

SD VOAD Meeting Notes

9/13/2017

Those in attendance:

Dennis Ries – MDS

Matt Cedar – FEMA VAL

Lisa Adler – LSS

Jay DeBoer – World Renew

Ray Sorensen – Red Cross

Randy Hartmann – OEM

Brooks MacRoberts – FEMA VAL

Maynard Koneche – KOC

Tosa Two Hearts – PNA

Tom Vorhees – LDS

Jim Pearson – Roberts County EM

Meeting started at 11a (CT) with President Adler welcoming everyone to call.

Lisa asked for feedback on SD VOAD Matrix and SD VOAD Roster that Randy had sent out previous to the meeting. Lisa explained that SD VOAD needs to keep these documents updated and current in case of disaster. Lisa explained that Randy will be getting the new SD VOAD brochure printed.

Lisa stated that the Treasurer report will remain as was reported out in June.

Lisa updated membership on new business. Lisa is working on a couple new grants. There is a National VOAD grant offered to help with children's services impacted by disaster. Lisa explained that she will be having a meeting with a large foundation who is interested in the VOAD organizations in the 8 surrounding states. They will have some initial meetings in November to develop better communication on the reservation. Lisa explained that will need to update the group at a later date as these talks are just beginning. Lisa has talked to a couple of tribal reservations to get feedback as to what they would like to see. This will be a training and communications grant. Lisa also explained that there is a grant opportunity from the ASPCA for help in housing pets. This grant would be to purchase a trailer that is stocked with pet supplies and pens that could be used anywhere in South Dakota during and after a disaster. SD VOAD is looking for a partner to take this grant on as a local group is needed to submit the grant.

Lisa talked about the need for SD VOAD to apply for a 501(c) 3 status with the IRS and State of South Dakota. She explained that we need to keep moving forward on this task and asked that each group review and see if they would be able to help with this task.

Review of current disaster response:

The response to the Delmont tornado is now closed. The LTRC has released all the money from the relief fund. Team Rubicon led the efforts to help refurbish the ball

diamond for the Delmont community. There were 2 work days in June and the community was able to use ball diamond for the July 4th celebration.

The communities of Fort Thompson and Lower Brule have had some activity in terms of making both communities more resilient. There is an AmeriCorps VISTA person helping identify and make the communities more resilient. Needs that have been identified are shelters, weather radios, and sirens in both communities for them to be more prepared.

Lisa discussed the ongoing work in Pine Ridge. Pine Ridge had disaster in 2015, additional damage in 2016, and now again in 2017. These storms have caused a lot of housing damage. Currently the LTRC has 2100 some families who have applied for assistance. There are 273 cases currently open. There have been several families who have received roofing assistance. There have been some who have been helped with siding and windows. There are ongoing needs including the desire to have 14 storm shelters. There are 5 new homes being built by MDS. This has been a great start and need to look at more ways to help. MDS will be back at the end of September to finish the builds. The LTRC has identified 14 more homes that need complete rebuilds. Looking for more help to partner. Jay with World Renew stated that they do estimating and inquired about how that process would work and if the estimates were done would that be a negative if the new build didn't happen. Jay stated that he will work with World Renew to see if they can help bring some estimators to the area. There was also discussion involving local people to learn to be estimators. The LTRC is working on a HUD grant for supplies. Continue to look for more partners to help. Have a Summit coming up on Sept 26th. Focus will be housing and community resilience. LDR was in 2 weeks ago and toured the area. The CDP and Midwest Consortium along with the MAC foundation toured SD to view work done in SD. This lead to an invitation for meetings to see what else can be done to help.

Randy will send out information about the FEMA approved storm shelters that are made in Bonesteel, SD. He will send out the information to all SD VOAD members so they can see what they are and each organization can look to see if they would be able to help in some way.

Lisa asked for other groups to report out on what they are doing.

LSS – Lisa is working with Springfield to help distribute funds for those affected by the 2016 storm. LSS has been working on addressing those who have been affected by the drought conditions in South Dakota. They are looking to see if they can provide relief in some form to those affected.

World Renew – Jay explained that their organization currently is doing no work in South Dakota at this time. World Renew is working on rebuilds in other states and will be going to Texas and Florida to help with Hurricane Harvey and Irma victims.

KOC – Maynard reported that he working with contacts in his organization to develop a list of members who may be able to help in time of disaster.

MDS – Dennis reported that they are currently working in Pine Ridge to help with the rebuild effort there.

FEMA VAL – Brooks reported he attended the National Mass Care Exercise in Utah. A lot of Utah people are doing EMAC requests for Hurricane Harvey so this will hopefully help them with future events in Utah and other states. Hurricane Harvey and Irma are the big events being addressed by FEMA at this time. All FEMA Regions have sent out their personnel to help. Brooks reported that there is staff in Region 8 left in place to help if something would happen in another state. All their resources are being stretched thin at this time.

PWNA – Tosa reported that they have been doing a lot of activity with the community of Wamblee. They have had a lot of members of the community become CPR certified through the Red Cross. The communities are working on getting storm shelters in place. PWNA had a conference in Rapid City last weekend for communities in Pine Ridge and Cheyenne Eagle Butte to set forth their community's emergency plan. They are looking to see who can assist them and help build out their emergency plans. These communities are working with Red Cross to help send volunteers to help with the events in Texas.

Red Cross – Ray reported that they currently have deployed 75 volunteers from the Dakotas deployed to help in Texas and Florida. A lot of the Red Cross staff has been deployed as well. The Red Cross is in "All Hands on Deck" mode to help support the operations in Texas, Florida, and wildfires out west. Ray reported that the Red Cross has sheltered close to a million people in the country. The Red Cross is working to balance helping other states in need and still be able to maintain local help if needed.

Lisa adjourned meeting at 12p.

The next SD VOAD meeting will be on January 18, 2018. The meeting will be held in Pierre. New will need to review/update the SD VOAD bylaws at that meeting so all are encouraged to attend. The next EM conference will be Sept 10-13 in Sioux Falls. Lisa encouraged all to mark this on their calendars and plan to attend.