



Texas Gulf Coast Regional Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

January 21, 2026

General Membership Meeting

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Agenda

0930 – 0940	Welcome	ALL
0940 – 1000	Business Session Bylaws Consensus of Engagement Election of Officers Financial Report	Executive Committee
1000 – 1010	Weather Situation Brief	Riley
1010 – 1045	SWOT and 2026 Goals	ALL
1045 – 1100	Announcements	ALL

Welcome

**If this is your first TGCRVOAD Meeting,
please share your
Name * Organization * Role**

Business Session

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Changes of Bylaws and Consensus of Engagement

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Changes to CoE - New

Makes expectations explicit (not just implied in 2023)

Commits to digital coordination platforms (Aid.Arena)

Sets clear standards for protecting sensitive information

Adds “blue-sky” readiness actions: training, exercises, planning

Strengthens operational accountability: SitReps, check-in/out, structured reporting

Aligns more closely with Emergency Management and VOAD best practices

Adds volunteer credentialing expectations (vetted, deployment-ready personnel)

Changes to CoE - Clarified

Removes outdated admin items (directory/contact-list specifics; AlertMedia references)

Uses platform-agnostic language so it stays current over time

Consolidates nondiscrimination language into one clear statement

Clarifies “no self-deployment” and emphasizes EM-aligned operations

Changes to ByLaws

- Change the name of the Response Coordination Meeting to Collaboration Conference Call (Article V. D);
- Update Committee responsibilities (mostly grammatical changes) (Article VII.C);
- Establish a Volunteer Committee (Article VII.C. 6);
- Change the name of the Steering Committee to the Program Steering Committee;

Changes to ByLaws

Allow a single Member to have up to two members on the Executive Committee;
Add the Chief Meteorologist as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee; and
Change references to Functions in Disaster to refer to our Standard Operating Procedures.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee unanimously recommends these changes and asks the members to consider adoption.

CoE and Bylaw Changes

The proposed changes are before the members

No second necessary

Amendments must be seconded and agreed to

Maker must provide the exact text

Debate until the question is called

The motion to Call the Question must be seconded and agreed to, ending debate

Voting

1. Each Member has one vote
2. Partners do not vote
3. You must be in attendance here or online to vote
4. No proxy voting
5. Quorum is those in attendance

Voting is electronic through the voting app or by unanimous consent if there is no objection.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee unanimously recommends these changes and asks the members to consider adoption.

Election of Officers

Chair, 2026-2028
Secretary, 2026-2028

Election of Officers

- ❑ The Floor is open for nominations
- ❑ Motion to close nominations (must be seconded)

Position and Term

Nominated

Chair, 2026-2028

Gary Flaharty

Secretary, 2026-2028

Melissa Wood

Other Officers not up for election

Vice-Chair 2025-2027

Rashmi Singh

Treasurer 2025-2027

Wayne Beaumeir

Election

❑ Election of Officers:

- *Each Member has one vote*
- *Partners do not vote*
- *You must be in attendance here or online to vote*
- *No proxy voting*
- *Quorum is those in attendance*

- *Voting is electronic through the voting app or*
- *by unanimous consent if there is no opposition or objection.*

Election of Officers

Position and Term

Nominated

Chair, 2026-2028

Gary Flaharty

Secretary, 2026-2028

Melissa Wood

Business Session

Finance

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Weather Situation Brief

Dan Reilly
Chief Meteorologist

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2026 Goal Setting

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Strengths

1. Frequent Activations

Regular activations build experience.

2. Continuous Improvement

Culture of After Action Reviews to drive learning and continuous improvement.

3. Strong Leadership

Skilled leadership team to guide strategy and operations, and a Chief Meteorologist!

4. Trusted Partnerships

Close ties with EMs and community groups enhance collaboration.

5. Adaptability

Systems and teams evolve to meet new challenges.

6. Clear Communication

Regular meetings and digital platforms keep information flowing.

7. Collaborative Culture

Purposeful, solution-focused teamwork.

Weaknesses

Large, Diverse Region

Eight million people across urban and rural areas complicate coordination.

Uneven LTRC Capacity

The strength and leadership of LTRCs varies widely across counties.

Limited Leadership Depth and Committee Work

Few backups for extended or compounding disasters.

Volunteer Gaps

Mobilization and retention of skilled volunteers fail to meet a significant portion of short-term needs

Volunteer Fatigue and Burnout

Repeated activations reduce engagement.

Skilled Volunteer Shortages

Limited capability to rally volunteers with specialized skills (e.g., chainsaw operators)

VOAD-EM Misalignment

Roles and expectations are sometimes unclear.

Opportunities

Stronger EM Relationships

Deepen engagement with local EM across all jurisdictions.

EM Integration

Gain seats in local and regional planning exercises.

Joint Exercises

Partner with EMs and Members to conduct Tabletop Exercises

Leadership Development

Mentor and grow future TGCRVOAD leaders.

Food Coordination

Expand TGCRVOAD's capability to coordinate disaster food distribution locally.

Disaster Case Management (DCM)

Develop the capability to implement some elements of DCM in beginning in the very early weeks of a recovery.

Opportunities

Collaborative Culture

Collaboration is a learned skill that needs to be nurtured in Blue Skies. Strengthen using Aid.Arena.

Membership Growth

Recruit diverse partners to expand capacity and capability; language support.

Funding Influence

Seek a stronger voice in recovery funding priorities.

FEMA Gap

Address gaps created by the FEMA pullback, high declaration thresholds, and shifting priorities.

Threats

Limited Blue-Sky and Preparedness Funding

Blue-sky philanthropy overlooks readiness efforts and keeping nonprofits engaged in short-term recovery healthy.

Funding Gaps

Higher FEMA thresholds; higher GHDA activation thresholds and low levels of giving leave small to medium disasters significantly underfunded.

Funding Recovery

Short-term recovery dependence on capital goods and professional services is increasing (2nd story tarping and removing trees, for example)

Donor Fatigue

Repeated asks for funding reduce enthusiasm and support.

Rising Insurance Costs

Higher insurance premiums increase the overhead of nonprofits.

Member Announcements

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