

Tennessee Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster  
General Membership Meeting : March 3, 2023

- Call to order: David Sledge, Former President, Communications Officer
- Roll Call:
  - David Sledge-TN American Legion and Civil Air Patrol, Joyce Washington-NWTN Development, Vickie Trice-TN Dept Commerce and Insurance, Ed Ford, Howard Jones, Michael Creasy-West TN Legal Services, Don Sowers-Volunteer TN and TN Tech, Matthew Flood-West TN Legal, Jose Galvan-Jehovah's Witness, Jeff Lysyczyn-Lutheran Disaster, Jenyfer Lindahl-Hope Animal Assisted Crisis Response, Nelly Perez-HON/Nashville VOAD, Heidi Mariscal-Nashville OEM, Rhonda Haight-ACSDR-GA, Michael Little, Wes Jones-TN Baptists, Gary Ward-Treasurer and Ameriprise Financial, Andrew Day-TN Rangers, Bryan Seaver-TN Rangers, Nick Gowe-Equal Justice Works TN, Dee Ratliff, Scott Haddix, Golden Green-TN Rangers, Kent Trull (???) -TN Rangers, Christopher Warner-TN Rangers
  
- Secretary's Report: Previous minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Finance Report: \$3,176.00 is the current balance. Funds have been approved and committed for NVOAD Conference and the USPS Box Office.
  
- Spotlight or Guest Speaker(s)
  - Tennessee Rangers - Colonel Bryan Seaver, Commander, 1st Volunteer Tennessee Ranger Squadron: Chainsaw expertise and heavy equipment, search and rescue, food preparation. Most of the membership is diverse but highly populated by former military. The ability to deploy quickly. First response in multiple kinds of disaster response efforts. First in and short-term response.
  - Learn more about and get in touch with the Tennessee Rangers at [www.tennesseeangers.org](http://www.tennesseeangers.org), via email at [Contact@tennesseerangers.org](mailto:Contact@tennesseerangers.org), or through Facebook page.

Committee Reports ( *all TN VOAD committees*)

Communications Officer - David Sledge: information about the website and possible training on how to navigate the site.

TN VOAD Workshops Committee—the Spring workshop will be rescheduled for the Fall, and that workshop will be a weekend event. The rescheduling is due to weather events and a conflict with the Williamson County OEM.

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Membership Update Reports

County/Regional VOADs: Nashville Metro VOAD-4 cases remaining open from December 2020 tornado, focused on preparedness including presentations and a March social media campaign including billboards and a new LinkedIn page, LTR bylaws are being approved. Joyce Washington—NWTN Development District (Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Gibson, Obion, Weakley, Dyer, Lake, Henry Counties)

Member Organizations:

American Legion-ongoing buddy program: Civil Air Patrol-monthly exercises and a donation to the train derailment in Ohio: Adventists disaster response helping in Georgia counties with LTRG formation and donations management: Hands on Nashville-offering community awareness, mental wellness, and volunteer training: Hope Animal Crisis Response—Workshop in October and another this spring; worked with Coast Guard and Kentucky police: Lutheran Disaster Services—volunteer groups for Waverly, Crisis Cleanup, S&E Care focus, and financial support in multiple LTRGs-TN Baptists-rebuilding in Kentucky, responding in Alabama, Turkey and Syria supplies, support police and fire in Memphis; LDS-ready to serve, Volunteer Tennessee-TEMA course in September 12-13 for Volunteer and Donation Management. The link is:  
<https://www.tn.gov/tema/emergency-community/training/training-calendar/2023/9/12/g288--local-volunteer-and-donations-management.html>

New Business: State airshow-TNVOAD will host the concessions for fund raising. The rescheduled Fall workshop will be a weekend event.

What is the most difficult thing initiating response? Communication and Coordination. This led to an in-depth discussion about communication processes between VOAD partners and Offices of Emergency Management.

Adjournment

Recorded and submitted by:

Robert Craig, Secretary TNVOAD