

12/7/2021 OWT meeting notes

Chair- Jim Edgar

Vice Chair- Adam Cook

Participants

- Aaron Mielke, Joe Meyer, Nick Petrack, Jeb Backe, Ben Roy, Zach Saumer, Jason Westholter, Dan Paulson, Kurt Schierenbeck, Rob Focht, John Furr, Kelly Sande, Greg Vollhaber, Chris Kramer, Phil Millette, Justin O'Brien, Greg Gulan, BJ Gotchie, Jim Wilson, Mike Ware, Matt Kearns, Ernie Schmitt, Mike Wachholz, Chase Marshall, Jon Handrick, Steve Grove, Nate Haskins, Hunter Bell, Bill Alleman. 29

T2IA Crews

- No interagency crews mobilized in 21' due to covid.
- The Taskforce would like 20-person interagency crews to be active for 22' fire season for out of state mobilizations.
 - o They are open to the idea of in-state "Modules" but would prefer to mobilize 20 person crews for out of state assignments.
- The Taskforce is working to identify a contact at MIFC to be a "crew liaison/ coordinator".
- It appears the EA will support 20 person crews instead of modules for 2022.
- The Taskforce doesn't have a set number of crews they'd like to see, just whatever is feasible.
- What would the COVID requirements be?
 - o That will probably have to fall to the most stringent agency standards. We cannot make a mandate that is outside agency policies, but we can "recommend" a more stringent standard (ie. To be fully vaccinated).
- Westholter will start drafting up an outreach email/flyer for the IA crews to generate interstate and share the intent of crews being back on in 2022, but will leave out any COVID requirements since we don't know what those would be at this point.

WUI Plan

- Was finalized by Greg Vollhaber and Ben Roy and is posted to the MNICS webpage.
- Will need to be looked at every year or so for updates.

Single Resource Boss Refresher

- This was on hold due to COVID and something we need to organize again
- It's ideal to hold it the day after the IA crew cohesion meeting, but venue will be limiting and may have to be virtual.
- It would be ideal to have an EA IARR rep present during this SRB Refresher.

MN Suppression Field Guide

- Current is posted to MNICS site is from 2012 – lots of info needs updated.
- Some Agencies do their own specific field guides but has personal info in them that would need to be behind a password protected site.

- Current one is password protected under the Administration – Policy, Guides & Plans portion of MNICS site.
- Edgar will work with voting members to get updated.
- Backe – should look at adding a QR code which could be added to a Resource Order.

OWT Charter

- Completed 2 years ago and is in place on the MNICS site.
- Says to update every 3 years.
- Edgar looked it over and couldn't find any needed updates.

Other topics

- Nick Petrack brought up the topic of ordering structure engines to growing fires and the issues of agreements and paperwork in place to ensure everyone's covered and payment process can happen.
- Roy & Marshall – the state is currently taking on this task since the State Fire Marshall falls within the State branch. They are working to set up staging/briefing standards to ensure smooth flow of work.
- If the state sets it up will they meet the Federal standard of RT-130 and practice shelter deployments completed?
- During IA and a growing incident, it's pretty clear we were covered by using unified command. It gets gray during extended attack.
- Sandy – The state has been doing staging area trainings to help cover this but can start to add in more specific info like shift tickets if desired.
- It gets confusing with all the different agreements that are out there. Ideally it would all be covered under 1 blanket agreement.
- Grove – There's lots of potential roadblocks on the FD side of things as well. Suggested getting our request to the state (BJ) and let them sort it out.
- Get any suggestions from the Federal side to Chase and he'll coordinate with BJ to incorporate our requests as feasible.

Meeting adjourned at 0950 Notes by A. Cook