

# Public Information Officer Subcommittee

---

## Meeting Minutes: 9/23/2021

### Attendees:

Chris Barth (BLM), Candice Stevenson (NPS), Catherine Koele (NASF), Sean Collins (IAFC), Kerry Greene (USFS), Pamela Bierce (FWS)

### Also in Attendance:

Deb Fleming (NWCG)

Tina Boehle (CEPC)

### Committee Business:

1. Approve minutes from the last meeting
  - Committee approved May, June, and August meeting minutes (July meeting was cancelled)
2. Announcements
  - PIOT was sent to publishing
  - October 20 has been set as the working day for PIO3 task book revision
3. CEPC Update
  - Strategic planning for CEPC in October (Oct. 5,6, and 7). The last plan was updated in 2015.
4. NWCG Update
  - We need to send comments back to Deb regarding the feedback on the first IPD rollout in 2019. We received 6 comments, Kerry Greene will follow-up
  - Nancie Turner is retiring, next week is her last week. NWCG is trying to get someone to detail behind her, will see reduced capacity on the website.
  - Annie Benoit is the new NWCG training coordinator, looking to fill behind her
  - Executive Secretary, Darcy Drinkwater starts this week. She also does logistics for RMC, she is virtual from OR.

### Old Business:

1. PIO3 task book revision
  - Next work day is set for October 20
  - Candice will create a video to update everyone on the changes
2. IMRR Update
  - IMRR has several resources regarding virtual PIO duties and ordering

### New Business:

1. Virtual PIO
  - There may be a virtual availability button available soon in IROC
  - Michelle Fidler established guidance as virtual PIO while working on the RIST group this year.

- PIOSC may want to provide guidance or adopt the guidance from IMRR and RIST for virtual PIO work and develop official NWCG standards for PIOs working virtually.
2. Liability for media escorts
- The wildland fire PIO Facebook group has had discussions regarding liability for PIOs that escort media.
  - The PIOSC will gather information and bring this up for further discussion next meeting.
  - Documentation is important for any liability issues. Filling out 214 activity logs is pertinent to document what you were told, by whom, approvals, and where and when you escorted media.

**Action Items:**

October 20 is the next working day for PIO3 task book.

Next call will be October 28, 2021 at 2 PM ET, 12 PM MT, 11 AM PT