

RMCG INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
January 14, 2009 CONFERENCE CALL NOTES

Attendees

Jason Hartman, Kansas Forest Service
Beth Hermanson, South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression Division
Traci Weaver, National Park Service
Larry Helmerick, Fairmount Fire Department
Cathy Lujan, Wyoming Office of State Lands & Investments
Ron Graham, Wyoming State Forestry Division
Lynn Barclay, Bureau of Land Management
Sheryl Page, US Forest Service

Special Guest – Kim Bang, Rocky Mountain Geographic Area Training Representative

Discussion Topics

- S420 and S520 selection process issue paper
 - Coordinate between RMCG Operations and Training Committees
 - Formalize a process
 - Decision: Task group established to formalize process for Public Information Officer (PIO) courses (S420/520); Task group members – Lynn Barclay, Larry Helmerick, Traci Weaver, and Beth Hermanson
 - Information needed on past participants and completed
 - Decision: Kim Bang will compile the past 3 years and send to the PIO task group
 - S420 call for nominations needs formalization
 - Decision: Kim Bang will create and send announcement for S420 to the PIO task group for review and circulation
- Questions/Comments for the National PIO Working Group
 - Changes in Federal Fire Policy and PIO training – National Working Group following up on recommendations
 - Changing roles of PIO's at differing levels of incident management
 - Updating guide on terminology
 - National PIO Working Group established under the Incident Command Charter
- Revised Charter (Need to have a draft submitted for RMCG approval soon.)
 - Updated charter will be out to members this week
 - Edits
 - Unanimous Vote to Change Membership List – Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center Rep, RMA Fire Prevention/Education

Team Member Coord., County/Local Fire Service Entities, and RMCG Liaison will be moved from voting members to advisory/non-voting members

- Request to changes Officer rotation schedule – Unanimous vote to keep as is
 - Unanimous vote to change the first duties/responsibilities for members – Delete second sentence and replace with
 - If a committee member cannot attend a meeting/conference call, they will make a best effort to have an alternate.
 - Unanimous vote to add fifth member duties/responsibilities for establishing PIO task group to oversee the nomination process for PIO courses S420 and S520 (Jason will provide wording)
- Topics to be included on 2008 report to RMCG
 - Jason will present progress on the PIO course issue paper and other committee happenings – Get items to be included in the report to Jason by the end of this week
 - Report will be sent to committee members prior to the RMCG January meeting
 - Transition of Chair and Vice Chair – Jason will transfer Chair to Sheryl and Vice Chair to Ron Graham after the RMCG January meeting; email will be sent to committee members and RMCG chair noting the changes
 - RMA Fire Prevention PSA (see Proposal) – Ad Council taking on one cause per PSA; Smokey can be used in PSA as long at the USFS national office reviews the final draft before it goes to production
 - Smokey 65th (video, events to post of web, etc.) – Pass along information/products/ideas to Chair for circulation/posting on web
 - RMA Fire Prevention Education Team (FPET) update – Maggie McCaffery has taken another position, leaving a vacancy for the RMA FPET coordinator; Sheryl Page is temporarily assuming the role until a replacement is chosen; committee members who know of someone interested in filling the coordinator role should contact Sheryl ASAP
 - Wrap-up and adjourn – Thanks to Jason for herding the group and getting us up and running again
 - NEXT CONFERENCE CALL: April 29, 2009 1000 Mountain Time