



## **Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2023**

Time: 1200 MT 4/5/2023

#### **Roll Call**

Jolene Ackerman, Faith Berry, Dan Beveridge, Sheryl Page, Ashley Whitworth, Marty Cassellius, Erin O'Connor

Absent: Jon Skinner, Jon Bruno, Annie Schmidt, Sarah Lee

#### **Approve March Meeting Minutes**

J. Ackerman made one comment for Report-outs/Round Robin: adjust and specify emphasis on prescribed fire for last year's Cohesive Strategy Conference.

J. Ackerman motioned to approve minutes; S. Page seconded the motion.

#### **Discussion/Follow-up Items**

- Standards for Mitigation in the WUI: Waiting to hear about approval from Executive Board on the April Meeting. No further update.

#### **Wildfire Mitigation Field Guide (Sheryl)**

- Report-out and update: Continued positive progress on the field guide publication. Formatting is the biggest challenge right now and the working group needs a few more photos, specifically for safety, insurance, and codes. The group wants to include photos from all regions of the country and will ensure proper credit. S. Page will send E. O'Connor specific needs to include in a group email to the committee. The group is also finishing the insurance section. S. Page will reach out to the publications group and E. O'Connor reminded that S. Lee be included. Next working group meeting: May 2nd.

#### **WUIMC SOPs (Erin)**

The working group was unable to meet last month, no update at this time. Next meeting: May 2nd.

#### **Report-outs/Round Robin (All)**

E. O'Connor: F. Berry has delayed her retirement past June 2023. Her position has moved, and she will be working in support of the Fire Commission. The committee will still need a vice-chair replacement when she does retire. To keep in mind: the current Chair and Vice-Chair terms will end April 2024.

S. Page:

- Has a new mitigation specialist appointment who will be starting the last week of April.
  - Cannot announce until leadership does but is very excited.
- CWDG rollout occurred.
  - There has been a significant amount of associated activity.
  - Anticipating a May timeframe for round 2 solicitation rollout.
  - Working to develop common themes prior to rollout.
- A. Whitworth asked when the feedback for grant scoring will be rolled out.

- Cannot happen until personal information is redacted from applications.
- WUI Conference last week (highest attended conference ever)
  - Very well attended.
  - FAC Collaborative meeting with national partners:
    - Some of the work Litzenberg delivered last meeting was addressed.
    - Fireadapted.org developing into a great, comprehensive resource.
      - May host.

F. Berry:

- Sharing information about the Fire Commission, particularly the work of the subcommittees
  - Feedback is utilized by the commission - there is a significant interest in continued solicitation:
- <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster-resource-center/wildland-fire/commission/engagement>
- <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster-resource-center/wildland-fire/commission/members>

J. Ackerman:

- Cohesive Strategy Meetings - any input for the workshop planning next November should be sent to her (she is a planning committee member)
  - Blank slate at present, working to develop the programming and schedule.
  - Potential topics suggested:
    - Department of Homeland Security
      - Technology ATAK
    - TEK & Rx Fire
    - FMAG implementation
    - Writing a CWPP
    - States transitioning fire management programs into Departments of Public Safety.
  - WUIMC plans to tack on the in-person meeting on the front or back end of this session.

**Meeting adjourned.**

*Next meeting: May 3, 2023, via Teams Video Conference*