

ILLINOIS TERRORISM TASK FORCE  
Minutes of Council of Chairs Meeting  
February 23, 2022  
2200 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703

**ATTENDANCE**

- Schenkel, Gary – Illinois Terrorism Task Force Chair, in person
- Tate-Nadeau, Alicia – IEMA Director/Homeland Security Advisor, via WebEx

**Committee Chairs**

**Critical Infrastructure:**

- Felchner, Gene – IL Department of Transportation, in person
- Juskelis, Vydas – American Public Works Association, via WebEx

**Cybersecurity:**

- Rominger, Jennifer – IL Department of Innovation and Technology, in person
- Sluga, Dan – IL Department of Innovation and Technology, via WebEx

**Emergency Management:**

- Sullivan, Marc – IL Emergency Management Agency, in person
- Dan Nelson – City of Naperville, via WebEx

**Fire Mutual Aid:**

- Keiken, Jim – IL Fire Service Institute, in person

**Law Enforcement Mutual Aid:**

- Page, Jim – ILEAS, via WebEx
- Price, J.W. – IL State Police, in person

**Public Health:**

- Fox, Amy – IL Association of Public Health Administrators, via WebEx

**Urban Area:**

- Barnes, William – Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security, via WebEx
- Guidice, Richard – City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications, via WebEx

**Staff/Members:**

Armstead, Alix – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), via WebEx  
Arnold, Eric – WIU, via WebEx  
Beamer-Pfeifer, Julie – Western IL University (WIU), in person  
Brown, Renysha – IEMA, in person  
Conway, Louise – IEMA, via WebEx  
Doerfler, Mark – IPWMAN, via WebEx  
Evans, Bob – IEMA, in person  
Evans, Larry – ILEAS, via WebEx  
Gutierrez, Natalie – Cook County DEMRS, via WebEx  
Hayward-Buys, Kim – Cook County DEMRS, via WebEx  
Holloway, Jennifer – IDPH, via WebEx  
Hotz, Heather – WIU, via WebEx  
Kim, Myong-Ae – IEMA, via WebEx  
Lyons, Bernie – MABAS, via WebEx  
Moore, Heather, IFSI, in person  
Porter, Tammy – IEMA, via WebEx  
Ricketts, Nina – IEMA  
Sanford, Jason – IEMA, in person  
Sedory, Laura – IEMA, in person  
Sluga, Dan – DoIT, via WebEx  
Starr, Matthew – IEMA, in person  
Statham, Anna – City of Chicago OEMC, via WebEx  
Strayer, Nichole – IEMA, via WebEx  
Sur, Kevin – IEMA, via WebEx

## Call to Order

ITTF Chairman Gary Schenkel called the meeting to order.

## Minutes

- **Motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 2021, Council of Chairs meeting.**  
**Motion to Approve: J.W. Price, ISP**  
**Seconded: Jim Keiken, IFSI**  
**Minutes of December 8, 2021, Council of Chairs meeting approved.**

## State Homeland Security

Chairman Schenkel spoke on the situation in Ukraine and how its effects are being felt in the U.S., specifically in the area of cybersecurity. He referenced the state of Illinois' plan for cybersecurity, lead by DoIt, and the possibility of federal cybersecurity grant funding for Illinois. He emphasized the importance of enhancing cybersecurity as a key part of Illinois' Homeland Security Strategy, Vision 2025. Chairman Schenkel also highlighted other Vision 2025 goals and how the objectives are being addressed.

Dan Sluga, Deputy Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), DoIT, explained that if we are trying to predict what a Russian cyberattack would look like, we should consider what has transpired in the past. He then summarized a cyberattack of Russian origin in 2017 and what we can learn from it. He stressed the key mitigation efforts we should all be utilizing, including multifactor authentication, zero trust architecture, and effective cybersecurity awareness training programs.

IEMA Director/HSA Alicia Tate-Nadeau discussed current geopolitical tensions and explained the reporting process for any sign of cyber intrusions. She advised that the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency website has valuable tools available to harden organizations' IT networks.

## Old Business

IEMA PGA Grants Manager Bob Evans gave an update on the federal government's progress in passing a budget and how it impacts the FFY22 HSGP and SFY23 PAR timelines. Evans also gave an update on the ITTF's list of unmet needs, i.e., unallocated funds have been distributed for some of the listed projects, and he reviewed the status of SFY22 PAR grant projects. Lastly, he spoke about the nationwide cybersecurity review for FFY21 HSGP, a mandatory self-assessment of the cyber posture of each organization that receives HSGP funding, due February 28.

## New Business

Chairman Schenkel spoke about potential revisions to the ITTF Bylaws. He instructed committee chairs to discuss suggested changes at their committee meetings, compile recommendations, and submit prior to the next full ITTF meeting in April.

Chairman Schenkel announced that Administrative Assistant Laura Sedory would be leaving IEMA. He expressed how valuable she was to the ITTF and thanked her for all her assistance.

Jim Page, ILEAS, provided an update on the ad hoc working groups that are looking at a unified command post strategy/funding requests and coordination of communications funding requests. He said both groups are working toward their March deadline to provide a report on their recommendations.

Committee chairs provided updates on their recent activities.

## Upcoming Meetings

- March 23, 2022, ITTF Council of Chairs meeting at 10 a.m. via WebEx
- April 27, 2022, ITTF full membership meeting at 10:00 via WebEx

## Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn.**  
**Motion to Adjourn: Jim Keiken, IFSI**  
**Seconded: Marc Sullivan, IEMA**  
**Meeting adjourned.**