

Aur suggests we create a manual on how to build a trailer and put a lockbox on the outside of the door for more convenience if emergency access needed.

Wayne reported the SI COAD is moving quickly. Each IL County is required to have a long-term recovery committee to meet the state requirements. Wayne thinks there will be a lot of new items to vote on at the January meeting. Wayne is working with Convoys of Hope from Springfield, MO as a potential partner for shipping.

Wayne reported on the Hurricane Helene response that water supplies are needed in NC. Jill spoke with RI Director Patrick Eakes to see if they have needs of personal filtration systems that can be provided. We were able to purchase and ship 1080 buckets, lids and water filtration systems to a NC distribution center who can assist those in remote area. This distribution center is run by members of Rotary. They currently don't have a further need of personal filters. Jill did a pmail and Facebook post to call for funding to support the water buckets and \$10,000 towards this effort was raised.

The need in Western NC is now for larger water filtration systems. Joe will check on the part for the water filtration system. Jill asked if it's not repairable should we keep it and don't want to represent something we can't support.

Chris will let us know when the exercise is set up.

Next meeting is December 10, 2024, at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Jill Pietrusinski