



Notes

June 2020 MNICS Task Force Meeting

6/4/2020 - 0930 – 13:00

Notes taken by: Leanne Langeberg

Task Force: Chase Marshall, William Glesener, Cory Berg, Seth Grimm, Kurt Fogelberg, Roy Holmes, Mike Mackey - MNCC, Leanne Langeberg - PIO

Guests: Brian Wise, Shelly Serich, Sarah Henry – MN Department of Health

AGENDA ITEM

NOTES

<p>Building / Budget Update</p>	<p>Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Wise submitted a building update to the Task Force. • The installation of the front door card readers is in progress. <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The \$5400 for the installation of the electrical post was not included in the submitted budget update. MN DNR will bill back US Fish and Wildlife to cover the expense. • MNICS coop funds are being used for all Fire Center COVID-19 personal protective equipment purchases.
<p>2020 MNICS COOP Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency Contributions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force agreed not to change the annual agency contribution for 2021, and each agency decided to make contributions to cover smaller project items.
<p>COVID 19 response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDH incident response coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Henry, Case Investigator with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), joined the Task Force to discuss contingency plans for in-state Incident Management Teams during COVID-19 response. • MDH already partners with local health departments and feels both local and state health departments can plan and coordinate with MNICS. • Should cases of COVID-19 show up during an in-state incident, MDH will be involved with contact tracing and wide-scale testing. • Sarah will look at similar guidance in place for close proximity contact scenarios (e.g., state prisons) as many considerations will overlap. • For larger-scale incidents, MDH has a testing command to coordinate mass testing. • Considerations must be made for testing individuals from out-of-state – test results are reported to the state the person physically resides – and how to coordinate contact out-of-state resources with their test results. • HSEM is working with local counties, and many counties have planned care units and are planning for alternate care sites. • Task Force members Cory Berg, William Glesener, and Roy Holms will reach out to St. Louis, Lake, and Cook counties to learn more about the plans each county has established for COVID-19 response, and the logistics capabilities each county can offer to support an Incident Management Team as a Unified Command.



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<p>COVID 19 response (cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDH incident response coordination • Mobilizing resources in and out of GACC and off-unit availability lists • Summer needs for potential project fires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Incident Management team set up for the Chippewa and Superior National Forests for COVID-19 response has reached out to the local health departments. Chase Marshall will email the contact information for the IMT members to Roy Holmes. • Any plans MNICS develops with local communities to establish a Unified Command will be reported to the NMAC group. • Sarah Henry will ask who at MDH can be more involved in the local discussions and serve as a point of contact for MNICS. William Glesener will send Sarah a list of MNICS contacts. <p>Summer needs and Mobilizing Resources Out of GACC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNICS wants to assure any out-of-GACC incident has a plan in place to care for any individual who develops symptoms of COVID-19 during their assignment. • The MNICS agencies currently accepting resource orders are not sending resources out of GACC beyond a one day drive. • Forest Service guidance - ADs may go out on assignment; however, they will be financially responsible for costs associated with COVID-19 care for themselves during the assignment. • Each agency will manage how to respond to individuals who turn down assignments out of concern for COVID-19. • Any assignment turned down must happen at the Duty Officer level. MNCC will document the turndown and relay the information of a turndown vs. not available to the next resource order(s) for the assignment.
<p>MNICS Type 2 IA Crew update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Operations Working Team has identified two crews and plans to bolster the 20 -person crews this year by sending two qualified crew bosses per team. • The MNICS Type 2 IA Crew subcommittee met and discussed COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures and the possible variations in how crews may look this year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Module as one or suppression/fuels modules from the same home unit and home area. • The Task Force expects the Duty Officer to coordinate the module and not MNCC. • Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) staff are spread out widely, and the agency is open to incorporating FWS in to other agencies modules. • MNCC will advise the Type 2 IA Crews to be prepared for 3-day self-sufficiency. • MNICS agencies will expect the crews to follow the standards set for COVID-19 PPE. • The subcommittee has been asked to identify a crew point of contact other than the MNCC Manager. • Crew purchasing authority – if a crew is a module as one, the crew boss can use purchase authority for their home agency, otherwise each crew member must be self-sufficient.



Notes

<p>MNICS Type 3 IMT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotation extension and filling potential team holes through 1st week of July. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNICS agencies continue to be concerned with the expected dry conditions this summer, and prefer to have MNICS Type 3 teams available to respond to possible incidents. • The Task Force has requested all three MNICS teams to extend one addition rotation this spring season. • MNCC has received concerns from team members who cannot make the next rotations past July 1, including incident commanders. • In the past, MNICS has pulled together ad hoc teams and can do so this year if necessary. • Chase Marshall will coordinate with the IC working group for any requests further extend the Type 3 Teams.
<p>NMAC Checklist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per the Eastern Area, dispatchers are not responsible for sending out the letter, and it will be up to the individual agency to make sure their employees are informed. • MNICS will stay with local units sending and receiving.
<p>MIFC Insulation BOD request</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Directors has expressed interest in learning more about the plans to insulate the Minnesota Interagency Fire Center, specifically dispatch and cache areas. There is concern with identifying who has access to the building and the PPE requirements. • Currently, the Board of Directors has not made a formal request to the Task Force. • Chase Marshall and William Glesener will ask Paul Lundgren to draft a request for any specific needs where the BOD has concerns.
<p>MNICS Annual Meeting</p>	<p>Venue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leanne Langeberg shared the email sent from Kevin Carlisle to the Task Force regarding contracting parameters for an in-person meeting. • Plans will be to pursue both the in-person meeting and virtual meetings. Task Force requests Kevin Carlisle and Joel Perrington to research alternate platforms and report back to the Task Force at the July Task Force Meeting. • Task Force requests the PIO working group to identify facilitators for the online platform. • Task Force has requested the PIO working group to identify facilitators for the online platform. <p>Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nelda Sinclair is confirmed as the Key Note Speaker. Cory Berg will work to obtain Nelda's bio for the promotion of the annual meeting session • Task Force members will continue to reach out to potential speakers, recognizing the need to plan for in-person meeting and cancel the speakers if the decision is made to move to a shorter virtual meeting format. • William Glesener will reach out to Travis Dotson. <p>Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force will formulate a contingency agenda by the July Task Force Meeting.



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<p>Agency Updates</p>	<p>DNR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue supporting the SEOC and working on relocation for coordination center staff and hiring. <p>NPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The majority of staff continue teleworking. Fire staff is down to one seasonal. <p>USFS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest Service re-opening plan sent to the Task Force. Thursday Bay Fire – 6 ac, 200 yards from Canada, and 29,000 gallons of water were dropped on the fire. Staffing up for fire season and maximizing telework. On MNCC IA dispatcher position filled. <p>BIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire occurrence dropping off. Fire Boss contract extended in Bemidji will be demobilizing soon unless fire activity picks up. Starting to move to the new office. <p>FWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Survey 1-2-3 is being used to track fire and COVID related resources. GS-07 at MN Valley position filled, GS-05 at MN Valley selected but not cleared yet, and GS-05 at Fergus Falls filled. The national batch hiring has commenced. Still in maximum telework – starting to open window for some fieldwork. No fire activity. <p>MNCC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mike provided feedback on all the sections of MNCC and the great job each team member is doing.• COOP document – MNCC is trying to get as much on paper before Mike leaves on June 16 and transitions over to the new acting Center Manager. The Task Force will need to sign off on the plan.• COOP – is still operation - two modules on aviation and two modules on operations.• Thanked the Task Force for their engagement – answering questions and reaching out to Mike – support made the role a <p>PIO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Starting DNR internal IMT rotation June 6 for three weeks.
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Next meeting: July 2, 2020 – WebEx beginning at 9:30 am.