

WAVOAD General Meeting

October 7, 2025

Meeting led by Kathy Bryson, WA-VOAD President, UMCOR PNW United Methodist Disaster Response

In Attendance

*Kathy Bryson – UMCOR/PNW United Methodist Church Disaster Response - WaVOAD President	*Christie Merrill – Red Cross – WaVOAD Vice President
*Ray Shjerven - SWWA ELCA - WaVOAD Treasurer	Forrest Wilkinson – Brethren Disaster Ministries
*Larry Mays - Adventist Community Services	Shannon Glenn- American Red Cross
Cherie Carey - Thurston County Emergency Management	Tyler Verda - Snohomish County Human Services
Jay DeBoer - World Renew	Angela Herron- Foursquare disaster relief
Lisa Arellano- The Salvation Army	Her Kait Seet - Tzu Chi Foundation
*Jim Cooper- United Ways of the Pacific Northwest- WAVOAD Secretary	Chandler Honeyman- Washington State Guard
Taylor Deitz- Washington Emergency Management Division	Stephen Hueffed- State EMD PA/FMAG (attending as ESF6)
Gary Floyd- NW Baptist Disaster Relief	Susan Pniewski- WA Emergency Management Division
Paul Love - Dept. of Ecology/WA Conservation Corps	
*James Mahon- Churches of Scientology Disaster Response/ WAVOAD At Large	*Andrew Chadwick- Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle/ WAVOAD At- Large
Teresa Garrett Hill- Thurston County Disaster Assistance Response Team	Christa Seiwert- Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition
Zach Gifford- WA Emergency Management Division	Pei-Feng Tsai- Tzu Chi Foundation
Po-Chen Yang- Tzu Chi Foundation	Leland Yates- Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle/SAFE WA

Meeting called to order by Kathy Bryson for October 7, 2025, at 10:03am

Kathy asked the WAVOAD leadership team to introduce themselves. Taylor and Zach introduced themselves and the facility. Introductions went around the table.

Minutes Review

The corrected minutes from August 5 , 2025 minutes as corrected. Ray made the motion, & Christie seconded, passed unanimously.

Financial Review

Ray Shjerven shared following review of the financials:

Beginning Balance

Operational Checking		\$ 12,346.21
	Dues X 2	\$ 300.00
	SOS filing	\$ (20.00)

Camp Murray	Lunch	\$ (655.16)
New balance		\$ 11,971.05
Beginning Balance		
segregated savings		\$ 5,156.67
	Aug int	\$ 1.31
	Sept int	\$ 1.27
New Balance		\$ 5,159.25

Questions were asked and answered. Her Kat moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Andrew Chadwick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Report: Kathy Bryson

- NVOAD Announcements
 - NVOAD description and new Grant Alert newsletter every two weeks with funding sources for VOAD organizations.
 - NVOAD May 4-7 Reno, NV- we will send President and Vice, maybe others.
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- Leadership Positions Open- Elections in December for Vice President (member orgs only) and Member at Large (partner or member organizations. Email wavoadinfo@gmail.com by October 31.
- Dec 2 next virtual meeting
- Invite to email us or visit WAVOAD website at wavoad.org

Report Outs:

Long term Recovery Updates:

- Kathy on behalf of Terri Cooper- Spokane Region Long Term Recovery- 41 active cases. Working on 7 home builds, a tiny home and a temp home. Received UMCOR Disaster case management training and funding. Funding for three case managers. Continues outreach to impacted communities through meet and greets and Spokane County LTRG. Weekly meetings resumed in sept. Unmet needs roundtable resumed October 2. Christian public service and Mennonite disaster services completed 8 homes, new national team arriving soon.
- Berdoin wildfire- Coalescing into LTRG and ID'ed someone to start disaster case management training.
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Member Report Outs:

- **Red Cross:** not at busy of year as anticipated. New shelter for Labor Mtn Fire- Cle Ellum. Working to have volunteers on stand by- two week rotations.
- **Lutheran Disaster Response-** working on Oregon, building bridges in W N Carolina- building private bridges with Mennonites. Bridge package to build 400, doing about 1 per month.

- **Adventist Community Services:** working with Crow nation in Montana- recovering from wind storm. FEMA new program- PHC Private Home Construction- building 700 homes but not taking care of displacement cost. Need a well- Larry procured a grant to pay for a well. Need clean up teams for debris removal. Sovereign nation- make sure permission and residents know that exists.
- **Scientology Volunteer Ministers-** Doing Drive for Mary's Place and Food Bank on Queene Anne. Ongoing LTR in LA, and Helene in FL.
- **Jewish Federation-** doing preparedness trainings- i.e. active shooters. Trainings for Jewish and other communities.
- **Church of the Brethren-** Active projects in KY and W N Carolina. Children's Disaster Services- trains teams to do childcare while parents do IA paperwork, or the like. Training sessions available.
- **Zui Chi-** Distributing hot foods to three different tiny homes in Seattle. CA- HQ in LA, regional office in San Francisco. Taiwan typhoons, where HQ is.
- **World Renew-** works with long term recovery. IN FL, NC, VT working with LTRG- need assessment, construction, construction teams.
- **NW Baptist Convention-** 500 congregations- relates with S Baptist as well. Disaster Ready Church- All Disasters Are Local- engaging congregations to prepare, connect, respond. Mass Care Feeding and Wildfire Recovery. Working in Columbia Gorge. Southern CA- Personal Property Recovery. Chainsaw teams. Listen got Baptist Trainings and know you are welcome to attend. Everyone needs a partner!
- **UMCOR-** \$300k recovery grant for Spokane Region- for three disaster case managers and unmet needs round table. Berdoin- disaster case mgt training in partnership with Oregon. Connecting Neighbors Training- Edmonds, Oct 18. Response Team Training Oct 25. Nationally active- NC, GA.
- **PEPSI (check)** 8% of pierce county working on partners.
- **WA OEM-** Looking at FIFA World Cup Mass Care Planning- for games AND Fan Zones- June/ July 26. State IA not fully funded- trying to get funded through legislature- decision pkg to Governor. HB 1201 Emergency Pet Shelter Accommodation- Local Jurisdictions must plan for pets. Work With ESF-11 that coordinates on pets and livestock. No federal \$ or SBA for summer fires, Berdoin still being assessed for business interruption. Also looking at SBA for Labor MTN and Sugar Loaf. SBA Econ Individual Loans for white river bridge.
- **Thurston County-** Shelter planning with community. Had Large Animal response shelter at fairgrounds. Has County COAD- with new leadership team looking to connect to State based groups.
- **Snohomish County-** Gearing up for cold weather shelters (38 degrees or below). Feeding planning with partners. Align draft plan with feeding plan for Puget sound region. Pod training for food banks, EM's and faith communities. Bi monthly meeting- SNO-CO COAD looking for voluntary orgs. After Action on IA- 6 households in nontypical housing- mobile homes or trailers as residence- cyclone took home and they got a bill for debris removal. Need to align plan for taking care of pets.
- **WA Dept of Military-** looking for alignment and new partners.
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Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 10am- Virtual

Meeting adjourned by Kathy Bryson at 11:13 am.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Cooper, WaVOAD secretary