

COAD GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

Date of Meeting: September 10, 2025

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: Kansas City Emergency Management: 635 Woodland Ave., KCMO 64106

Hybrid on Webex

Featured Presenter: John Mathews, Red Cross

In-Person Attendance:

1. Emma Boyd
2. Aly Breeze
3. Gloria Brandenburg
4. Chris Carroll
5. John Ezell
6. Dante Gliniecki
7. William Hawkins
8. Lorie Snyder
9. Beth Hill
10. Heather Patel

On-Line Attendance

11. Jennifer L'Heureux
12. John Mathews
13. Richard Brummitt
14. Aly Breeze
15. Stephanie Norton
16. Wenne Tarama
17. Carol Ayres

18. Bary Kramer
19. Bob Potemski
20. Ray Opry
21. Scott Burdin
22. Carter Goetz
23. Carl Hopkins
24. Joel Jones
25. John Boling
26. Jamie Placht
27. JD VanWay
28. John Callahan
29. Brian Shapley
30. Maddy Langemach
31. Amanda Prough
32. Miranda Brinker
33. Greg Topping
34. Call-in User_2
35. Dante Gliniecki
36. Call-in User _1
37. Rob Cole
38. Zachary Thorp

Meeting Procession

- A call to order was had at 1:05 p.m.
- Welcome and brief introductions occurred
- I (Jennifer) made some brief announcements:
 - The COAD was a co-sponsor of the Kansas City Memorial Stair Climb that took place on September 7th.
 - The COAD has partnered with a nonprofit called “Tunnels to Towers” that supports 9-11, Never Forget and their families. On September 28th, there will be a Zoom webinar presentation on 9-11 and the organization. John Henshaw who was nominated by then President, George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the Assistant Secretary of Labor for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, is the featured speaker.
- Minutes were distributed, vote taken, and adopted w/o changes. Lorie Snyder motioned to accept and Wenne Tarama seconded the motion.
- The focus this month was on it being “National Disaster Preparedness Month” and the 24th anniversary of 9/11.

John Mathews, Red Cross gave a presentation about his service in 911. Q/A followed that presentation.

- The following individual committee report-outs occurred:
 - Long-Term Recovery
Chair, Greg Topping had to leave the meeting early, so I (Jennifer) provided his update which was as follows: There is ongoing work to build partnerships to expand capacity, continuous work with mission analyses with emphasis on the identification of capacity gaps. The MARC was a great learning experience for the team. The church ministry that he is a part of helped 6 families be completely restored, once they moved into new homes they furnished their homes, some only a couple pieces others full house holds.

Thank you to the Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief for jumping in and helping the older lady who came in after the MARC. He has started to work on, modify and update the long-term plan for the long-term recovery. He wants to set a monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday at 2pm, every month if possible (those have now been scheduled). There will be a catch-up meeting on Sept 30th.

- Mass Care

Chairs, John Ezell and Emma Boyd. John gave the report out and talked about the committee's meetings, activities, and the ongoing focus on MRPs. More specifically, he has also connected with Stephanie Norton about Mass Care as it pertains to Pet Sheltering. He has also connected with Bob Potemski at KSART. John advised that he is combining Mass Care and Health/Medical meetings moving forward. Recruitment of new members is continuous. The committee participated in the calls with Olathe and a possible third COAD activation.

- Health and Medical

Chair, John Ezell provided a report-out about the committee's meetings, MRPs, and training opportunities. As stated above, Health and Medical meetings are being combined with Mass Care.

- Behavioral Health

Chairs, Bary Kramer and Josette Mitchell. Bary advised they continue to meet every other month and focus on Disaster Mental Health. Bary has been acquiring documents pertaining to behavioral health in disasters for the resource library.

- Planning, Training, and Exercise Operations

Chair, Dan Reece. I showed Dan's slide show which documented his committee work. Dan additionally is working on a Multi-Agency Resource Center Simulation exercise. He was an active part of the possible third activation for the COAD and attended the meetings. As previously stated, the COAD wound up not being needed.

- Donations Management

Chair, Karen Whitson and Chair of Financial Management is Todd Jordan. Karen presented a slide show at the last MEMC on the process of donations management with emphasis on specific disaster responding.

- Volunteer Management

Jennifer L'Heureux, Chair. Work continues on the plan for how to best match volunteers with specific skillsets to certain roles. Discussed the process for volunteer recruitment. Background checks of volunteers can now be completed through a new system institutionalized by the COAD via Choice Screenings. We can do checks and customize them to include whatever we need be it driving records, criminal background, etc. Meetings continue as scheduled.

We had 5 projects listed in the 2025 Strategic Plan

1. Develop a plan for managing volunteers to include assigning duties, determination of skills, etc. (This has been completed).
2. Recruitment process and screening of volunteers. (There is a process in place and we can screen volunteers via Choice Screening).
3. System for unaffiliated volunteers. (This is an area that we continue to work on).
4. Training and educational protocols. (Also an area that is continuing to be worked on).

5. Protocols for regular monitoring of volunteer's actions. (This is in place).

- Children in Disasters

Jennifer L'Heureux, Chair. We meet the 4th Monday of each month at 9. We have met once since this is a new committee and continue to recruit members and discuss goals.

- AFN or Access and Functional Needs

Jennifer L'Heureux, Chair. We meet the 2nd Friday of each month at 9. The former Americorps SPICE Project is now a part of this committee and we have taken on senior preparedness. We are giving a presentation at Messiah Lutheran Church in Independence on senior preparedness. We have thus far met once as this is also a new committee.

- Some additional announcements and updates were made:
 - The COAD will soon have t-shirts so that we are easily identifiable at events and disasters.
 - A dedicated phone and PO BOX for the COAD are being pursued so that it does not change as leadership changes occur.
- The next COAD General Membership Meeting is on November 12th at 1:30. Focus will be on Emergency Management and Severe Winter Weather Season.
- Meeting was adjourned and recording stopped.