

Illinois Homeland Security Advisory Council

Council of Chairs Meeting

December 10, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA-OHS)
2200 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703
and
Will County Emergency Management Agency
302 North Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432

Attendance:

Unless otherwise indicated, individuals attended in Springfield.

Ted Berger – IEMA-OHS Acting Director/Homeland Security Advisor

Beth Windisch, IEMA-OHS Deputy Director of Homeland Security

Committee Chairs

Communications:

- Matt Miller – Illinois Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

Critical Infrastructure:

- Joe Gasparich – Illinois Department of Transportation
- Mark Doerfler – Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

Cybersecurity:

- Jennifer Rominger – Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology

Emergency Management:

- Allison Anderson – Will County Emergency Management Agency (attended in Joliet)
- Clayton Kuetemeyer – Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security

Fire Mutual Aid:

Law Enforcement Mutual Aid:

- J.W. Price – Illinois State Police
- Larry Evans – Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System

Prevention:

Public Health:

- John Ridley – Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators

Urban Area:

Staff/Members:

Adjei-Mantey, Daniel – IEMA-OHS
Albert, Damian – Cook County EMRS
(attended in Joliet)
Beamer-Pfeifer, Julie – WIU/IEMA-OHS
Bowen, Jason – DoIT
Bricker, Cindi – ILETSB
Carle, Derek – ILETSB
Cochran, Chris – IDPH
Dodd, Chris – IEMA-OHS
Dorando, Douglas – IEMA-OHS
Evans, Bob – IEMA-OHS
Horn, Nichole – IEMA-OHS
Joves, Alex – Cook County EMRS
(attended in Joliet)
Lyons, Bernie – MABAS (attended in Joliet)
McAnelly, Jessica – IDPH
Moore, Heather – IFSI
Perry, Tara – IEMA-OHS

Pool, Douglas – ISP-STIC
Seraphin, Bryant – ILEAS

Minutes

➤ Call to Order

IEMA-OHS Preparedness and Grants Administration Division Chief Bob Evans welcomed everyone attending in Springfield and in Joliet.

➤ Minutes

○ Motion to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2025, Council of Chairs Meeting

Motion to approve: J.W. Price, ISP

Seconded: Larry Evans, ILEAS

Motion passed.

➤ Public Comments

None.

➤ State Homeland Security Updates

- Homeland Security Advisor and IEMA-OHS Acting Director Ted Berger shared that the FEMA Review Council Report would be released the following day during a public meeting. He said he will share updates when available and emphasized the importance of advocating at the state and local levels for what is best for communities and residents in Illinois once the report's recommendations are known.

➤ New Business

- 2025 IL-HSAC Annual Report:
OHS Deputy Director Beth Windisch explained the format for the 2025 HSAC Annual Report. Committee chairs should submit their committee reports by Jan. 15, 2026, as required by HSAC Bylaws. The report is due to the Governor's Office on March 1, 2026.
- Submission of committee meeting schedules for 2026:
Committee rosters and 2026 committee meeting schedules are due Dec. 31, 2025.
- 2026 HSAC Meeting Schedule:
DD Windisch pointed out changes to the 2026 HSAC meeting schedule. The updated schedule and meeting invitations will be sent out soon.
- Federal Grants Update:
IEMA-OHS Deputy General Counsel Douglas Dorando provided an update on ongoing litigation concerning federal grant programs. He said the situation continues to be fluid and dynamic. He is currently tracking 23 cases that impact Illinois' grants and grant-making ability. He is hopeful there will be a ruling on the grant period of performance and the EMPG and HSGP grants by the end of the month.
- Update on FFY 25 Homeland Security Grant Program award:
Chief Evans displayed slides (attached) showing tentative grant cycle timelines/performance periods based on information from the Notice of Funding Opportunity and from the grant award, which contain contradictory information. He reported that by the Feb. 3, 2026, full membership meeting, there should be some clarity on the situation, allowing for updates to the timeline.

- Glenn Ericksen's retirement:

Chief Evans recognized Glenn Ericksen on his retirement from the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, where he served as Chief Executive Officer, and thanked him for his many years of service on the Illinois Terrorism Task Force/Homeland Security Advisory Council, including serving as co-chair of the Fire Mutual Aid Committee.

➤ **Old Business**

- Reminder about OneNet training requirement:

Julie Pfeifer reminded attendees about the annual OneNet training requirement for member organization appointees and alternate appointees. Individuals having difficulty logging in to the OneNet system should contact Traci Burton in the IEMA-OHS legal office.

➤ **Other Business**

- Upcoming Meetings
 - Full IL-HSAC Meeting – Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2026, 10 a.m.
 - Council of Chairs Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 10 a.m.

➤ **Adjournment**

Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Funding

Timeline from NOFO

	Calendar Year 2026	Calendar Year 2027	Calendar Year 2028
FFY 22 HSGP		Expires 8/31/26	
FFY 23 HSGP		Expires 8/31/27	
FFY 24 HSGP		Expires 8/31/27	
FFY 25 HSGP			Expires 8/31/28
FFY 26 HSGP			Expires 9/30/27??

Timeline from Award

	Calendar Year 2026	Calendar Year 2027	Calendar Year 2028
FFY 22 HSGP		Expires 8/31/26	
FFY 23 HSGP		Expires 8/31/27	
FFY 24 HSGP		Expires 8/31/27	
FFY 25 HSGP		Expires 9/30/26	
FFY 26 HSGP			Expires 9/30/27??

FFY 2026 HSGP and SFY 27 PAR Timeline

All dates are tentative.

(Updated 12-5-25)

February 4th- Attachment A's sent out to committee chairs.

February 4th through March 10th- Committees meet to discuss strategy and projects for FFY 26 HSGP funding. (October 1, 2026-September 30, 2027, performance period).

March 11th- Organizations submit initial Attachment A's with SHSP/UASI split and justification for split. Also, a Personnel List for organizations who have positions listed for funding on the Attachment A.

March 18th- IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs to discuss Attachment A's project submissions, overall SHSP/UASI split, State/Local split and vote on final FFY 26 HSGP recommended project submission to Full IL-HSAC (if allocations available from FEMA).

March 19th through May 13th- Committees meet to discuss strategy and projects for SFY 27 PAR funding. (July 1, 2027-June 30, 2028, performance period).

April 15th- IL-HSAC Chairs meeting (Placeholder for Special meeting if allocations are late. Room is reserved for us.)

Chairs to discuss Attachment A's project submissions, overall SHSP/UASI split, State/Local split and vote on final FFY 26 HSGP recommended project submission to Full IL-HSAC (if allocations available from FEMA).

April 22nd- IL-HSAC Full Meeting

IL-HSAC Full membership meeting to discuss and vote on final FFY 26 HSGP recommended project submission to HSA (if allocations available from FEMA).

May 20th- IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs to discuss the strategy for SFY 27 PAR funding. (July 1, 2027-June 30, 2028, performance period). *Might also be discussing final vote on FFY 26 HSGP recommendations to full IL-HSAC if allocations are late.*

June 10th- Committee project requests for SFY 27 PAR due to IEMA-OHS

June 24th- IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs discuss and vote on SFY 27 PAR project funding recommendations to full IL-HSAC.

June 30th- IEMA-OHS submits FFY 26 HSGP application to FEMA

July 22nd- IL-HSAC Full meeting

Full membership meets to discuss and vote on SFY 27 PAR project funding recommendations. (July 1, 2027-June 30, 2028, performance period)

July 23rd through September 8th

Committees meet to discuss unmet needs requests that can be submitted to IEMA-

OHS for reallocated FFY 23 HSGP and SFY 27 PAR funding.

September 9th-Unmet needs requests for FFY 23 HSGP and SFY 27 PAR due to IEMA-OHS

September 23rd- IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs meet to discuss and prioritize FFY 23 HSGP and SFY 27 PAR unmet needs project submissions.

October 1st-IEMA-OHS receives FFY 26 Award. Grant agreements issued to all organizations who have approved Final Attachment A's. FEMA may place a hold on certain projects or ask IEMA-OHS to revise submission of IJ's based upon what projects are approved and how it affects funding splits.

October 28th-IL-HSAC Full meeting

Full membership meets to discuss and vote on unmet needs projects for FFY 23 HSGP and SFY 27 PAR funding recommendations.

December 9th-IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs meet to discuss Annual Report submission.

2026 Illinois Homeland Security Advisory Council Meeting Schedule (as of 12/8/25)

Tuesday – February 3	Full Membership Meeting
<i>Wednesday – March 18</i>	<i>Council of Chairs Meeting</i>
Wednesday – April 22	Full Membership Meeting
<i>Wednesday – May 20</i>	<i>Council of Chairs Meeting</i>
<i>Wednesday – June 24</i>	<i>Council of Chairs Meeting</i>
Wednesday – July 22	Full Membership Meeting
<i>Wednesday – September 23</i>	<i>Council of Chairs Meeting</i>
Wednesday – October 28	Full Membership Meeting
<i>Wednesday – December 9</i>	<i>Council of Chairs Meeting (Combined Nov-Dec)</i>

All meetings will be held at 10:00 a.m.

Please note: per the HSAC Bylaws, the Chair may call an unscheduled meeting if an issue requires the review and approval of the HSAC.

Meetings will usually be held at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security, 2200 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL. Full Membership meetings may be attended at alternate host site - DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, 418 North County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL.