



# Notes

## November 2020 MNICS Task Force Meeting

11/5/2020 - 0930 – 15:30

**Task Force:** Mike Rice (Acting), William Glesener, Cory Berg, Seth Grimm, Kurt Fogelberg, Roy Holmes,

**Non-Task Force Attendees:** Mike Mackey - MNCC, Leanne Langeberg – Notes, Shelly Serich

**Guests:** Joel Perrington, Travis Verdegan, Donovan Pietruszewski

Discussion Topic	Notes
<p><b>Building / Budget Update</b></p>	<p><b>Building Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Wise and Kevin Carlisle were unable to attend the meeting. Brian submitted a building report to the Task Force on 11/2/2020. Task Force reviewed the report.</li> <li>• The RPZ valve – a backflow preventer valve part of the main water and sprinkler systems - is scheduled to be replaced at the cost of \$1,530 by Rapids Plumbing and Heating.</li> </ul> <p><b>Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All monthly bills for MIFC were included in the budget spreadsheet Shelly sent out to the Task Force on 11/3/2020.</li> <li>• Task Force advised Shelly of two new expenses, a charge for paper and frames for the MNICS Meeting, and a plug-in tool to run script for the MNICS website. Leanne Langeberg will forward the approved EIOR request for the plug-in to Shelly.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MNICS Type 3 Team Application Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasha Woodwick sent an email to the Task Force on 11/4/2020 with information on the current status of MNICS Type 3 Team applications.</li> <li>• She advised a shortage for the ICT3 positions.</li> <li>• There will not be an extension past the 11/15/2020 application deadline.</li> <li>• Task Force reviewed the list of applicants.</li> <li>• Each member of the Task Force will reach out to their agency staff to recruit for shortfalls, especially the ICT3 position.</li> <li>• Task Force intends to fill all three Type 3 IMTs for 2021.</li> <li>• The ICs will meet with the Task Force on 11/30/2020 for team selections.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MNICS Type 3 Teams dedicated Conference Call Line</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A request was made by MN DNR Jeremy Fauskee for all of the MNICS Type 3 IMTs to have a dedicated teleconference line.</li> <li>• MNICS has three teleconference lines through Webex for call-in conferences that do not require logging into the Webex online platform.</li> <li>• Task Force approved dedicating conference call line 2 for IMT use.</li> <li>• Forest Service is looking into a 4th conference call line for MNCC use.</li> </ul>



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<p><b>MN FDOP</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft Minnesota Fire Danger Operating Plan (MN FDOP) went through an additional review by the MN FDOP agencies. The document is currently being reviewed for edits and accessibility.</li> <li>• All MNICS agencies except for a BIA representative have approved the MN FDOP.</li> <li>• An evaluation section has been added.</li> <li>• The MNICS Prescribed Fire and Fuels Working Team – initially tasked with developing the plan – is looking to the Task Force to give direction to sub-teams to conduct annual reviews of the MN FDOP to ensure it is meeting their needs.</li> <li>• Task Force representatives expressed some concern for assigning evaluation tasks before each agency has had time to understand how to fully implement the plan, recognizing that not all MNICS agencies will staff the same.</li> <li>• Task Force acknowledged they need to be clear with all of the other working teams about their responsibility to continually evaluate and maintain the plan, and recognize the Operations and Dispatching Working Teams will have a larger stake in the process.</li> <li>• Task Force agrees the MN FDOP will be a living document that can be evaluated and changed over time. Interim adjustments will be approved by the Task Force and distributed as a memo to participating agencies prior to annual review if necessary.</li> <li>• The final document will be presented to the Task Force before the December Task Force Meeting.</li> <li>• The final document will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Joint Task Force and Board of Directors Meeting at the MNICS meeting.</li> <li>• All Agencies will sign the final MN FDOP by December 31, 2020.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MNICS Annual Meeting – planning updates</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task Force reviewed five MNICS award nominations, approved three of the nominations, and will reach out to the other two to explain why the awards will not receive recognition.</li> <li>• Task Force added four additional awards and will send a nomination write-up for each to Leanne Langeberg.</li> <li>• Awards will be mailed out this year.</li> <li>• Webex – test-run meeting with key note speaker went well.</li> <li>• Annual Report – The report is coming along, waiting on reports from BIA and US Fish and Wildlife Service. The report will be distributed on 11/30/2020 via email to the MNICS Meeting email list.</li> <li>• The plan is to distribute the Webex link to the MNICS meeting contacts list by 11/16/2020.</li> <li>• Task Force assembled a list of agenda topics for the December Task Force Meeting and the Joint meeting with the Board of Directors.</li> </ul>



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<p><b>Agency Updates</b></p>	<p><b>BIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reported one fire at Red Lake for 150 ac. BIA was unable to fill the Fire Operations Specialist position in Bemidji and plans to do a more targeted outreach before re-advertising. Several folks are on assignments out west. Prescribed burns are being conducted in Shakopee.</li> </ul> <p><b>DNR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reported a 600 ac fire in the far northwest part of the state that is under investigation. The region 2 receptionist is now capable of answering MIFC phone calls and forwarding to fire center staff. Several folks out west who will be returning in the next week. No prescribed burning efforts are being conducted, but some pile burning will be carried out, provided protocols are in place and followed.</li> </ul> <p><b>FS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reported one nuisance fire on the Chippewa NF. Superior NF has been busy with pile burning and will continue prescribed burning efforts once the snow is back on the ground. There aren't a lot of folks off forest on out-of-state assignments.</li> </ul> <p><b>FWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reported one fire for 137 ac in Detroit Lakes. There is a handful of staff out west. Fall leadership meeting will be broad in scope. Hopeful for a flat budget. Black lining and pile burning will be conducted at a handful of locations, focusing on prepping for spring burns and smoke mitigations.</li> </ul> <p><b>HSEM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing COVID 19 support of state emergency operations center and MDH as the state sees a rise in COVID cases. Developing a regional operations center for St. Louis County that will cover 11 counties and five tribes.</li> </ul> <p><b>NPS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer activity is slowing down, and no fire activity reported. Parks have a lot of piles to burn when there is more snow cover.</li> </ul> <p><b>MNCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two aviation dispatchers are now on winter lay off status. Operations dispatchers – the seasonal dispatcher is now on winter lay off status, and due to a resignation, the permanent dispatcher position is vacant. Dispatchers are running into lose or use between now and January 1.</li> </ul>

Next meeting: 11/30/2020 – WebEx beginning at 9:00 am.