Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 11 September, 2018

The meeting was brought to order at 10:03 AM by Jerry Brandon, Co-Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea        Brandon, Jerry        Bruno, Frank
Greenberg, Warren      Hemmerlein, Jill      Howell, Charlie
Judge, Jim             Kennedy, Lynn          Lewandowski, Frank
Rademacher, Jeanne     Troxler, David

- Mr. Brandon introduced Jill Hemmerlein who is our new liaison with the County, replacing Pat White who has retired.

- After general introductions of those present, Mr. Brandon requested up-dates from each member of the Steering Committee:

  - Pastor Dave Troxler with VIND:
    - They are in about the same position as last month.
    - Case management is winding down.
    - Mobile homes are still an issue.
    - AmeriCorps is still here doing volunteer work.
    - Mr. Bruno, Co-Chairman, noted that the volunteer work and our COAD have received very good press from the Hometown News.

  - Frank Lewandowski with the Church of Latter-day Saints:
    - They are staying in a constant state of preparedness and are willing to go to South Carolina if necessary

  - Jim Judge, Volusia County Director of Emergency Services:
    - Gave an up-date on the storms at the present time.
    - He is concerned about Hurricane Florence and the 12 foot storm surge.
    - North Carolina is watching Hurricane Isaac.
Mr. Judge also noted that a Category 4 is 250 times stronger than a Category 1. Increases are exponential. A Category 5 is 500 times more powerful than a Category 1.

Mr. Brandon next led a discussion of ESF 15:

- We are now being recognized as a primary agency.
- We now also have specific jobs that are assigned to us.
- If we look at the total picture, this new document spells out what ESF 15 is doing.
- Mr. Bruno stated that our brochure outlines what is spelled out in such a way that it will not have to be changed.

Another area of discussion was storage areas and warehousing problems that still need to be addressed.

- Where can donated items be stored?
- Where can we get access to a forklift when it is needed?

Mr. Judge answered the storage questions:

- He knows of a storage area at the back of a place where we could get a forklift. The contact person’s name is Sam. Mr. Judge will get more information.
- The county is talking about building a new warehouse, part of which would be a dedicated space to be used for this purpose.
- We can also use some space at the County Health Department.
- Mr. Howell suggested co-ordinating with ESF 18 for this purpose and Mr. Judge replied that this was being done.
- The Ocean Center is a county asset which could be used.
- The liaison for ESF 18 is the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce, but Mr. Judge also said that they are trying to get more of the Chambers involved.
- Bob Davis with the Hotel/Motel Association is also involved with ESF 18 along with Jim Cameron.
- The bottom line is for storage of donations, call Mr. Judge and he will find places.
- There was much further discussion of this issue.
The next item for discussion was about the dissemination of information during an event:

- The county will provide formal announcements.
- Issues that arise will go into the WEB EOC which all counties are using and which has multiple platforms.
- The Citizen’s Information Call Center (CIC) will act as operations co-ordinator.
- Crisis Clean-up will also be involved.
- Mr. Brandon asked Mr. Judge if we would be able to actually use the WEB EOC in order to get a hands-on, full understanding of it. Mr. Judge said this could easily be done. This could also be a presentation at a General Membership meeting.

Continuing the discussion of the ESF 15 manual, under support agencies, delete Healthy Volusia and add the Red Cross. Organizations which are included within Healthy Volusia would be in the second wave of help.

Mr. Bruno stated that there needs to be a person within the CIC whose specific purpose is to forward information to Crisis Clean-up. This could eliminate delays in providing help. During a lengthy discussion on this issue, specific points brought up were:

- Publishing phone numbers for the CIC or Crisis Clean-up or the use of 2-1-1 would probably complicate matters. It is better to keep it simple and allow the CIC to forward information.
- Monetary donations: The County has a list of organizations which would accept these. Mr. Bruno said that COAD needs to be a part of this list.

Mr. Brandon asked for corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting of 10 July, 2018. Mr. Lewandowski moved to accept them, seconded by Mrs. Rademacher. Motion passed.
Mr. Brandon next discussed COAD’s bank account:

- Ray Parkhurst is still our treasurer.
- Our account at TD bank has been dormant but is now activated.
- The balance is $941.58

Pastor Troxler with VIND said that all case managers are now trained and there is no duplication of services.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.