

ILLINOIS TERRORISM TASK FORCE
Minutes of Council of Chairs Meeting
Feb. 22, 2023
2200 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703
and via WebEx

ATTENDANCE

- Page, Jim – Illinois Terrorism Task Force Chair, in person

Committee Chairs

Critical Infrastructure:

- Felchner, Gene – IL Department of Transportation, in person

Cybersecurity:

- Rominger, Jennifer – IL Department of Innovation and Technology, in person

Emergency Management:

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

Fire Mutual Aid:

- Jim Keiken – IL Fire Service Institute, in person

Law Enforcement Mutual Aid:

- Evans, Larry – IL Law Enforcement Alarm System, in person
- Price, J.W. – IL State Police, via WebEx

Public Health:

- Dos Santos, Andrea – IL Department of Public Health, via WebEx

Urban Area:

Staff/Members:

Ahrens, Scott – ISP, in person
Arnold, Eric – ILETSB, via WebEx
Beamer-Pfeifer, Julie – WIU, in person
Carle, Derek – ILETSB, via WebEx
Doerfler, Mark – IPWMAN, via WebEx
Eller, Amy – IDOT, via WebEx
Evans, Bob – IEMA, in person
Hotz, Heather – ILETSB, via WebEx
Lyons, Bernie – MABAS, in person
Kim, MyongAe – IEMA, via WebEx
Miller, Matt – IEMA, in person
Moore, Heather – IFSI, in person
Sanford, Jason – IEMA, via WebEx
Sluga, Dan – DoIT, via WebEx
Smith, Pete – ILEAS, in person
Strayer, Nichole – IEMA, via WebEx
Sur, Kevin – IEMA, via WebEx

Call to Order

ITTF Chairman Jim Page greeted everyone in the room and online and called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2022, Council of Chairs meeting.

Motion to Approve: Jim Keiken, IFSI

Seconded: Gene Felchner, IDOT

Minutes of December 14, 2022, Council of Chairs meeting approved.

Public Comments

No members of the public were present.

State Homeland Security Updates

Chair's Report: Chairman Jim Page informed the Council that State of Illinois funds to address gaps in homeland security funding (PAR grant) were increased in the upcoming state fiscal year budget by \$2.5 million. These (tentative) additional funds will be used to address capital replacement shortfalls identified in the 2022 Homeland Security Gaps Report. Page also explained that the \$1.3 million Illinois State Police has in its tentative budget for the Safe2Help Program will free up PAR funds previously used for that program. So, in essence, PAR funding could increase by \$3.8 million in the coming year.

Page spoke about an approved urban area helicopter purchase. He would like to discuss the issue at March's Council of Chairs meeting and take a vote to indicate the ITTF's support.

Old Business

- Update on federal grant process timeline: Acting PGA Bureau Bob Evans confirmed that the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the FY23 Homeland Security Grant Program will be released on Feb. 27. He said this year's grant will have the same national priorities as last year, and 30 percent of total funding must be directed to projects supporting these priorities. Evans reviewed the minimum percentage requirements for each national priority; new this year is a 3 percent requirement for election security. He also pointed out that the law enforcement minimum has increased to 35 percent. He asked that the initial Attachment A's be submitted by March 15. Evans said the updated timeline and all attachments will be sent out Feb. 27 or 28.
- Update on reallocation of unmet needs projects: Evans reported that in the last four weeks, \$541,000 in projects from the approved unmet needs list have been funded.

New Business

- Implications of the end of the public health emergency: Chairman Page announced that as of May 11, the public health emergency will end, both at the state and federal levels, which means that the Open Meetings Act guidelines that had been relaxed during the pandemic will be back in effect. Attendance at all ITTF meetings, including committee meetings, must be in person. A few exceptions exist, but a request to attend from another location must be made in advance, and the same guidelines that apply to the primary meeting location must be followed, e.g., agenda must be posted at entrance 48 hours in advance, location must be accessible to the public, etc. The primary location and any alternate locations would collectively count toward a quorum. Page said he will work with IEMA legal counsel to prepare and distribute a document outlining meeting requirements.
- Discussion regarding committee structure: Chairman Page pointed out that two current ITTF working groups – the Preventing Targeted Violence Working Group and the School Safety Working Group – have similar goals and overlap in participating organizations. He is proposing the creation of a permanent ITTF Prevention Committee to encompass the missions of these two working groups. He also explained that the Prevention Committee would be a better fit for schools, universities, and education-related organizations than the Emergency Management Committee. Discussion took place, with attendees expressing agreement with the concept.

- ITTF name change: Chairman Page shared that on Feb. 17 Governor Pritzker issued an Executive Order that renames the ITTF; it will now be known as the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC). The EO also changes the name of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA-OHS). These changes will take effect in 60 days.
- Committee chair updates:
 - Jennifer Rominger, Cybersecurity Committee co-chair, provided an update on the FY 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program.
 - Marc Sullivan, Emergency Management Committee co-chair, reported that over the past year the IMAT team has been equipped, trained and qualified to deploy statewide or over state lines in response to an EMAC request or FEMA Supplemental Response Team call. The committee will be working on completing the UCP capital replacement plan.
 - Jim Keiken, Fire Mutual Aid Committee co-chair, reported that training will continue to ramp up this year now that the state is past pandemic restrictions. The committee is also working on equipment replacement for IFSI and MABAS and training calendars for 2024. Bernie Lyons from MABAS added that the MABAS conference is happening this week.
 - Andrea Dos Santos, Public Health Committee co-chair, said at next month's meeting they will be talking about the Attachment As and committee projects.
 - Gene Felchner, Critical Infrastructure Committee co-chair, spoke about the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, through which Illinois will receive \$148 million over the next five years to deploy electric vehicle charging stations and establish a network to facilitate data collection and access. IDOT is the lead on submitting a plan to U.S. DOT.
- Other comments:
 - Mark Doerfler, IPWMAN, reported on Senate Bill 249, which would amend the Prevailing Wage Act and make it much more difficult to provide public works mutual aid across the state during disaster response. He said he believes the negative effect on mutual aid is an unintended consequence of the bill, and IPWMAN is working to inform the bill's sponsors of its potential impact.

Other Business

- Upcoming Meetings
 - ITTF Council of Chairs meeting – March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m.
ILEAS Training Center, 1701 E. Main, Urbana, IL
 - ITTF Full Membership meeting – April 19, 2023, at 10 a.m.
 - ITTF Council of Chairs Meeting – May 24, 2023, at 10 a.m.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Jim Keiken, IFSI
Seconded: Jennifer Rominger, DoIT
Motion carried.