

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 13 May 2025

The meeting was brought to order at 10:05 by Ray Parkhurst

Members and Guests in attendance:

Becker, Lori	Henderson, Kayla	Moore, Don
Brown, Corry	Hively, Kendra	Parkhurst, Ray
Bruno, Frank	Howell, Charlie	Perry, Karissa
Buckles, Yolanda	Jackson, Tom	Sokol, Daniel
Coleman, Evelyn	Lovatt, Jessica	Trent, Maria
Fredette, Michelle	Martinez, Ed	Williams, Chris
Greenberg, Warren	Mecham, Clint	Winhoven, Holly

Mr. Ray Parkhurst opened the meeting at 10:05 AM

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Ms. Corry Brown provided an update on the Volusia County Ready Response Corps. The registration is more thorough and complete by using the county’s registration process. The website for information and signup link is <https://www.volusia.org/vrrc> . Ms. Brown talked about the open house and registration event to take place on June 5th from 4pm to 6pm. Registration is for the individual not a company. There is a background check involved. Ms. Brown spoke to online orientation, training and t-shirts for this endeavor.

Mr. Clint Mecham, the Volusia County Emergency Management Director, gave us a recap of the 2024 hurricane season and an update for the 2025 Hurricane Season. For 2025, predicted 17 named storms this year, 9 hurricanes, 4 will be major. Florida will have a 92% chance of being hit by a hurricane. We are transitioning from a La Nina pattern to an ENSO (El Nino Southern Oscillation) pattern. What it means for us is that we are expecting more storms to come at us from the Atlantic rather than the Gulf. VCEM has been doing a lot of preparation for the season, including training, sandbags, EOC roles and damage assessment. The Florida Senate has passed Senate Bill 180 the Robust Hurricane Relief, Recovery, and Response Legislation. It has lots of new requirements for county emergency management.

Mr. Frank Bruno reminded us that June 1 is the start of the hurricane season. There will be no Hurricane Expo this year. We are committed to doing a hurricane expo in 2026 before the hurricane season.

Ms. Jessica Lovatt presented a new idea for a Shelter Trailer. We are looking to create 4 trailers to be stored in the 4 quadrants of the county. The trailers would contain blankets, disposable pillows, non-slip socks, unisex pull-on shorts and unisex t-shirts. The cost is approximately \$25,000 per trailer and we intend the cost to be covered through sponsorships.

Ms. Kayla Henderson reported that VIND currently has a case manager/intake specialist, a volunteer coordinator and a program coordinator. VIND has 1 roof that is being vetted for Hurricane Ian and continues working on calling the FEMA registrations for Hurricane Ian.

Mr. Chris Williams says we have a long-term recovery plan that was passed by the county council and submitted to HUD \$100 million for infrastructure.

Ms. Lori Becker talked about the Volusia County Women Who Care. They have a lot of funding, and she is considering dropping Volusia COAD in the hat for trailer funding.

Ms. Evelyn Coleman is creating an alliance of churches to help during a disaster.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Submitted 06/9/2025

Charlie Howell

Secretary