

September DEVOAD Meeting Minutes 22, 2025

The Meeting was called to Order by Secretary Brandon Olenik in the absence of Chairman Rich Walton and Vice Chairman Chad Robinson at 2:01 PM.

A Roll Call of Member Organizations was conducted.

Present:

Amateur Radio Relay League	Team Rubicon	CSO Inc.	Food Bank DE
Lions Club	Rotary	St. Vincent De Paul	Red Cross

Absent:

Salvation Army	UD Extension	World Renew
Methodist Church – Peninsula Delaware Conf	Operation BBQ Relief	

There were eight members of the organization present; five were absent. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were reviewed, and a motion to approve was made by Chad Robinson, seconded by Sarah Carter. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The beginning-of-the-year balance was \$25,542—current balance of \$20,619. \$1,000 of the money that was expected to be distributed did not go out because not all the scholarships were used. There are still some outstanding membership invoices. If you would like to remain a DEVOAD member, please remit your invoice. Motion by Larry Sullivan to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Char Robinson. Motion passed.

Member Updates

Marty Brett provided a detailed examination of the DEVOAD website. Marty showed how to access numerous resources, documents, and previous meeting materials. The calendar was also discussed.

Marty continued discussing Amateur Radio updates. They continue to work out of DEMA as construction progresses. There will be a simulated emergency test on October 4th.

Lynne Betts discussed St. Vincent de Paul's footprint in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. She explained that they are looking to train several members in disaster recovery.

Neil Ross discussed the seasonal briefings offered by the Red Cross.

Muriel Allaband discussed the State's Feeding Plan and how it is in Final Draft. They are looking to finalize it after a committee meeting later in October. They are also reviewing capabilities for the medical component of shelters.

Larry Sullivan spoke about continued renovations at the Commodore Center. They are about 90% complete. Larry mentioned that he has retired at managing director but will continue to be the liaison for DEVOAD.

Tim Cooper from the Sussex County EMA reported that Brandy Nauman will start joining the meeting as a representative from organizations in Sussex. Tim also reported that they continue to engage in significant community outreach and anticipate finalizing their EOP soon.

New Castle County EMA will be hiring a new planner and will be conducting interviews on October 1. More to follow.

Willie Patrick for Wilmington EMA reported that they have launched a new app called Ready Wilmington. It is available in the Apple and Google app stores. They are able to share the same information electronically that they share at community outreach events.

Brandon Olenik provided an update on Kent County. Staff recently completed the Delaware Family Emergency Preparedness Day event on September 13. It was well attended by the public. Thank you to the agencies that supported that event. He welcomed Matthew Sacks to the group. Matthew is the new EM Specialist for Kent County.

Brian Pollock provided an update for DEMA. Upcoming training is posted on the DEMA website. Several new positions have been filled as people are shifted around.

Marty Brett provided updates on the upcoming Mid-Atlantic VOAD Conference. Discussion about classes and scholarships was presented.

Reverend Walton joined the meeting.

New Business

Reverend Walton discussed the upcoming nominations and elections for DEVOAD positions. All positions will be opened. If you are interested, please consider nominating yourself.

Reverend Walton discussed an upcoming National VOAD meeting he will be attending in Lancaster at the end of October.

There was no other new business

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon Olenik

Secretary

Attendance:

Brandon Olenik, Marty Brett, Neil Ross, Heather Fox, Ryan Agan, Muriel Allaband, Lynne Betts, Matthew Sacks, Larry Sullivan. Tim Cooper, Sarah Carter. Theresa Young. Brian Pollock, Rich Walton, Chad Robinson, Willie Patrick, Chantal Garrison, Mindy Christine, Amy Eden, Brandy Nauman, Chris Hodgden, Sydney Dick, Tami Golt, Patricia Heineman, Lorri Wall, Tony Lee, Kate Rohrer, Laura Stimel