

August 8, 2007  
VOAD Meeting  
Independence Distribution Center  
(old Dillon's Building)

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 by County VOAD Coordinator, Phil Adams. Prayer was offered by John Collins, president of the Coffeyville Ministerial Alliance. There were approximately three dozen people in attendance.

At the last meeting, there was some discussion about the need for a Long Term Recovery Committee for Montgomery County in order to receive additional resources from the larger church organizations and other large entities.

Phil mentioned that Joe Palmer from Coffeyville had volunteered to be the VOAD Coordinator from Coffeyville and so he should be added to the resource contact list in that position. His number at the stadium in Coffeyville is 620-252-6030. Phil is still looking for a permanent VOAD Coordinator for Independence.

The communities are now judged to be in a transition period. Many of the volunteer agencies are now leaving. And it is necessary to form a Long Term Recovery Committee with an executive committee. Phil has chosen the executive committee from the most active group in each community. The Long Term Disaster Recovery Committee is needed to enable the communities to receive aid from large organizations who want to work with such a committee rather than a smaller entity. After Phil committed to forming such a committee, Church World Service has now contacted him about large quantities of supplies that they are sending.

Phil Adams is meeting this afternoon with people from Neodesha who need to set up a Long Term Recovery Committee as well.

Phil distributed a list for signatures of those who would like to be involved in serving on such a committee. Those he has chosen as an executive committee are:

Jack Gregory	Independence First United Methodist Church
Terry Hatfield	Independence First Christian Church
John Collins .	Coffeyville First United Methodist Church
Wayne Norton	Coffeyville First Baptist Church
Russell Anderson	Cherryvale First United Methodist Church
Phil Adams	Independence Church of the Brethren

It was announced that the supplies at the stadium in Coffeyville would soon have to be moved since school is starting and that building will need to be relinquished. Also Jo Falkner of Coffeyville announced the lease on the building housing the Here's Help Distribution Center in Coffeyville is about to be ended as well in September and that group will need a place to house their clothing, food and furniture. Independence has their distribution center for three more months and an option for another nine months. So that is a place supplies could be stored until more space for Coffeyville can be obtained.

There is a need for a central list of resources to be made and distributed so flood victims will know where to go for their needed supplies, furniture and clothing. Jerry Eden of the Salvation Army announced the Salvation Army was providing vouchers for new shoes for school aged children of flood victims. The Church of Christ in Coffeyville is still giving away new appliances.

Four County Mental health in Independence is working with the group as case workers to help flood victims find all the resources available to them. The Independence Distribution Center has all their agencies under one roof and that is helpful in reaching resources.

Carolyn Dye of the Southeast Kansas Agency on Aging is assisting elderly flood victims with all sorts of services including legal assistance. FEMA will try to work with them for names if they can get signed releases for that information.

Richard Bockover, from Kansas Food Bank announced he still has four pallets of pantry packs which can be accessed by organizations that may need them. He has wool blankets, bleach, water and clean-up buckets. He cannot

give these out to individuals but can dispense them to any organization that may want them to be distributed to flood victims.

Marilyn Patel, who works with the Crisis Resource Center, announced that she can do children's advocacy, domestic violence counseling, clothing and children's books.

The group will meet again in two weeks, on August 22 at 10:00 at the First United Methodist Church in Cherryvale, Kansas at the corner of West 3<sup>rd</sup> and Labette.

The meeting adjourned.

Margie Miller  
County wide VOAD secretary