North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

North Carolina Interfaith Disaster Response

Joint Quarterly Meeting

October 16, 2012

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:53 AM by NCVOAD president George Strunk. He welcomed the North Carolina emergency management people in attendance.

**Introductions:** Introductions were made.

**Update on NCVOAD:** George Strunk reported that the new NCVOAD website, operating on the NVOAD platform was operational. He called attention to the forums and other members-only features that would be available, and the capability for rapid updates. He also reported on the August 25 flood at Roanoke Rapids.

**Treasurer’s Report (NCVOAD):** Gaylon Moss reported balances of $2042.10 in the checking account and $7000.00 in savings for a total of $9042.10.

**Old Business (NCVOAD):** George Strunk stated that the board was reaching out for committee volunteers to staff an IT Committee and a Long-Term Recovery Committee. The latter committee will define NCVOAD’s role in long-term recovery. Gaylon Moss and Cliff Harvel were suggested for this role.

**Update on NCIDR:** Mike Patterson, president of NCIDR, observed that this is the first time the organizations have met at the Emergency Management Conference and encouraged continuation. The NCIDR.org website is now up and operational.

**Treasurer’s Report (NCIDR):** Mike Patterson reported for David Hansley a bank balance of $67,087.63. Of this, $55,974.47 was allocated to UMC congregations in eastern North Carolina. Additional grants were received from Lutheran Family Services of the Carolinas for Irene long-term recovery, and a grant from Thrivent Financial Services for Lutherans.

Mike Patterson observed that the recovery model has changed. Grants from national recovery organizations are now being used for formation of local recovery groups.

**New Business (NCVOAD):** George Strunk requested formation of a Nominating Committee for directors. George Strunk and Larry Marks were appointed.

**New Business (NCIDR):** Mike Patterson reported that NCIDR is out of compliance with its bylaws as posted on the website. The model has changed. Of the local interfaith groups formed for recovery from Hurricane Floyd, some are still active but statewide denominational participation is low. No officer elections have been held in the past few years. Since Floyd, North Carolina has had to address the challenges of Tropical Storm Nicole, the April 16, 2011 tornados, and Hurricane Irene. It has become necessary to re-visit the bylaws.

**Update on NVOAD:** George Strunk mentioned draft operational guidelines were available from NVOAD which include information on formation of long-term recovery groups. He also mentioned changes that are taking place at NVOAD. He would like to hear more about members’ participation in NVOAD and participation in other states.

**FEMA Update:** Lesli Remaly-Netter provided four handouts.

* Affiliated Volunteer Coordination Plan
* Sequence of Response
* State VOAD Agenda Best Practices
* Conference Call Protocol

**NCEM Update:** Doug Hoell reported that he would like to strengthen connections to NCIDR and NCVOAD. He described Operation Hope which coached people on how best to spend recovery money, and the need to help other people. He praised Warren Moore, stating that Warren would bring heart to the task.

Joe Stanton reported that NCEM is developing recovery plans before the next event. He observed that change will take place in Emergency Management in the next 2-3 years and the need to find ways to meet citizens’ needs in disaster.

**Updates from Members:**

Cliff Harvell (UMC) reported that the UMC is working at their four original sites as well as a site at Stumpy Point staffed by World Renewed (formerly Christian Refomed World Relief Committee-CRWRC). 200 homes have been completed. 6-8 are started or being planned. 50 remain on the waiting list. As his group moves to new areas, new cases are being identified. Thus far, over 4000 volunteers from 22 states and 3 Canadian provinces have worked over 80,000 hours. At this time 200 volunteers are active, 130 in Hyde County alone. Volunteers will be needed, especially in the November-January period.

Harold Swinson (Harvest Connection) reported teams still working on the Irene Recovery, currently from Chocowinity. They are considering a base in Elm City, Tyrell County. He is coordinating with Cliff Harvell. Harold has found that most of the damage due to Hurricane Irene is inland, not at the coast. Harvest Connection is also working on 100 homes damaged by flooding in Roanoke Rapids.

Warren Moore was about to speak at 10:30 a.m. when Gaylon Moss called for the Orders of the Day, a parliamentary procedure requiring compliance to times listed on the agenda. George Strunk declared the meeting recessed in order to meet with emergency managers who might attend.

The meeting resumed several minutes later.

Jennie Latour (ARC) discussed the National Mass Care Strategy., available for download from the NVOAD website. This strategy is important for the whole community, not just a few organizations. Major goals are:

1. Build scalability – small to large
2. Create and foster improved communication
3. Engage the whole community
4. Standardize mass care practices
5. Strengthen legal and policy foundations

She encouraged better planning and participation in exercises. Mike Patterson, who serves on the National Mass Care Committee and is the chair-elect, observed that this is a deliberate effort to reach out to organizations.

Warren Moore (NCEM) discussed his clients at Roanoke Rapids, a consequence of the August 25, 2012 rain and floods affecting Roanoke Rapids and Northampton County. SBA loans are available and there has been a state declaration. Thus far there have been 200 applicants: 100 with real property damage and 100 with loss of personal property. 4 clients need additional assistance. Volunteer labor is needed. Damage includes HVAC and duct work and repair for inside water damage. The application period has been extended through November 6.

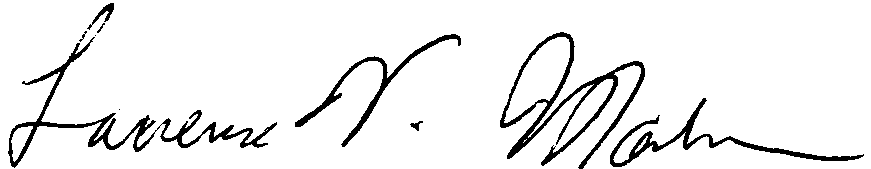
**Recovery Models:** There was a brief discussion on the three recovery organization models.

* Long-Term Recovery Committee (LTRC), with minimal organization
* Long-Term Recovery Organization (LTRO) or Interfaith Disaster Recovery (IDR), a more structured format
* Community Coalition, an inter-organizational collaborative effort

Cliff Harvell observed that the most successful organizations have a designated role in the Emergency Manager’s plan and serve another role in times when there is no active disaster. A prolonged discussion ensued regarding the levels of organization needed in response and recovery between the state and the individual client. It became apparent that the agenda of the next quarterly meeting should be to reach an agreement regarding the levels of organization of Voluntary Organizations within the state and there should be another combined meeting to do so.

**Time/Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held January 15, 2013. The site was tentatively set for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Raleigh. Meeting times will be set later pending a decision whether to again meet jointly.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurence V. Marks

NCVOAD Vice-President

NCIDR Delegate