

WAVOAD General Meeting

April 7, 2026

Meeting led by Christie Merrill, WA-VOAD President, Red Cross

In Attendance - 52 participants (Zoom), ____ In Person

Christie Merrill – Red Cross – WAVOAD President
Ray Shjerven - SWWA ELCA - WAVOAD Treasurer
Jim Cooper- United Ways of the Pacific Northwest- WAVOAD Vice-President
Brian Brozovic, Operation BBQ Relief – WAVOAD Acting Secretary
Kathy Bryson – UMCOR/PNW United Methodist Church Disaster Response - WAVOAD Past President
Marty Grisham, Latter-Day Saints Charities
Scott O’Connell, Regional Disaster Officer, Red Cross
Forrest Wilkinson – Brethren Disaster Ministries
Everet Sterling
Christa Seiwert- Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition
Elizabeth Gadbois, San Juan Islands Prepare
Andy Royce, Mennonite Disaster Services
Jordan Boustead, Medical Teams International
Dana Bryson
Brian Baer – The Elevated Studio
Eric Williams – Second Harvest Inland NW
Eva Escape – WA EMD
Michael Ervick – Paradise Valley Community Association
Tyler Verda – Snohomish Co. Human Services
Jill Watson – Seattle Human Services Dept
Kyle Christensen
Po-Chen Yang – Tzu Chi Foundation
Mandy Bursley, WA State EMD PAC
Andrea Wingo
Wyatt Godfrey - DEM
Deidre Fuchs
Dave Halloran
Susan Gustafson, United Way of Snohomish County
S. Davis - FCEM
A. Richards
Dana Roberts, EM Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Maggie Coit (Team Rubicon)
Brendan McCluskey
Pend Oreille Emergency Management
Steve Bonner FCEM
Dean Sydnor (he/him) RARET Program Supervisor, Hopelink Mobility
Leila Bettys
Heidi Clark
Andrew Chadick
Sarah Rawlins
Jeff Choke
Larry Hembree
Dave Golding, Aberdeen Fire Department

Ethan Walker
Terra Anderson
Deanna Davis, Benton County Emergency Management
Cindy Dickinson, Clark County
Clint Davis- Chehalis Tribal Emergency Manager
Cherie Carey- Thurston County EM
A. Sellars
(unknown) "BDM-CDS"
(unknown) "A Dos Santos"
(unknown) ""

Meeting called to order by Christie Merrill for April 7, 2026, at 10:00 AM. Meeting held at Red Cross offices and on Zoom.

Introduction of Leadership

Minutes Review

Approval of April 2026 Meeting minutes. Ray made the motion, Jay seconded, & passed unanimously.

Financial Review

Ray Shjerven shared the following review of the financials:

Reported ending balance of \$13,264 in checking and \$5,165 in segregated savings.

Listed expenses include Zoom renewal, Secretary of State filing, and lunch after bank document signing

President's Report

Christie Merrill discussed using the segregated savings fund for WASEMA conference table fee.

Marty Grisham made motion to participate in WASEMA conference with open-ended fee approval, Jim Cooper seconded the motion. Motion passed to use segregated savings for WASEMA conference participation.

Discussed National VOAD Conference for May in Reno and scholarships.

After Action Review

The Washington VOAD held an after-action review meeting to evaluate the organization's response to the December 2025 floods that affected multiple counties across the state. The meeting, facilitated by Scott O'Connell from the American Red Cross, included both in-person and virtual participants discussing what went well during the response, including VOAD's presence in state and county EOCs, establishment of disaster assistance centers, and effective coordination between member organizations. Key areas identified for improvement included communication processes between VOAD and county emergency managers, data sharing systems for tracking unmet needs, and better coordination of volunteer resources, particularly for crisis cleanup and muck-out operations. The

discussion also covered future preparedness needs, including potential tabletop exercises to better understand member organizations' capabilities, exploration of partnerships with Crisis Connections 211, and the importance of maintaining ongoing communication between VOAD and emergency management partners beyond the immediate response phase.

A complete after-action review report with recommendations will be submitted by Scott within a few weeks.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 10am Seattle Red Cross - Hybrid In Person/Virtual

Meeting adjourned by Christie Merrill at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Brozovic, WaVOAD Acting Secretary