# NCVOAD Large Logo

# Annual Meeting

## January 17, 2017

## Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:06. President Ann Huffman thanked attendees “for all you do:” providing hope and cleaning houses so people can move back in. “We can’t do what we do without you.”

## President’s Message

Ann stated that there are several things we are working on. Cleanup is not quite finished. We will need help for years. We are beginning to do case management. UMCOR is providing a training instructor, Christy Smith. The first two days are case management. The second day concentrates on case presentation: what to have and how to present it. The third day is for the audience, those who hear cases—leaders and unmet needs committees. LTRGs are invited to join our conference calls held Thursday mornings at 11 am at 800-320-4330, passcode 992589. NC VOAD is here to support you.

## Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

## Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s Report is attached.

## Old Business

Larry Marks reported that a bylaws update concerning broadening the categories of admissible IRS-exempt organizations was still under study, awaiting attorney advice.

## New Business

**NCEM Review of Hurricane Matthew and Tropical Storm Julia.** Phil Triplett reported that there are a few applicants left in Bertie County due to TS Julia: four left to review and one on appeal. They are trying to distinguish Julia from Matthew. Some appear to have received double assistance. They are trying to resolve this. NCEM is now visiting other LTRGs and working on Transitional Shelter Allowance (TSA), trying to get people out of hotels. They have groups working directly with applicants. Bertie County residents are frustrated that recovery is taking too much time. Only three state agents and reservists are working. The effort is starting to wrap up.

**FEMA Report.** Faye Stone reported that there have been 79,733 registrations for Hurricane Matthew assistance. $90.1 million has been disbursed including 142 max grants. There are 1300 families in TSA motels. 23 Mobile Home Units have been licensed in Edgecombe, Robeson, and Wayne counties. The FEMA registration period expires next Monday at 11:59 pm.

Ann Huffman asked whether anyone had updates on the Disaster Case Management Plan. There were no responses.

**Nominating Committee Report.** President Ann Huffman presented the report of the Nominating Committee and called for additional nominations. There were none and the slate of the Nominating Committee, Daniel Altenau, Ken Anderson, and John Robinson, were approved unanimously.

## Organizational Reports

Organizations were asked to deliver written reports and submit the written copies which are attached.

## LTRG-Related Topics

**How Long-Term Recovery Works.** Cliff Harvell, United Methodist Church Disaster Recovery Superintendent, reported that LTRGs need to establish long-term volunteer centers. They should “do it right” so volunteers come back. Volunteer centers should include housing, beds, a kitchen, a space for fellowship, a shower, and a well-organized place to work. As the situation moves from response to recovery, good leadership is needed. It could be a volunteer or a staff hire. Also needed are a site manager, a case manager, and a construction manager. The case manager needs disaster case management training.

Different organizations set different qualifications for assistance. When casework begins, LTRGs must determine home ownership, whether the home is uninsured or underinsured, and whether the people are unable to recover on their own.

After case management qualification is done and a construction estimate is available, LTRGs must determine whether the client is underinsured or uninsured and develop a case management plan. LTRGs must deal with mitigation, buyouts, and inspections. Be sure to work with the county representatives.

LTRGs must deal with volunteers—UMC will work with anyone. When working with volunteers with diverse skill levels, a good construction manager is needed.

Some homes will have pre-existing conditions. These should be repaired too. Cliff gave the example of putting a new floor in a home and preserving it by fixing the roof which was leaking prior to the disaster event. LTRGs must identify funding resources. Families are receiving less than their needs. Cliff cautioned that recovery will be a long haul and LTRGs should recruit good volunteers. He recommended preparing for youth teams in the summer. The organization should be set up right in the beginning for successful recovery.

Bill Martin, NC Baptist Men, stated that their organization was similar to the UMC organization model; the principles are the same. They are currently working in Windsor, Warsaw, Black River, and Lumberton. They expect to be in Lumberton 2-3 years. They are still doing some cleanup and tearout work.

Cliff mentioned his experience with Hurricane Irene and stated that LTRGs can expect to see clients coming in for the first time as much as a year after the event, when they realize they are unable to recover on their own and need assistance.

**Sources of Long-Term Recovery Funding.** John Robinson introduced himself. He was formerly the lead for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and is now associated with New Hope Presbytery. His early disaster experience included the 1984 tornadoes; many homes were destroyed and there were 66 deaths. His group was responsible for rebuilding and repairing 55 homes and added $350,000 value. The Raleigh homebuilders donated 18 completed homes and 18 packages. The complete slide presentation covered various sources of funding and how to approach them. It will be included, with notes, in the attachments.

## Announcements

LTRG conference calls will be held Thursday mornings at 11 am, at 800-320-4330, passcode 992589. The spring quarterly NC VOAD meeting will be held April 18, 2017.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Marks

Secretary

NC VOAD