



Notes

MNICS Task Force Meeting

10/29/2019
 0930-1500
 MIFC 3

Attendees: Seth Grimm, Cory Berg, BJ Glesener, Kurt Fogelberg, Chase Marshall, Dave Walks, Leanne Langeberg, Brian Wise, Shelly Serich, Kevin Carlisle
 Special Guest – Pat Coughlin

AGENDA ITEM

NOTES

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| <p>MIFC Building & Budget</p> | <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1800 roof repair from the September expense report was covered by the Forest Service, amount returned to the COOP funds. <p>Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual sprinkler inspection completed October 16th. Sprinkler system is aging and the pump system flow switch and control panel must be replaced. Estimated \$7300 to replace both. Task Force approved control panel and flow switch replacement. • To replace the entire sprinkler system will be more than \$100,000. Damian Kovatovich - Champion Fire (inspector) advised there is supplemental funding opportunity for older buildings and he will look into options for MIFC. • Kevin is acquiring bids for a water heater, estimating \$2100. • Holding on carpet cleaning until the fire sprinkler system improvements are complete. • MIFC building access cards – a list has been generated. Kevin will send list to the Task Force and request they forward out to all agencies for review. All unnecessary cards will be deactivated. • Forest Service will conduct an active shooter scenario based training the first week in January. All MNICS agencies will be involved. Training will result in a write-up that will help with security plan development and improve MIFC security design. • Daryl Dean and Jim Strezishar with the Forest Service will attend the November Task Force Meeting for the building report. • Kurt Fogelberg inquired about the status of the MIFC dispatch carpeted wall removal. Kurt will reach out to Tasha Woodwick for an update. The National Park Service team is available for the removal. |
| <p>Working Team Charter template</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several working teams need to complete their Working Team Charters in 2020. Roy Holmes requested a template they could follow. • Leanne presented a draft template to the Task Force based on the Dispatch and Information Working Team Charters. The Task Force approved the template. Leanne will add the MNICS logo to the template and post to the MNICS.org Working Teams page. |

MNICS Annual Meeting

- Agenda
 - Award selections
 - WT assignments
- MNICS Annual Meeting (cont.)**
- Agenda
 - Award selections
 - WT assignments

- MNICS Annual Meeting invitation will be sent to all MNICS agency personnel November 1st. A Google Forms registration link will be included in the invitation and posted to the MNICS website.
- Leanne will add a silent auction item question to the registration form and will also note to turn items into the check-in office.
- BJ will send invitation to the Smoke Chasers who are active on a working team, overhead team, or active instructors.
- The Task Force recognized there is a need to draw in the younger fire personnel to the MNICS annual meeting, all Task Force members are encourage to work with their agencies to find a way to send fire and fire support personnel.
- MNICS gift item – Task Force approved using the MINICS sticker and Smokey Bear Buff. Leanne will coordinate with Casey McCoy for the Buffs.

Guest Speakers

- Collect bios for speakers to include in the Annual Meeting folders.
- Speaker updates - Travis cancelled, and no response from Mark Sealy.
- BJ posed the suggestion for MNICS to pay for a guest speaker, and recommended Paul Douglas with Praedictix, (focus on weather, climate change and weather contract services) and Leanne suggested Paul Huttner meteorologist with MPR. Leanne will reach out to both for Key Note speaker.
- BJ will reach out to Ken Blumenthal – State Climatologist for Key Note Speaker.

Agenda

- Task Force has established event times pending key note speaker needs. Leanne will produce the agenda and send a copy to the Task Force.
- Scheduled Key Note Speaker presentation for Wednesday 1445 to 1700.
- Roy will reach out to Joe Kelly to contact the FEMA Team from Chicago to present on All-Risk, and working with presidential declaration. Scheduled presentation for Wednesday.
- Patty Olby will present on Wednesday
- Awards presentation scheduled for Wednesday.
- Working Team reports scheduled for Thursday.
- Paul Priestley – TNC and TREX – will present on Thursday.
- Emily Ward with Minnesota Department of Health will present on the National Strategic Stock Pile response. Scheduled presentation for Thursday.
- Eastern Area IMT Gold – Alaska Assignment review scheduled for Thursday.

Awards

- Proposed new award for 2020 to honor Tom Kaase - Kurt Fogelberg will write up award criteria focused on the MNICS behind the scene contributors. BJ will check with Paul Lundgren to ask Tom Kaase’s family supports the idea.
- Legacy awards - an individual must be fully divested from MNICS organizations for 3 or more years. BJ will respond directly to the nominees to explain. Retirement – Linda Bruss, Paul Wannarka, Don Lantz
- Outstanding Performance nominations were all approved by the Task Force.
- All Leadership awards were approved by the Task Force.

Working Team Assignments

- Chase will send a message out to the Task Force requesting all working teams complete their team charters in 2020, three teams have completed charters.
- All Working Teams will be asked to identify how they will support the Type 3 team for the 2020 Academy.
- Operations and Training - to identify the Type 3 IMT for the Academy.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ITSS-GISS - Task – evaluate support needs, and inventory available hardware available. Identify a process for coordinating a request to improve use of equipment. - Communications – C-Soft dispatch software – identify what needs to happen to bring all agencies together on the radio system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Dave Walks recommended the Communications WT reach out to the GACC for radio recommendations and Dave will reach out to the Northern Rockies for a recommendation. New England may be another resource to consult. o Pat Coughlin met with Task Force. He advised the State has not moved forward with C-Soft, the counsels were purchased in 2011/2012 because they meet all the needs at the time. The Forest Service has purchased a couple C-Soft licenses, but they run about \$5000 per license and each station is required to have its own license. Pat feels the equipment in place today is still meeting the needs for our jobs, and right now the interface with the black boxes is working. |
| <p>Annual Report Update</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Missing agency reports from: BIA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Weather Service. - Missing Working Team Reports from – Air Ops, Operations, Training, ITSS-GISS, Logistics, Prevention, Communication, and Prescribed Fire & Fuels. Task Force Working Team representatives will reach out to the chairs and request reports be submitted to Leanne no later than November 8. |
| <p>MNCC Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Center Manager Hiring Plan - Review of position allocation MNCC - Assistant Dispatch Center Manager - Operations | <p>Center manager hiring plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest Service has completed the draft announcement, and MN DNR will post state position at the same time the federal position is posted. The interim plan is to outreach a 120 day work out-of-class assignment state or federal detail. There is now a direct hire authority with the USFS. Direct hire allows for hiring of a current government employee that is in an equivalent position to be hired direct without advertisement. The new center manager hiring process could take up to 6 months. - BJ will set up a Skype/conference call meeting for the Task Force to complete Center Manager hiring decision. Dave Walks will sit it in on the conference call. <p>MNCC position Allocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MNCC dispatchers were informed last week about the MN DNR’s consideration to reallocate dispatch and Intel positions to align with Federal Pay scale. This will allow more ability to mix and match federal/state hires. - Task Force discussed the MNCC org chart for Dispatch operations, and how to distribute agency representation for logistics, operations, aviation and Intel. - For open dispatch positions, Dave Walks advised it is better to pull from the existing MNCC positions as they are available before requesting resource orders. The role of the Center Manager should be to help out on the floor when there is a temporary need as well as to manage. - The Public Information Officer will continue to be a MIFC position working for the Task Force. <p>Assistant Operations Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Forest Service has filled the Assistance Dispatch Manager for Operation. Until the individual starts the new role, the Forest Service will fill the position with Amanda Jones, FS through a 120 day detail. |

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| TNC (TREN) Training Opportunity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No new developments. - A draft MOU between the VIA and TNC has been written. The MOU requires all personnel who work in Tribal Burns to be NWCG qualified. |
| Statewide Protection Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Task Force discussed the recently signed operations plan. - BIA is considering blanket agreements to cover all MNICS agencies with Tribes. |
| Individual Agency Updates | <p>BIA – Agency has started to send engines to support California Wildfire suppression efforts. An attempt was made to pull together a Strike Team but they were unable to fulfill leadership roles.</p> <p>USFWS – There will be a lull in availability through the November Deer season.</p> <p>MN DNR – Also expecting a lull in availability through the November Deer season.</p> <p>NPS – All is quiet.</p> <p>HSEM – agency continues to respond all-risk incidents, there have been several in a short period of time.</p> <p>FS – National Fire hire is ongoing. The two Forests have currently filled 12 permanent vacant fire positions with a few more to go. The Temporary fire hire will kick off next week, with approximately 15 positions to fill. Forests are supporting national fire effort. Currently, there is one engine module in Florida, and two advanced sawyers in Wisconsin assisting with blow down cleanup. Expecting requests from California.</p> |

Next meeting: November 21 MIFC conference room 3