

# Public Information Officer Subcommittee

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## Meeting Minutes: 1/28/2021

### Attendees:

Robyn Broyles (BIA), Candice Stevenson (NPS), Catherine Koele (NASF), Sean Collins (IAFC), Brian Harris (USFS), Adrienne Freeman (NPS), Kerry Greene (USFS)

### Also in Attendance:

Tina Boehle (CEPC), Annie Benoit (NWCG), Brian Harrison (NWCG), Eric Litzenberg (IAFC Guest)

### Committee Business:

1. Approve minutes from the last meeting
  - Approval is held off until next meeting
2. CEPC Update
  - FY 2022 Budget request
  - Submitted 5 budget requests to NWCG – priority #4 for the PIOSC
  - PIOSC has a good proposal and good feedback
  - IRPG page was submitted to CEPC for final feedback tomorrow
3. NWCG Update
  - Annie Benoit is our new NWCG representative since Deb Fleming is working a detail
  - Leadership levels are public now on NWCG website
  - Endorsements will be categorized by looking through the IPD and noting which statements are wildland fire specific
  - Sean reported that Eric Litzenberg is joining us today to look into IAFC integrating with NWCG

### Old Business:

1. FEMA update
  - Annie reported that they are keeping up with endorsements with FEMA
2. NIMS Integration Task Team
  - Sean circulated the latest NIMS integration document to the committee.
  - There is a new proposed training system providing core training for all positions and specialized training for specific positions.
  - Sean requested that FEMA change the PIO4 to PIOT and it will be in process
  - We will need to review taskbooks and ensure that we have “W” for wildfire qualifications in the taskbook as opposed to “I” to indicate work on any incident.
3. Virtual S-203 class
  - Annie reported that NWCG has many prioritized classes to formalize for virtual training in the works, S-203 is not a priority. However, instructors may deliver S-203 virtually given that they stick to the mandated hours of instruction.
4. Sign Boards
  - No updates to sign boards, this will remain on the agenda

## New Business:

1. Schedule PIOSC workshops
  - Candice will schedule workshops to provide time for finalizing IPDs and creating the documents needed for the new position proposals.
2. Nationwide contract for video production studio set-up for incidents
  - Brian reported there were two contracts through Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement (EERA) last year and this might be the way to go. If EERA is used, the standards should be the same for every team in every location to provide the same standards of service.
  - Sean reported that CalFire has used this type of support and it allowed PIOs to concentrate on their work and not have to make time for equipment set up.
  - NIMO has been leading the IMRR calls and this has been a big topic, but PIOSC needs to be involved.
  - An EERA may be the easiest way to do this, the Finance Section Chief should be familiar with the process.
  - Adrienne suggested we need to capture business acumen in the PDs to reflect work on contracts.
3. IMRR survey results
  - Michelle Fidler is the new NIMO representative and will lead IMRR calls
  - Sean said part of the survey reveals perceived inequality among type 1,2, and 3 teams.
  - There are technology challenges to virtual PIO work this year and we need to develop standards for virtual PIOs. It was hard to order virtual PIOs through the system.
  - S-203 was a topic for the survey and it is outdated.
  - PIO ordering was brought up as an issue, there's no allocation of resources, it's first come first served. There have been type 3 fires with several PIOs and a type 1 fire would not be able to grab those.
4. PIO evaluator guidance – save discussion for next call

## Action Items:

Schedule workshops to finalize PDs, FAQ's or other outreach needed for proposed positions, taskbook revisions, and position transition plan.

Continue to discuss national contract opportunities with appropriate personnel.