

Public Information Officer Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes: 2/23/2023

Attendees:

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

Also in Attendance:

Tina Boehle (CEPC), Steph Bishop (Note-taker)

Committee Business:

1. Approve minutes from the last meeting:
 - Moving forward, plan to send draft minutes via email and approve via email.
2. Announcements
 - Kerry shared the operations functional groups survey regarding use of branch leads as type 2 positions are phasing out. This would follow with our idea for using branch lead positions for PIO to build experience for the complex level PIO position.
3. CEPC Update
 - From the face-to-face meeting in October, it was decided to meet on their parent level to talk about best practices over the season.
4. IAFC Update
 - The California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) will transition the PIOF to PIO3. The PIOF position will be downgraded to technical specialist. The PIO3 position that is currently in place will be utilizing the NWCG task book.
 - There is not a standard system for type 3 across the nation. Task books and criterion changes from state to state and FEMA.
5. NWCG Update
 - The PIOT and PIO3 positions are likely to be included in the 2024 Incident Performance and Training Modernization efforts of Systems Improvement. This will include position descriptions, next generation task books, and all associated course work.
6. IMRR Update
 - Upcoming IMRR call will focus on InciWeb.
7. CIM Transition
 - Discussion was to have a meeting with IMT PIO leads to listen to needs and ideas for CIM transition.
 - Discuss introducing branch lead positions, training, and signing off on task books.

- We use the feedback from the call to develop a survey to solicit idea from all PIOs. We can promote this through the IMRR call. These surveys cannot go out to non-federal employees from federal employees without OMB approval.
5. PIO position currency requirements
- We will work to align S-203 with the position description.
 - PIOFs will become PIO3 automatically.
 - There may be issues with FEMA as PIO2 is phased out. No pathway exist for PIO2 development.

New Business:

- Members decided to move to a 90-minute call, and it will begin 30 minutes earlier than our normal time.

Agency Updates:

- NPS – There is concern that if we introduce branch lead positions and the team can only mobilize with a certain amount of people, will we be able to create space to mobilize branch leads with the roster?
- USFS – We continue to inform and answer questions about the CIM transition and working with public affairs officers to bring on PIOs to help with prescribed fires and landscapes.