



ORVOAD General Member & Partner Meeting

Date & Time: Oct 15, 2024 1:00-2:00 PM

Pending approval

In attendance via Zoom:

Only names on screen or in chat show here. If any are missing, please email orvoadleadership@gmail.com

Allyson West (Habitat for Humanity-ED Lincoln Co, LTRG), Alvaro Hernandez (Program Coordinator, Disaster Case Management) , Ann Geyer (Red Cross), Annie Derry (Endeavors Operations Coordinator), Heather Sielicki (Emergency Management Coordinator, 211 info, Lane Co. COAD), Jana Norton (Lutheran Disaster Response, Climate and Resilience Team, Red Cross volunteer) , Jennifer Denning - (Disaster Services Coordinator, OregonServes Commission - AmeriCorps), Jim Cooper (United Ways of the Pacific Northwest), John Colvin (Mennonite DS OR, Long Term Recovery Team), Joseph Murray (OMD-OEM Planner, VAL deputy), Kenton Johnson (Southern Baptist Disaster Relief NW, Clackamas LTRG, OR, WA, N.Idaho), Louise Kienzle (United Methodist, OR/ID, UMCOR Funding), Matthew Havnear (Jackson County LTRG), Quinn Butler (OEM), Richard Higgins (Multnomah County Emergency Management), Robert Worlock (Churches of Scientology Disaster Response, ORVOAD Secretary), Taylor Silvey (Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon), Wendy Colvin (Mennonite DS, ORVOAD Treasurer), [Name missing] United Way of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

[ORVOAD Zoom Chat Notes - 2024-10-15](#) at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RNHbhWh7dWjt_XdS1UlvNJmhMCg3imkD/view?usp=sharing

This [ORVOAD Meeting Minutes report](#) at

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1N8BD4ctAF3EQLfAEQ6QCJpUNG0_sNBOhin8cJ3UTkcQ/edit?usp=sharing

Summary

The meeting focused on various disaster response and recovery efforts, particularly in relation to the ongoing situation in the southeastern United States and local recovery efforts in Oregon. Ann Geyer led the meeting, discussing updates from various organizations and strategic planning for Oregon VOAD. Key topics included the Iron Ore exercise scheduled for October 28-31, 2023, which will simulate a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake response. Quinn Butler provided details about the exercise, emphasizing its focus on emergency support functions, particularly ESF 16 (volunteers and donations). The group also discussed ongoing recovery efforts in the southeast, with multiple organizations reporting their activities. Kenton Johnson shared updates about the death toll in North Carolina, which is expected to exceed Katrina levels. Heather S. provided updates on communications efforts and website improvements. The meeting concluded with discussions about long-term recovery efforts in Oregon, particularly related to wildfire recovery and water quality issues in the Willamette Valley.

Introductions and Meeting Overview

Ann Geyer, ORVOAD VP and volunteer with Red Cross, began the meeting with introductions, including new participants Taylor Silvey from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Matthew Havnear from Jackson County Long Term Recovery Group. All members on the call introduced themselves.

Ann Geier outlined the meeting format, which includes program information, announcements, guest speakers, and organizational updates.

Robert presented the last meeting's minutes and they were approved by vote, Heather S moved, Jim C seconded.

Wendy Colvin presented the treasurer's report, noting a beginning balance of \$6,339.09 on July 1, with \$200 in membership dues deposited, bringing the total to \$6,539.09. The report included previous month's expenditures that were not yet updated. View the full [Treasurer's Report](#).

Heather has been working on updating the ORVOAD website, adding events calendar activities, adding partner communications and news updates section contents. The next Communications Committee meeting date is in the chat. Working on getting logins to our various social media accounts.

Ann mentioned that ORVOAD is seeking members interested in serving on leadership, on the board and committee positions. Regrouping and examining our processes to build back and be in a reasonable position to do statewide coordination work that our members rely on. Reach out to any current leadership members if you are interested in filling a position.

Time to develop a strategic working group to refresh our mission and two-year priority list. Some new members on this: Janna Norton, Pat Olsen, Ellie Holty, Quinn and Heather, along with

Wendy and Robert. A couple slots are open for this quick, actionable planning group and we strongly urge any members to join and contribute.

Save the date, OEM conference next April 16-18, Sunriver, OR. Last year with Heather, Allyson, and Ellie, Ann presented a panel on the community side of disaster response. Roughly 70 participants, county and state managers, and a great discussion. Opportunity to add to topics, themes and presentations for the upcoming conference: value propositions, how to work with partners. Unfortunately, the OEM conference conflicts with the Mountain West VOAD conference in Boise this year. National VOAD conference will be in May. Quinn mentioned the call for presentations for the conference, due by Nov. 1.

IronOR Exercise Planning

Quinn Butler provided details about the upcoming Iron Ore exercise, scheduled for October 28-31, 2024. The exercise will simulate a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake response, with over a dozen counties participating along with federal partners. Quinn will lead ESF 16 (volunteers and donations) coordination efforts. One mock coordination call each day. Three objectives: evaluate how state emergency coordination center are able to create structure for reporting, meetings, etc. Second goal on communications – HAM radio, ESF 2. Third goal on Mass Care, ESF 16 supporting ESF 6. Heather will be an observer for 211 Info. Kenton mentioned that Mountain Waves Search and Rescue are a leader in comms in the Portland area and would be a good participant.

Southeast Disaster Response Updates

Organizations provided updates on their response efforts in the southeastern U.S. Louise reported on UMCOR deploying and their activities – flood buckets, cleaning kits have all been used so a request is out for additional kits. Kenton Johnson reported from the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief team, sharing concerning updates about the death toll in North Carolina, which is expected to exceed Katrina levels. Louise Kinzel reported on UMCOR's response efforts.

Jim C. on United Way National Disaster Resilience Council, operating as EOC for United Way. 40 communities, 5 states. In N. Carolina, more people in Airbnb than shelters. Working to ensure communication works as people deploy and aren't available to report. Also thinking on misinformation – need to find ways to ensure we're all partners and on the same page. FEMA means community, using new individual assistance program in a great way.

Ann reiterated that knowing our key priorities is so important. Kenton reported on data from Dave Hillison who's deployed in FL with chainsaw teams, roof tarping. Third team (10 day deployment) just arrived today. Next to Tampa to help re: Milton. Helene much worse than Katrina in body count and damage with the distance it traveled. Training later in Oct. to be done for our organizations.

John C. mentioned Kevin King, Exec Director of MDS has been in the south working with heavy equipment and doing some rebuilding. Other fire recovery efforts in Oregon still ongoing, including long-term recovery efforts in Klamath County, and shed construction projects.

Quinn mentioned outstanding need for 910 tons of hay. OSU extension looking for pledge donations from western side of the state, volunteers to load trucks and to transport that material. Relief Angels key partner. To be done by end of Oct.

Quinn alerted all to possible water distribution need based on dam draw-down on reservoirs in Linn and Lane counties. This could cause water purity problems downstream so we may need to provide water to communities (boil water declarations).

Heather S. provided updates on OR Housing seeking input on \$400 million disaster recovery funding for 2020 fire recovery. Details in the chat, comment period until 11/8.

Upcoming events and trainings will be put into the calendar on ORVOAD website. Looking to possibly get ICS trainings out to members for better support with disaster managers.

Ann closed the meeting with invitation to engage further with ORVOAD and help take it forward.

OLD ENTRIES

Ann Geyer, ORVOAD Vice President (Red Cross) started the meeting at 1:00 PM. Start by asking for items to discuss today

Robert Worlock - posted the minutes of the last meeting for review and approval.

Ann - quick summary from a Red Cross perspective. monitoring 65 active fires in Oregon, but only 5 with a severe risk profile. Currently we have 2 shelters open, Morrow County and Grant County. There's one in Ontario but closing today. and then one standby operation for Hood River

Have shelters open since beginning of July and putting pressure on local response teams – a challenge as we've sent so many volunteers out to other parts of the country for tornados and hurricanes.

Ann calls for situational awareness reports.

Quinn Butler - new State Voluntary Agency liaison working under Shawna, OEM

Just our wildfire monitoring portfolio. It's a GIS Tool showing fires overview, the potential heat, risk, smoke, risk and smoke, forecast, power outages, etc.

The State ECC is at a level 3, which is just a regional response, including ECC email briefings. level 4 is monitoring, level 3 regional response Level 2 is Partial activation, Level one is a full activation.

My lead role is ESF 16, emergency support function for volunteers and donations. There's the website, but you can also download an app.

Evacuation levels or you could see shelters that might be in place, or things like that once you click on the actual fire. The big ones that we're concerned with are the Larch Creek, Lone Rock, Falls fire and Cal Valley Fire, with substantial growth in the past couple of days.

Heather Sielicki - 211 is standing by, and we've done trainings on heat, smoke and fire, preloaded into our database. And then when they're activated, we'll put them online. We're talking to the state to figure out where our activation thresholds will be and what types of services we'll have. Available through our website and app. And we also have 24/7 phone support that people can call in an activation say for fire. And we have the ability talk to people with an interpreter for about 250 languages. Available 24/7. No unmet needs currently

Chris Aaron with FEMA - monitoring the wildfire situation. 2 fires focusing on: Larch creek fire, in Wasco County, has been assigned a FMAG, which is a fire management assistance Grant that goes to the State to help offset the cost of firefighting. the other one we're watching is that Cow Valley fire, primarily on Federal land, so it does It doesn't qualify for that FEMA assistance. real threats come from smoke and particulate matter 2.5 PM, size of particles, that can enter lungs and blood.

Change out the air filters on their homes, using masks when outside, just avoiding being outside, especially when the smoke gets bad.

FEMA is hosting a roundtable among Area Agencies on Aging in conjunction with AARP, in person and open.

Ann - any tip sheets available on smoke?

Jim Cooper, United Way – I'm on the City Council in Olympia, Washington, and chair of the Air Quality Agency. So putting a page that we developed about smoke in the in the chat now.

Ann - Our executive team will discuss how we can get these things online, start to build that resource list out.

Quinn – not a lot of primary homes lost. mostly agricultural, related a lot of livestock lost, especially from the Cow Valley fire, hundreds of head of cattle, many thousands of acres of rangeland which take many years to recover. States working with the US Department of Agriculture as well as trying to connect folks to the farm services agencies to their local office. Malhuer Co, and Harney County, for the 2 fires over there.

Pat Olsen, Clackamas county COAD. Finally, an active COAD in Clackamas County. Lots of work to set up, we'll be hiring a coordinator starting the 22nd of this month to serve Clackamas County and announcing next week. Pretty quiet here now.

Ann - Active status and a dedicated coordinator, those are good signs of success! Idea to have an announcement section on ORVOAD web. if you've got an announcement like a new hire, a new status, let us know at orvoadleadership@gmail.com.

Heather - announce, Lane County will also have a full time Coordinator starting next week and her name is Carly Boyer. She brings some wonderful experience, and she's with the Center for Rural Livelihoods and so help a lot of rural areas.

Quinn - went to 3 different conferences in about 5 weeks, one National VOAD Conference in Phoenix, 2 in Sun River. And meeting so many partners, listening opportunity. Found many COADs fell apart, due to COVID, etc. But many looking to restart. funding, needing sustained funding for coordinator position. Working to develop tools and best practices.

Meeting with a lot of local community-based organizations. I've been meeting with United Ways across the state. I'm looking forward to working with ORVOAD on developing the mission and build up the robustness of the state.

Ann - Executive team is interested is to see from members what kind of support is needed from the ORVOAD. We've made great inroads on integrating/collaborating with the State and pass that information back to our group.

Charlene Larson - Outreach to our LTRGs is still ongoing. We had the Wallowa hail storm Still responding but close to a wrap. Association with the Blue Mountain region. LTRG was critical in being able to stand up and provide that outreach and service. Myself, and John Colvin and Louise Kinsell, through our organizations, LDR, MDS And UMCOR providing that outreach and funding.

Also engaged with the Klamath Lake LTR, the golden fire. And the Merriman neighborhood water issue. colleague Sarah is actively involved in Jackson County with Lutheran Disaster Response.

And doing outreach with the Emergency Management Department, the Sunset Empire Amateur Radio Club and through the Astoria Lions Club at our Sunday market, handing out Information on disaster, preparedness.

Ann – Request to make suggestions to your ORVOAD executive team.

John Colvin - Louise, and I have been working with Michelle Crane, the. Klamath and Lane County. LTRGs on golden fire. Not been any funding for homes. We have a small wildfire grant so providing storage sheds, 100 sq. ft. Volunteers build components and we send them up to install on site, in late August. Five sheds ready, looking to 10 or 12. Goal is to help homeowners and to increase our capacity. Lots of first-time volunteers, getting trained.

Ann - John, how are you getting the word out about this? Let us know and ORVOAD will help promote this work and interest people in it. Let us know 30 days in advance and we'll get it out.

John - We have our mailing list from MDS and through Charlene and Louise.

Ann, I think it's important we start to document, or demonstrate that the members of ORVOAD are actively working in communities and doing reasonably sized projects,

John - mentioned over 100 private bridges built in N. Carolina as an example and some of these are shown on YouTube. Would encourage other members to think about doing things outside of your wheelhouse, value of divergent thinking.

Ann - But it's this richness of what's happening here in the disaster response community. I think we've got lots of stories. I hear them when we have these meetings. If you have some ideas again send those into our mailbox, our Gmail account, orvoadleadership@gmail.com

Alexia with American Logistics - We can help with logistics. We are a nonprofit ourselves and can help with transportation, warehousing, material handling equipment. May be able to help John.

Michelle Crane KL-COAD, KL-LTRG - Our coed is up and going now. Had a few fires and we were put on standby for the COAD to be activated but didn't go into full activation. Our COAD has been up and going for about 7 months, enough structure in place that can activate. 13 have been fully recovered under a year from the fire, 5 clients left, now working on the Merryman Hydrological disaster. City of Chiliquen. going for an EPA Grant. Did a community picnic this weekend and had a hundred people show up. We promote on our website, facebook and Unite Away promotes us. We have a company called 40 Do Stones, going to make a video with survivors and community partners talking 10-15 minutes. Also do the 3rd Thursday market and pass out flyers.

Ann - Michelle, send us a bullet point on what is it that you're looking for, timeframes and location, and we can help get that worked out.

Pat – We're work diligently to set up a good system on the back end through our website and social media, for our agency or community and faith-based organizations to register their organizations with us directly through our portal. We're excited about our spontaneous registration form where folks in our county, if they want to volunteer in the event of an incident, they can.

What we're struggling with is blue sky fundraising. We put a process in place. We do have a few really good grant requests out and onboarding a Grant writer in September. But any recommendations that you know your executive team might have in terms of funders that might be able to help us with the other little lift. We do have a marketing firm on boarded as well to help with that.

Jim Cooper - United Ways are standing by across the State. If there's a need that any of you have, please feel free to reach out to me.

One of the things that I picked up would be just word of encouragement to all of you in that are working at the local or even LTRG level is to remind your counties to make those requests through the State. We only heard from Multnomah county but know there's volunteer needs in some of those shelters around the State, but if they don't come up through the VOAD, Quinn's folks don't know that there's a need out in the local community. Make sure you push it up to the state level, so all these partners can help push it out.

Robert - Quinn we appreciate the ARC GIS link, and would like to link to them on the website.

Quinn – Yes, fire maps up through the summer, separate one for heat.

Ann - Heather has joined our leadership team, and we've been talking about really what's needed to communicate to all of our members. As you look at the website, or you have needs and things you would like to see or see ways you would like us to promote things, please reach out to us. We're very interested in improving the web and the access.

Quinn - Be 2 weeks ready program posted in the chat, too. The graphics have all been done in house, and it's a really great way. Breaks down by different units of food plan, water plan. It's in several different languages, and then we're getting it in as ASL later this month. It has a ratings key: breaks it down by low medium. High cost, low medium, high time commitment, and then low, medium, high level of effort.

Ann - So last thing I just wanted to mention is starting to think that we might include some guest speakers. I've heard interest in fundraising techniques, approaches and upping our game on that topic. We're looking into that. If there's something else that you think would be helpful for your organization or all of our organizations, let us know. We need to take advantage of bringing in this this level of expertise into our community.

Wendy - Please remember to pay your dues. The information is on the website and one can use PayPal there or send a check.

Ann – Next membership meeting is scheduled for October, 3 months. So again, let us know, what would be useful to you, and we'll take consider, and we'll take that under active consideration.

Ann ends the meeting at 1:06.

Alexia Nobles (American Logistics Aid Network), Ann Geyer (Red Cross), Charlene Larsen (Lutheran Disaster Response OR&N.CA, ORVOAD LTRG Team), Chris Aronen (FEMA VAL Region), Heather Sielicki (Emergency Management Coordinator, 211 info, Lane Co. COAD), Jim Cooper (United Ways of the Pacific Northwest), John Colvin (Mennonite DS OR), Michelle Crane (Klamath Lake COAD, LTRG), Pat Olsen, Quinn Butler (OEM), Robert Worlock (Churches of Scientology Disaster Response, ORVOAD Secretary), Wendy Colvin (Mennonite DS, ORVOAD Treasurer)

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