



# **Northern Rockies Coordinating Group**

Federal, State, and Local Government Agencies Working Together in Emergency Response Management

## **Board of Directors Conference Call Agenda**

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021**

### **Participants:**

**Board Members:** Darron Williams, Ray Hart, Jim “James” Forsythe, Josh Harvey – Chair, Jake Ganieany, Mike DeGrosky, Rich Cowger – Vice Chair, Patrick Lonergan, Steve Holton, Ryan Melin, Dan Warthin, Ralph Rau  
**Deputies and Others:** Sarah Lee, Rick Connell, Jordan McKnight, Pam Jolly

**Purpose:** Welcome and a reminder that this is a public meeting for the purpose of conducting government business.

## **Special Session**

### **Complex Incident Management Teams Path Forward Discussion**

#### **IC Committee Data Review – Rick Connell**

- *(See spreadsheet with data)*
- Expressed appreciation for the data analysis work.
- Ralph Rau – Does the IC Committee have a common vision of what positions would comprise a core team?
  - Rick Connell – Not specifically; however, did propose completing a tradeoff analysis.
- *(See Trade-off Analysis)*
- Josh Harvey – Concern from agency leadership regarding maintaining efficiency across new configurations.
- Rick Connell – IC discussions show consensus that 55 individuals would be roughly the smallest that could be efficient.
- Sarah Lee – Important to initiate forward motion for the NRCG to be proactive and manage transition in a way that is best for this area. If some type of task group is not formed, then it would be 2023 before the GACC would be implementing any type of change.
- Mike DeGrosky – Historically, teams were smaller in size. Do share the concerns over cohesions; however, do feel work force is highly skilled and can accomplish rapid team development. Important to acknowledge what is substantiable.
- Rich Cowger – Feel that vetting is needed for some of the concepts expressed. Validity in listening to IC’s concerns around team cohesion.
- Sarah Lee – Propose establishing a small task group (two ICs, two dispatchers) to flush out what managing a pool in the Northern Rockies looks like and determine what can work in our area. Important that group would be focused on processes, system allowances and prohibitions.
  - Mike DeGrosky – Support this concept.
  - Ralph Rau – Support as well.
  - Patrick Lonergan – Support.
  - Josh Harvey – Support.
  - Mike DeGrosky – Would suggest including Kathy Pipkin as team coordinator. Would like all to take a stakeholder approach.
  - Ralph Rau – Important not to impart on the task group any preconceived notions.
  - Rick Connell – Volunteer as an IC for this task group and will recruit another one.
  - Sarah Lee – Volunteer to assist with this task group as well.



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- Josh Harvey – Feel that Aaron Thompson’s connectivity with IWDG would be a good asset to this group.
- Ralph Rau – Important to designate a lead BOD member as well.
- Jordan McKnight – May be important to include WFMT representation and how that will be incorporated into the future.
  - Josh Harvey – Suggestion to include Joe Sampson on this task group as well.
- Action Item: Rick Connell will take the lead on this task group. Josh Harvey will compile a formal tasking.
  - Task Group members: Rick Connell, Kathy Pipkin, Aaron Thompson, Joe Sampson, Josh Harvey
- Action Item: A small task group comprised of subject matter experts (SMEs) will be established to identify what managing a pool in the Northern Rockies looks like and determine what can work for this area. Important that the group will be focused on processes, system allowances and prohibitions. Rick Connell will take the lead on this task group. Josh Harvey will compile a formal tasking.
  - Task Group members: Rick Connell, Kathy Pipkin, Aaron Thompson, Joe Sampson, Josh Harvey, and an additional dispatcher.

**The next scheduled NRCG Monthly Team Meeting will be held May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1000 hours, Mountain Time.**