

MI VOAD Virtual Monthly Meeting

February 1, 2024 | 1:00 pm

Open – Dan O’Malley – Welcome

Attendance –

Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Croff, Laura (MSP)	MSP/EMHSD	Charles McDougall	Salvation Army
Dan OMalley	After the Storm	Ann Quinn	DRAW
Sherry, Melissa (LEO-Contractor)	Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC)	Renwick Ballew	Kalamazoo County Response Consortium (KCRC)
Lasher, Tony P.	Red Cross	Landa-Sanchez, Judith	Red Cross
Kenny Russell	Former FEMA	Neal Barncard	MI VOAD Exec Team
Cassandra Turner	St Vincent De Paul	Eric Dellinger	Jehovah’s Witness Community Services (JWCS)
Nancy Money	After the Storm	LUIS DIEGO ROJAS	Jehovah’s Witness Community Services (JWCS)
David Sprang	Chaplain Services	Michael L Sage	St Vincent De Paul
Chelli Ringstaff	Seventh Day Adventists	Steve Chisnell	MI VOAD
Dick Reibold	St Vincent De Paul	Jenifier Boyer	Midland Emergency Management
Chad Veaser	Michigan 2-1-1		

Approval of minutes –

Move = Mr. Steve Chisnell

2nd = Ms. Chelli Ringstaff

Approved by consensus

Report outs

- *Chair – Dan O’Malley – Strategic Plan based on 4 Cs as a member of the NVOAD*
 - Have reached out to a consultant with MSU for strategic planning
 - Goal – be done by Sept meeting for approval by annual meeting in October
- *Vice Chair – Chelli Ringstaff*
 - No report
- *Secretary – Laura Croff – MSP – Approve meeting notes,*
 - FEMA Individual Assistance revision updates:
 - IA is the FEMA program that includes direct dollars to survivors for repairs, displaced housing assistance, replacement of lost food in your fridge from loss of power, and several other things...This program is being updated in many ways like the application process, to deadlines for assistance, appeal processes, etc.
 - There was a webinar for VOAD folks last week and there will be more meetings moving forward during the “public response” period over the next month – these are regulation changes and not changes to the law, so they are easier to put into effect – the start of the changes is March 22 – it will NOT be retroactive
 - Some highlights include:
 - Survivor doesn’t have to apply/be denied for SBA before being eligible
 - Other Needs Awards is an automatic with any IA declaration (previously, we had to apply separately)
 - Application for housing assistance money has been simplified and given a “grace period” to allow for folks to find some where to go – the “recertification” process has been made easier

- Appeal letters have been eliminated – there will be a form for appeal now – documentation will still be required, but may not need to be as extensive
 - Late applicants won't need the same ridiculous amounts of documentation
 - There is some adjustment regarding “pre-existing” damage – if the issue affects habitability, it may be eligible for FEMA
 - Accessibility items don't have to be “pre-existing” to be eligible for FEMA funding
 - Self-employed (gig) survivors can apply for funds to help get their businesses back on track
- *Treasurer – Chad Veese* –
 - Not much to report since last month – still waiting for response from State of Michigan
 - Bank just needs approval from the federal side to move forward
 - Formal budget will be presented to the group
 - Will be using MSP/EMHSD as a permanent address until other physical mailing options are available

MI Gov't Agency and Partner Updates

- *FEMA Region 5 – Sarah Jensen*
 - No report
- *DR-4607-MI – Metro Detroit DCOMP*
 - Continuing to serve
 - Working to close as many cases as possible until grant closes on July 15
 - Good partnering regarding home repair and mold remediation
 - CDBG public information sessions are starting – fixing lateral sewer tie-ins
 - Blitz Week in April!! – painting/light carpentry work
 - Moving forward after grant is done: ATS is looking for funding to continue case management on a smaller scale (Detroit Home Repair Fund; federal appropriation)
 - Q: Can volunteers be used for CSM?
A: May be using them moving forward
- *Mi- R2 Mary Lloyd*
 - No report
- *Red Cross – Tony Lasher, Ken Karls*
 - Looking for a regional disaster officer for Michigan – applications still open
- *MCSC*
 - Working on allocating community grant funds
 - Education of regions on what is available for disaster preparation

Additional information to share

None

Workgroup Teams

- *Website & Technical – Steve Chisnell – 2nd Thursdays 10:00am, document members, dues, partner services*
 - 2024 priorities:
 - Finalizing submission process for content
 - Finalizing user needs
 - Reach out to members/associates for link-sharing
 - Begin restructuring of website
 - Transferring to Microsoft Office
 - Talking points for outreach/membership
 - Looking for a content editor
- *Finance – Chad Veese – Budget & Dues*
- *Process Documentation – Laura Croft – Establish/document “Process for Resource Requests and Logistics”*
 - Presentation of new dashboard
 - Will be setting up a workgroup meeting soon with EMHSD/MI VOAD partners

- *Outreach - Neal Barncard & Mary Lloyd – Membership development, retention & training in response and communication to resource requests. Coordinate with Website and Tech*
 - Will be reaching out to previous volunteers for workgroups

Questions: none

Other MI VOAD Business

- **Eric Dellinger – JWDS**
 - Working on emotional/spiritual support efficiency and response time
- **Laura Croff – MSP**
 - Trainings are available through MSP – will pass on as they come in
 - Please reach out for any ideas on trainings useful to MI VOAD

Next Meeting – 7 March 2024 1 PM Monthly Virtual Meeting

Balance of the Year:

4 April	1-3 PM Quarterly Hybrid
2 May	1 PM Monthly Virtual
6 June	1 PM Monthly Virtual
11 July	1 PM Monthly Virtual
1 August	1-3 PM Quarterly Hybrid
5 September	1 PM Monthly Virtual
17 October	1-3 PM Annual Hybrid
7 November	1 PM Monthly Virtual
5 December	1 PM Monthly Virtual