

# NIMS-Integration Committee Conference

## Call Notes

20 August 2019

### Roll Call

Present: Mike Mattfeldt, Zeph Cunningham, Jason Steinmetz, Gordy Sachs, Jeff Soule, Steve Griffin, James Flue, Jeff Hughes, and Deb Fleming.

Not present: Paul Hannemann, John Ford, Tiffany Hudgins, Ken Kehmna.

### Beginning Discussion

#### General updates:

- Mike back from family leave.
- Steve Griffin working permanently in USFS All Hazard and International Fire Support Branch

### Assignments and Updates

#### Type 3 Team Tier Certification Paper:

Jeff Soule: Getting feedback on paper. Did three conference calls with 100+ people. He is compiling the feedback. Will be making common sense changes to clarify the paper. Will return to this group and discuss again. Next step is to continue to discuss with partner agencies. Some senior leadership has seen the paper and Jeff invited more discussions with leadership if needed. Comments point that the paper is going in a good direction. Will standardize tiers as we go forward.

Mike Mattfeldt: FS and senior leadership support the concept, but details need clarification. From the paper, it appears a cache travels with the teams. FS has caches to pull from, materials are not attached to the team.

Jeff Soule: Will clarify...he doesn't intend a "team cache" ...just self-sufficient, need to be able to identify what a team is expected to show up at an incident with. Teams are free to use mechanisms to provide meals, office supplies, equipment....use purchase card, regional cache, etc. Will rewrite to clarify.

Jeff Soule: The intent of the paper is not to have a certain number of teams fit into a category...but to be able to identify team's capabilities, and if there are shortfalls with teams being able to reach the next tier, to identify assistance that can be provided to assist them. This builds both local capacity as well as prepare us for national catastrophes...how do we fill resource needs with the right teams. In 2017, Texas pulled in numerous strong Type 3 teams...Florida and PR had more difficulty identifying Type 3 All Hazard IMTs, and many identified had varying skills.

Jeff said he wants this inclusive...he is looking to see if there is interest in a taskforce to look at issues. Mike Mattfeldt supported that. Jeff offered options of forming another group... OR use person from NIMS-IC...OR pull specialists in. Gordy suggested a sub-group of NIMS-IC and ICAC.....

Mike Mattfeldt asked if USFA would manage the standard defining the tiers. Jeff Soule responded that FEMA NIC is aware and has been briefed. If we all got behind it, then FEMA NIC could potentially help. Management is an open book now...but there is no staffing or funding to assess teams to a standard. Teams could be audited, but it is not done now, and is not possible now. There are a variety of ways to tackle assessment.

Mike will talk at next meeting about sub-group.

#### Endorsements- follow-up from our last call:

Mike Mattfeldt: SME's are being organized for FEMA NIC to help with 509's and PTB's.

Deb Fleming: NIMS Alert came out looking for SME's for 509's and PTB's...went out to NWCG. Managed to get at least one SME for each position...more in most positions. NWCG had a call with SME's to share expectations and provide background info. The NIC is putting a list together and will be contacting the SMEs. Several NIMSIC members are engaged in this effort.

#### Follow-on discussion

##### Response to ICAC regarding a new Communications Section Chief:

Mike Mattfeldt: FIREScope supports a Unit Leader for Cyber Security, but doesn't support the Branch Director concept. Additional training/guidance can be provided to the Service Branch Director.

Deb Fleming: NWCG has a response letter prepared which will go to the Exec Board for approval on Wed.

##### FEMA NIC MOA re: creation of a NIMS Coordination Group:

Deb Fleming: The Exec Board will be discussing this on Wed. An MOA has been drafted by the NIC, but it is unlikely the Exec Board will be ready to sign at this time. Exec Board will participate in the first meeting which is scheduled for next week. Deb will forward the information NWCG has received to Mike for forwarding to NIMSIC.

##### FEMA Supplemental Response Teams

Mike Mattfeldt: Several presentations over the last few months with Paul Hannemann introducing the concept and intent.

Gordy Sachs: Gordy says Forest Service has a signed MOU to fill FEMA SRT (or FSR Team – acronym not decided yet). Forest Service All Hazard & International Fire Support Branch will work with the FEMA Field Operations Directorate (FOD) to build out the program and help make it successful; in particular by linking up State Forestry and State Emergency Management Agencies. Operationally, FOD will work through ESF4 for access to All Hazard IMTs. Had meeting yesterday...feeling encouraged and moving forward.

Mike Mattfeldt: Type 3 could be a pathway to Supplemental Response Teams.

Jeff Soule: With the SRT comes the ability to assist the teams with their development. Type 3 teams need to get people on assignments. That will be available to include those not yet qualified in their position. FOD know they need depth on teams, so will work to get more trainees out to work on taskbooks and build teams. Courses such as 0305 are expensive. Discussing ways with FEMA to help pay

for 0305...huge help to Teams. FOD is buying into Tiered system, and the SRT program can naturally fit into that concept.

#### Puerto Rico Academy:

Jeff Soule: To keep us informed... A two-year MOU was suggested to be signed by all Puerto Rico IMT participants. IMT academy currently being discussed to provide the training immediately. There are numerous COAs for the Academy to include a 4-5 week delivery. Puerto Rico currently have 38 people rostered from all organizations representing Puerto Rico Emergency Management Bureau (PREMB)...no teams or positions established yet.

Gordy Sachs: FS is in Puerto Rico and can take or help teach courses. Will talk off line. Need bilingual help and instructors for 0305 and Position Specific...Gordy will check.

#### Wrap-up and Next Meeting

Conference call Tuesday 17 September.

Discuss the formation of a sub-group to discuss the Tiered Type 3 IMTs.

Update on the formation of the NIMS Coordination Group.