

Fulton County Long Term Recovery Group

Minutes for July 14th, 2025—10:00 a.m.

A.) Call to Order

Present (Physically): Will Ferguson (Temple Baptist Church); Jessica Sparenberg (Parlin-Ingersoll Public Library); Micah Garnett (Trinity Lutheran Church of Canton); Gayle Blodgett (Spoon River Library District)

Present (Virtually): Chris Helle (Emergency Services Disaster Agency); Sarah Nottle (Salvation Army 360); Tiffany Boehler (IEMA)

B.) Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approved Motion: Hearing no objections, the June 9th, 2025, meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

C.) Public Comments

D.) Communications

Jessica Sparenberg discussed the possibility of a couple of the groups' members conducting a small presentation for the Canton Chapter of the Rotary Club, as well as other social service organizations where this could be done to spread the word about what the Fulton County LTRG aspires to do within the community. Will Ferguson shared that he had been in communication with other area chaplains, in an effort to build a network of community support which would benefit the FCLTRG.

Chirs Helle emphasized the need for businesses, agencies, and groups to receive National Oceanic and Atmosphere alerts (NOAA), in order to have an informed public when natural disasters might be accumulating or during actual crisis. He cited several area camping and fishing grounds which would benefit from these alerts, and suggested that this information be included in any promotional materials for the FCLTRG.

E.) Agenda Items

1.) Finalization of By-laws

Group members took the time to go over the template of By-laws compiled by Gayle Strode Blodgett and Richard Proffer. The following changes to the By-laws were as such:

The statement in Article V, section A., regarding reference to collected dues on the part of members or participating organizations was removed. No annual dues will be collected, as part of membership or participation with the FCLTRG.

Physical mail having to do with the FCLTRG will be received by Sarah Nottle, at the Salvation Army of Canton and Fulton County. All other communications will take place through email, to reduce costs to the group.

The Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development was identified and approved as the Fiscal Agent on behalf of the FCLTRG. They will receive donations or other funds, on behalf of the FCLTRG, and will provide annual reporting, in conjunction with the Treasurer. Funds distributed for disaster relief will be administered through the SRPED, in conjunction with the Executive Officers of the FCLTRG.

Article VIII, the Dissolution Clause, was removed.

Approved Motion: Hearing no objections, the Fulton County Long Term Recovery Group By-laws were approved by unanimous vote. (Motion: C. Helle; Second: M. Garnett)

2.) Reviewing Local Resources

Group members discussed progress in compiling contacts for local agencies and businesses, thus far. Matthew Reymond will resend the spreadsheet containing statewide compiled resources, and Micah Garnett will work on further compiling this content. Other group members will continue to contribute any contact information they may have.

3.) Finalizing Selection of Fiscal Agent

This item was addressed and decided during discussions under Item 1 of this agenda.

4.) Next Steps in Group Formation

Group members discussed the following steps needed to continue in forming the FCLTRG. These include:

Group members identifying community stakeholders for contact information, based on their knowledge and network base, and providing this information to Micah Garnett. Stakeholders can be grouped using Section A: Functional Areas in the FCLTRG By-laws. Once a concrete list of Stakeholders have been compiled, group members will reach out for contact information, and begin conversations about possible partnerships with the FCLTRG.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Attest: _____
Secretary

Date: _____

The next meeting is scheduled for August 11th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Parlin-Ingersoll Public Library Program Room & Virtually via Microsoft Teams.