

NORCAL VOAD MINUTES
Thursday, May 7, 2009
Ulatis Community Center
Vacaville, CA 95687

Our meeting this month was not the usual kind of meeting for NORCAL. It was an all day training event with a tabletop exercise in the afternoon. The training was led by Lura Cayton from CWS (Church World Service rep).

- We were welcomed to Vacaville by their Vice Mayor.
- Tessa Shvedoff, our president, gave a short presentation on VOAD
 - What is VOAD?
 - National vs. State VOAD
 - VOAD activities
 - VOAD Responses
 - How to maintain access to National resources
 - NORCAL VOAD accomplishments of this past year
 - How can I get involved?

--Lura Cayton, CWS representative, with the use of a power point, walked us through all the information on forming a LTRO (Long Term Recovery Organization). Some of the areas that she covered were:

- What is it?
- The phases of a disaster
- The goal of recovery
- The partnership with FEMA
- What recovery issues enter in?
- The keys to recovery management
- The physical makeup of a LTRO
- How do you get started?
- All the possible people or partners to include around the table

During lunch, there was a vote on 3 executive committee member seats. Helen Knudsen from the nominating committee stated the nominating committee reviewed the nominations and recommended the slate of Margaret Melsh from Melsh Consulting Services, Brian Regan from American Red Cross, and Charles Varady from Southern Baptists. Helen requested additional nominations from the floor and did not receive any. The slate was approved by the membership.

After our lunch break, there was short time for questions and discussion. This was followed by a hands-on tabletop exercise.

We were served delicious snacks and lunch by the volunteers from the police dept. It was a very profitable day. The fellowship was great and information shared was helpful.

Respectfully submitted by Gert Vos, secretary.

Our next regular meeting will be on August 11, 2009