



Notes

January 5, 2023, MNICS Task Force Meeting

Task Force: Greg Carlson, William Glesener, Cory Berg, Seth Grimm, Jacob Beauregard, Ben Roy, Mike Rice

Non-Task Force Attendees: Leanne Langeberg – Notes, Brian Wise, Kevin Carlisle, Shelly Greniger

Guests: Donna Edelman, Amy Archer Finance Working Team Representatives

DISCUSSION ITEM	NOTES
<p>Building and Budget Update</p>	<p>Building Update –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No new projects for the fire center have been added since the last Task Force meeting update. - The elevator repair, estimated cost of \$6,000, is at a standstill. The approved contractor hasn't returned calls to set a time to proceed with repairs. - Because of the accessibility concerns this breakdown causes, Kevin Carlisle is looking into approval to pursue an alternate contractor from the approved vendor list. To prepare for additional elevator repair expenses, Shelly Greniger will set aside \$10,000 of the MNICS coop funds. - The Forest Service Engineers are aware of the ongoing elevator issues. They have advised the MIFC facility manager that the Forest Service does not have facility funds to install a new elevator system. - The elevator repair is a top priority to assure accessibility compliance for access to the MIFC training room and third-level office space. - In the short term, William Glesener will send a message to training event coordinators to explain the concerns with access to the second and third floors caused by the out-of-order elevator. He will ask them to notify training participants about the elevator issues in advance of the training and to prepare alternate plans (offer a hybrid virtual component or select an alternative location) to ensure participants can fully participate in the training without disruption. <p>Budget Update –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Task Force reviewed the current budget and available coop funds. Shelly will add line-item expense for the entryway keypad software, which will leave \$41,000 of uncommitted coop funds available.
<p>Border Meeting Scheduling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During the week of February 21 - 23, 2023, most of the MNICS border agencies are available to attend the border meeting. - William Glesener will notify Blair Olson to proceed with coordinating the meeting during this timeframe. - Greg Carlson will begin working to coordinate the meeting room space.
<p>Working Team Updates/Action Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The aviation working team will draft a letter from the MNICS board of directors to the National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) requesting that unmanned aircraft system (UAS) cooperator standards be developed. - Task Force will send a working team assignment to the Type 3 Incident Management Working Team. The assignment will request the team to add a representative from the plans section and identify a representative from the logistics, finance, and information management working teams to be non-voting liaisons to the Type 3 Incident Management Working Team.



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Finance WT Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finance Working Team representatives Donna Edelman and Amy Archer met with the Task Force to discuss the working team’s proposal to add one additional rostered finance position to each of the MNICS Type 3 Teams. - The additional rostered team member would not require Type 3 Finance Section Chief qualifications but would need some level of finance qualification to support the finance section. In addition, this position could help the Plans section with incident check-in at the start of an incident. - Task Force is open to the addition but will first seek input from the Incident Commanders (ICs) before making a final decision. - The Task Force will send a working team assignment to the MNICS Type 3 Incident Management Working Team to request the ICs review the request from the Finance Working Team and notify the Task Force with their decision on how to proceed. - Future requests to add additional rostered positions to the incident management teams will be routed to the ICs first. The ICs will make the decision when to advance the request up to the Task Force.
Type 2IA Crew Ops Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Task Force reviewed the proposed changes to the MNICS Type 2 Initial Attack Crew standard operating guide (SOG). - The Task Force did not accept the proposal to allow three FFT2 slots to those agencies with leadership positions on the crew (CRWB, CRWB-t, and ICT5). - The Task Force is willing to consider a language change that would allow up to two firefighter 2 (FFT2) slots for the crew boss (CRWB) and incident commander 5 (ICT5) positions. However, crew positions must remain available to the other interagency partners. - Task Force supports adding language allowing a crew to roster up to 21 positions and filling that position with an additional crew boss. With the extra crew member, there will be more flexibility for training and mentoring crew members, and it provides more opportunities for an advanced crew member working toward a higher-level skill to take a training opportunity during a crew assignment. - Task Force discussed the pros and cons of replacing the term MNCC center manager with MNCC representative. They support the change, except when referencing crew member demobilizations, which the Task Force agrees should continue being coordinated with the MNCC center manager. - The Task Force will request the MNICS Type 2 IA SOG clarify that the MNCC center manager is identified as the person who will receive documentation on all decision-making leading to a crew member’s early demobilization. - The Task Force will include language in the center manager’s delegation of authority that grants them approval to receive the documentation and the ability to share it with the appropriate demobilized crew member’s agency duty officer or agency leadership.
Ops WT Charter Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Task Force reviewed the proposed changes to the Operations Working Team charter and will approve the charter when they have added a bullet point on supporting the Incident Management Teams.



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MNICS Meeting Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leanne Langeberg reported on the MNICS meeting survey responses. - The newly assigned planning committee members will be a great benefit to planning efforts and a committee kick-off meeting is in development. - The Task Force is open to reducing the MNICS meeting general session to one-day and reducing the meeting events to three full days – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. They will ask the planning committee to consider the change in 2023. - Jacob Beauregard will work with the planning committee to add State Fire Chief’s Association members to the 2023 MNICS meeting invitation list.
MNICS MOB Guide Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leanne Langeberg and Tasha Woodwick reviewed the 2022 MNICS Mobilization Guide formatting and styles to identify where the guide can better mirror the National and Eastern Area mobilization guides. - Most of the changes identified will be content specific to Chapters 10, 20, and 30. The only known content to be redirected from the MNICS Mobilization Guide is the Burning Restrictions information in Chapter 60, which is available in the Minnesota Fire Danger Operating Plan. - Task Force discussed a proposal to move Chapter 100 into an appendix of the mobilization guide or to a separate interagency guide. Because of the useful information and quick accessibility to teams and interagency response, chapter 100 will remain with the MNICS Mobilization Guide.
Agency Updates	<p>BIA – Several resources have mobilized back to Oklahoma.</p> <p>DNR – Interviews for the shared MIFC admin support and Region 2 dispatcher position were conducted and an offer has been made. Todd Manley will be on leave through early March ahead of his retirement. The plan is to fill the position as soon as possible.</p> <p>Forest Service – Ryan Kingsley has accepted a 120-day detail for the MNCC center manager position, he will start the same day Mike Mackey’s new Forest Service duties begin. The MNCC center manager and the fire management officer (vice Chase Marshall) positions have been advertised, and both have potential to be filled as early as January 21, 2023. The region fire management officers are acknowledging a growing need for type 3 incident management teams. They are looking into possibilities of forming a couple of regional teams and will discuss the topic further at the next regional leadership meeting. Considerations that have been expressed include using the MNICS Type 3 incident management team model or increasing use of the MNICS Type 3 incident management teams more at that GACC.</p> <p>FWS – Due to a limited number of applicants, several 1039 positions remain unfilled. Ryan Williams with Minnesota Valley accepted the GS-09 FOBS position. Congress has approved a budget</p> <p>HSEM – New LMS is still being worked on- good progress being made – Should be rolled out soon. Communications Officer has been filled, NQS Coordinator to start Feb-1, Bob Jacobson is the new DPS Commissioner, Kevin Reed is Interim Director while search is on for new HSEM director.</p> <p>NPS – Cattail burning is now on hold due to the heavy snowpack. Awaiting guidance on the possible listing of the Northern long-eared bat and what impacts it may present for prescribed fire management on National Park Service land.</p>

Next Task Force Meeting will be January 31, 2023, in-person at MIFC.