



ROCKY MOUNTAIN COORDINATING GROUP

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)
Bureau of Land Management (Colorado and Wyoming)
Fish and Wildlife Service (Mountain/Prairie Region)
Forest Service (Rocky Mountain Region)
National Park Service (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)
State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas

Minutes of Conference Call September 6, 2012 – 09:30

In Attendance:

Members

Chair Bob Jones

Vice Chair Ken Kerr

Jay Esperance

Dave Martin (for Hall)

Cal Pino

Bill Ott

Glenn Bartter (for Fletcher)

Jeff Fedrizzi

Jim Kelton (for Carter)

Ron Graham

Dave Niemi (for Davin)

Unavailable

Don Westover

Dan Smith

Ross Hauck

Guests

Steve Ellis (CO)

Dwight Henninger (CO)

Chad Ray (CO)

Rocco Snart (CO)

Kelly Kane (USFS)

Business Manager

Brooke Malcolm

1. **Operations Committee Liaison Replacement** **All**
 - Fedrizzi departing mid-October to new position.
 - Need to have new Operations Committee liaison in place before Fall Meeting.
 - Other committees (including one possible new committee) and dispatch zones also need liaisons.
 - Suggestion to shuffle liaisons to ensure coverage and encourage fresh involvement.

TASKING: Business Manager will develop survey for RMCG members to express their preferences for committee and dispatch zone liaison positions. Survey will be e-mailed to all RMCG members, and results will be tabulated for discussion at Fall Meeting.

2. **Operations Committee Chair Rotation** **All**
 - State of Wyoming in line for Chair position next year.
 - Chris Fallbeck currently first in line for Chair position, but will be moving from Operations to Aviation Committee.
 - Dick Terry is next State of Wyoming representative, but is coming to the committee cold this fall and will not be prepared to assume the role of Chair.
 - State of Wyoming is open to other alternative candidates for the Chair position.

- Suggestion to poll Operations Committee to determine if annual rotation is still the best option. Fedrizzi will take back to the Operations Committee for deliberation.
 - Explore possibility to enact a multi-year tenure and/or volunteers (in lieu of set rotation).
 - Invite nominations and/or volunteers.
 - Seek out short-term solution for next year and longer-term solution for coming years.
 - Possibly institute State-Fed-State rotation with more flexibility than defined agency rotation.

3. Type 1 IC Discussion

Kerr/Fedrizzi/Kane

- Pete Blume will serve as interim IC after Hahnenberg's departure.
- Announcement went out for applications for the Type 1 IC position.
- Candidates will be evaluated and selection made in October at RMCG Fall Meeting. Other team vacancies will follow normal process after IC selection takes place.
- Acting Deputy IC is Jeff Whitney currently. Jim Thomas and Todd Pechota have also committed to assisting whenever possible.
- Oral interviews will be included in next selection process.
 - Operations Committee recommends Chair/Vice Chair participation in interviews.
 - Suggestion to include Operations Committee Vice Chair, Operations Committee Liaison and RMCG Chair and/or Vice Chair.
 - Ott/Graham recommended adding RMCG state representative if above listed individuals are all Federal to ensure fair representation in composition of group.
 - Consensus reached to configure the interview panel as described. Kane will add to next edition of Ops Guide.
- Online application for all team members being released soon at national level.
 - Looking forward to some challenges, but overall should be a positive change.

4. NFDRS Issue Paper

Fedrizzi/Kane

- Confusion about tasking.
 - Not clear what intentions of tasking were.
 - Colorado-specific issue that was extrapolated to the entire geographic area.
 - Few members of committee have intimate knowledge of issues related to Lower North Fork fire.
- Acknowledge that WIMS program can be improved.
 - Recommendation for RMCG to develop a committee to address WIMS/RAWS/NFDRS issues.
 - Recommend employing outside entity to review RAWS in the Rocky Mountain Area and develop a roadmap for the committee.
- Asking for clarification on tasking and assignment of responsibilities.
 - Concern that line of authority is not clear.
 - Concern that liability is a persistent issue, particularly with regard to Lower North Fork.
- Kerr explained that tasking was not from governor of Colorado, but rather as a voluntary tasking from RMCG as support for the State of Colorado RMCG partners.
 - Issue extends beyond Colorado with the RAWS/WIMS/NFDRS system.
 - Goal is to resolve RMCG recommendations and findings by Fall Meeting in preparation for presentation to Executive Group.
 - RMCG should institute a Task Group for this issue, consisting of Colorado representatives to RMCG. Task Group should make presentation at Fall Meeting for further discussion by RMCG.
 - Rocco Snart volunteered to meet with Kerr to clarify recommendations to Executives.
 - Suggest continuation of current activities for improvement of the system.

- Need two-pronged response from Task Group:
 - Validation and clarification of expectations from Governor's Office and draft talking points for briefing.
 - Develop recommendation for RMCG moving forward.
- Ott, Kerr & Snart will coordinate a meeting to discuss requested response and determine course of action.

5. Fall Meeting Agenda

Jones/Kerr

- Upcoming meeting agenda item list sent out to all RMCG members for review.
- Fall Meeting scheduled for week of October 22.
- Agenda items should be sent to Chair, Vice Chair, or Business Manager as soon as possible.
- Operations Committee will handle IC report-outs at their meeting mid-October. Operations Committee Chair will then report-out to RMCG at Fall Meeting, with supplemental conference calls with ICs as necessary.
- Operations Committee requested RMCG certificates for participants in Platte Canyon Crew review. Kane will draft letter for signature and provide to Business Manager.

6. Action Log Update

Malcolm

- Current Action Log will be e-mailed out to all RMCG members for review.
- All RMCG members assigned to taskings should contact the Business Manager with updates/follow-up for all items listed.
- Current Action Log will be updated on RMCG webpage once updates are received from RMCG members.