



Mississippi Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
*Promoting Cooperation, Communication, Coordination and Collaboration
During Disaster Preparedness, Response, Relief and Recovery*

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 – 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

PRESENTATION

Allen Roark from MEMA provided an update on AidMatrix and several others ongoing activities at MEMA.
Warren Miller spoke briefly regarding ongoing American Red Cross meeting activities
Sandra Braasch presented Jay Huffstatter with a plaque for his service as 2008-2009 Mississippi VOAD President

BUSINESS MEETING

- I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions – Jay Huffstatter
 - A. Roll Call of General/Coalition Membership
 - ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICE DISASTER RESPONSE – Sharon Applewhite, Pearlle Westbrooks, Eddie Westbrooks, Ray Elsberry
 - AMATEUR RADIO RELAY LEAGUE – No one present
 - AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES – No one present
 - AMERICAN RED CROSS – Warren Miller, Mike McAlpin, Jerry Brow, Maury Davis
 - CATHOLIC CHARITIES – Chamon Williams
 - CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BILOXI – No one present
 - CITY TEAM MINISTRIES – No one present
 - CONVOY OF HOPE – No one present
 - CRWRC – No one present
 - GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION – Jay Huffstatter
 - HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – No one present
 - HANCOCK HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER – Rhonda Rhodes
 - INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT – Lori West
 - LUTHERAN EPISCOPAL SERVICES IN MISSISSIPPI – Sandra Braasch, Bob Blanton, Jon Biggs
 - MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA – Sherry Lanier
 - MISSISSIPPI ASSEMBLIES OF GOD – Robert Bingham
 - MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF – Jim Didlake, Don Gann
 - MISSISSIPPI COAST IDTF – John Hosey
 - MISSISSIPPI PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY –
 - MISSISSIPPI UNITED METHODIST DISASTER RELIEF – Wayne Napier
 - PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE – Sandra Price
 - R3SM – No one present
 - RAI – No one present
 - THE SALVATION ARMY – Bill Feist
 - UNITED WAY/MISSISSIPPI 2-1-1 – No one present
 - Roll Call of Partner Membership:
 - FEMA – No one present
 - MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH – No one present
 - MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE – Susan Gregerson, Marsha Kelly
 - MEMA – Dean Thompson, Allen Roark
 - NATIONAL VOAD – No one present

- B. Roll Call of Other Participants: None

- II. President's Report – Jay Huffstatler
Jay thanked the membership for their support over the past 2 years as President. Handled many disasters – 3 hurricanes, several flooding events, and several tornado events. Submitted letter of intent to National VOAD to host it's 2011 or 2013 Annual Conference and awaiting word from their Board next week. Has spoken to MEMA and MCDEMA membership at their conferences and at the Hurricane Conference. Chaired the 2008 Conference and planning a 2010 Gulf States VOAD Conference in October 2010 at USM Gulf Park in Long Beach.

- III. Secretary's Report – Robert Bingham
No Report

- IV. Treasurer's Report –
Jay to pick up treasurer's information this week. Will hand off to new treasurer. Jay will email 2010 invoices this month.

- V. Election of 2010 Mississippi VOAD Board of Directors
Upon a motion and second, membership voted to elect a 10 Member Member Agency Board of Directors. Motion also included a by-laws change to add two additional ex-officio (non-voting) members in addition to the MEMA appointed ex-officio non-voting member for FEMA and MCVS, as appointed by the agency director and FEMA region. The FEMA and MCVS nominees were removed from the ballot. Additional nominations from the floor to the ballot were Wayne Napier with MS United Methodist Disaster Relief, Ray Elsberry with Adventist Community Services Disaster Response, and Rhonda Rhodes with the Hancock County Housing Resource Center. The original nominees were Robert Bingham with Assemblies of God Disaster Response, Bill Feist with The Salvation Army, Don Gann with MS Baptist Disaster Relief, Sherry Lanier with PCA/Mission to North America, Paige Roberts with American Red Cross, Lori West with International Relief and Development US, and Chamon Williams with Catholic Charities. Members were instructed to vote for 8 of the 10 nominated to serve with the already pre-determined Immediate Past President Jay Huffstatler with Gulf Coast Community Foundation, President Sandra Braasch with Lutheran Episcopal Services in Mississippi, and MEMA Ex-Officio Representative Allen Roark. The by-laws change for the MCVS and FEMA Representatives will be ratified at the next quarterly membership in May, per the current by-laws.

- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Membership Committee (Jay Huffstatler)
No report – no new applications have been received

 - B. Long Term Recovery Committee (Stephanie Hennessey)
Marsha Kelly discussed MCVS and its relationship with the MCMC Program. She discussed handouts provided at the meeting to attendees. She requested a list of current applicant needs by agency. FEMA and MEMA and joined with MCMC to scrub the data provided to be provided to the State, particularly the Governor's Office. She explained the need for accurate data to be provided to measure a true need.

 - C. Donations Coordination Team (Jay Huffstatler/Susan Gregerson/Allen Roark)
Included in 10 AM presentation to membership

 - D. Nominating Committee (Sandra Braasch/Sherry Lanier)
No report

- E. Spiritual and Emotional Care (John Hosey/Sandra Braasch)
PFA and CISM classes being scheduled. Planning one on the coast this summer. Trying to plan a seminar in Tupelo after the summer. Would like to train clergy, human services employees, and clinicians how to properly assist those affected by a disaster. If you have any upcoming training, please let John and/or Sandra know so others can be notified. Foundation for the Mid-South (Ivye Allen) has a faith-based employee that works with those organizations. Please contact John Hosey at jmhosey@msidtf.org if you would like to be a part of the committee or provide any information.
 - F. Annual Conference Committee (Jay Huffstatter/Sandra Braasch)
Jay reported about USM's upcoming "Volunteer University" curriculum. USM is interested in hosting the VOAD Conference in October over USM's Fall Break period. Jay will reach out to AL and LA VOAD Presidents once a date has been established.
 - G. Credentialing Committee (Don Gann/Sandra Braasch)
No formal report. A recommendation will be made to the Board in the near future.
- VII. Old Business: None
- VII. New Business
- A. Update(s) from MEMA – Allen Roark
No report
 - B. Update(s) from FEMA – Ken Skalitzky
No report
 - C. Update from South MS VOAD – Jon Biggs
Currently has 25 rostered members. Has created talking points for members, both governmental and non-governmental, conference calls regarding preparedness and discussions around the need for warehouse space. Discussion around readiness center. Also has a website – www.smvoad.org. CAN currently does not have a MS liaison. A number of people in the state are trained as liaisons.
 - D. Update from MCMC – Jon Biggs
Marsha Kelly reported the program is slated to end 3/31. Federal Program Officer was here last week and has asked for a non-cost extension to help serve those last remaining families and get them into permanent housing by August 29,. Housing Choice Vouchers - \$80 million was given by congress to the region. Vouchers are to be used by August 2010. Katrina/Rita displaced families need to get to Public Housing Authorities to discuss a possible plan. Need to do very soon due to long process.
- VIII. Announcements: None
- IX. Announcement of 2010 Mississippi VOAD Board of Directors
(New Board Members please meet shortly following Membership Meeting)
Elected 2010 Mississippi VOAD Board Members were Robert Bingham MS Assemblies of God Disaster Response, Bill Feist with The Salvation Army, Don Gann with MS Baptist Disaster Relief, Sherry Lanier with PCA/Mission to North America, Paige Roberts with American Red Cross, Chamon Williams with Catholic Charities, Ray Elsberry with Adventist Community Services Disaster Response, and Wayne Napier with MS United Methodist Disaster Response. Other Board Officers are Immediate Past President Jay Huffstatter with Gulf Coast Community Foundation, President Sandra Braasch with Lutheran Episcopal Services of Mississippi, and MEMA Ex-Officio Representative Allen Roark.

- X. Upcoming Meeting Information:
Meeting Schedule to be established following meeting. Meeting Schedule to be sent shortly.

- XI. Adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Newly Elected Board Members met following the Business Meeting. The Board elected Don Gann with MS Baptist Disaster Response to serve as Vice President and Paige Roberts to serve as Treasurer. Jay Huffstatler with Gulf Coast Community Foundation was elected to serve as Secretary in addition to Immediate Past President. Membership Meetings will be held quarterly beginning in May as in the past on the second Tuesday of the month with a speaker at 10 AM and a business meeting at 11 AM. May's meeting will be held in Tupelo, the August meeting will be held in Gulfport, the November meeting will be held in Hattiesburg, and the February Annual meeting will be held in Jackson. The Tupelo meeting in May will be moved to the third Tuesday (May 18) due to National VOAD's Annual Conference being held the second Tuesday of May. Board Conference Calls will be held on months where no membership meetings occur on the Second Tuesday at 11 AM.