

Public Information Officer Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes: 2/24/2022

Attendees:

Chris Barth (BLM), Candice Stevenson (NPS), Brian Harris (USFS), Adrienne Freeman (NPS)

Also in Attendance:

Deb Fleming (NWCG)

Steph Bishop (NPS)

Committee Business:

1. Approve minutes from the last meeting
 - No quorum, will ask during the March meeting.
2. Announcements
 - PIO Position graphic has been sent to NWCG for posting to their website.
 - NWCG will need an intro for the graphic – suggested language is: This graphic is designed to explain the new PIO positions and updates in 2021 and 2022, which will aid PIOs in deciding when and how to proceed with training and development.
 - There was positive reception of the graphic from the IMRR group.
 - IS-700 is being moved from PIOF to PIOT – as of today it has not been changed on the NWCG website.
3. CEPC Update
 - No updates
4. NWCG Update
 - PIO3 position code – the task book and position description is waiting to be sent to IPSC. The book will be pushed to IPSC and if there are any changes, they will be changed after IPSC review.
5. FPET Representation for PIOSC
 - Is there a need to have a permanent FPET representative on the PIOSC? It was discussed that there is an open dialogue available through CEPC that can help coordinate any discussion needed.
 - Adrienne indicated to define NWCG requirements and at least a PIO2 or higher qualified represents FPET at the PIOSC
 - Chris agreed to define the position as Adrienne said and that they would not need to be a part of all the meetings.
 - Candice suggested a FPET Liaison may fit the need.
 - The discussion was tabled for next meeting, no decision made due to no quorum.
6. CIMT discussion

- On the last IMRR call, Jessie with Incident Workforce Development Group presented regarding the direction things were going to Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT). One of the benefits of this is reducing transitions. If a type 2 fire progresses to a type 1, instead of transitioning to a type 1 team they would just roll in more resources.
 - Candice advised PIOSC is at a good place to be in line with where CIMT is due to the timing of when we will be reviewing and updating the PIO 1 and 2 task books.
 - Chris indicated if this is the direction we are going he can see the 1 & 2 books becoming CIMPIO.
 - Deb indicated there is one region wanting to test it possible in the Rocky Mountain area. A CIM will be hired to lead the transfer with the region testing it. They will get rid of type 1 & 2 if the direction is move to CIMT.
 - Brian expressed concerns with the complexity and having some type 2 teams work on type 1 incidents as well as the training.

7. In-person meeting

- Candice wants to discuss what timing looks like for everyone and dates. This meeting will be to discuss updates to S-203 and redevelopment.
 - Brian and Chris agree if this meeting is to discuss the redevelopment of S-203, an in-person meeting is needed.
 - Brian recommended someone who may want to host the in-person meeting can help identify where it will be held.
 - We will finalize plans over email and ask for someone to host.

8. O-305 course requirement review

- Candice met with Jim Shultz with IPSC. Jim indicated he will be sending out a comparison table to the reviewers of the addition of O-305. The table will include a list of topics that need to be covered to properly train type 3 responders compared to the topics covered in O-305. He expects the committee will easily make a decision after seeing the comparison.

New Business:

1. Potential documents/job aids to adopt or create, or these could be topics to include in revised S-203 (Due to running out of time this new business has been moved to the next meeting).
 - Guidance for photo safety on the fireline
 - Accessibility guidance for PIOs
 - Candice is looking to develop accessibility guidance similar to the social media guidance created.
 - Deb indicated NWCG has several 508 compliance items on their website.
 - This guidance will not only cover 508-compliance for documents, but overall guidance on accessibility for reaching every member of the public with emergency related messages.
 - Chris noted the State of Washington has some good resources they developed last year and provided the following link to review
https://www.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/pio/documents/PNW2_WAIC_National_RefGuide.pdf