

ILLINOIS HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Membership Meeting

July 23, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security
2200 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL

and

DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
418 North County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL

Call to Order/Welcome

IEMA-OHS Preparedness and Grants Administration Division Chief Bob Evans called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in Springfield and Wheaton.

Meeting attendees (unless noted, individuals listed attended in Springfield)

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

HSAC Member Delegates:

Ameren – Tony O’Neal

American Public Works Association (APWA) – Vydas Juskelis (DuPage County), Michael Millette (DuPage County)

American Red Cross – Mike Moos

American Water –

Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois (AFFI) – Chuck Sullivan (DuPage County)

Aurora University –

Central Management Services (CMS) – Brent Boesdorfer, Joseph Gillespie

Cities of Bloomington-Normal – Mick Humer

Cities of Champaign-Urbana –

City of Chicago – Natalie Gutierrez (DuPage County)

City of Joliet –

City of Naperville –

City of Peoria –

City of Quincy – Michael Dade

City of Rockford –

City of Springfield – Joshua Stuenkel

Collaborative Health Care Urgency Group (CHUG) –

Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security (DEMRS) –

DuPage County Office of Homeland Security Emergency Management (OHSEM) – Craig Dieckman (DuPage County)

Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police –

Illinois Association of County Engineers –

Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators (IAPHA) – John Ridley

Illinois Association of School Administrators –

Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) –

Illinois Board of Higher Education –

Illinois Campus Law Enforcement Administrators – Chris Ballard

Illinois Coalition of Community Blood Centers – Krista Jiroutek

Illinois College of Emergency Physicians – Jason Kegg

Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) – Bryan Pemble

Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) – Jeff Newell

Illinois Council of Code Administrators –

Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association –
 Illinois Department of Agriculture –
 Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) –
 Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) –
 Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) –Jason Bowen
 Illinois Department of Military Affairs (Illinois National Guard) –
 Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) –
 Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) – Jessica McAnelly
 Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) – Joe Gasparich
 Illinois Department on Aging – Chuck Miller
 Illinois Education Association – Rachel Leathers (DuPage County), Paul Adams (DuPage County)
 Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA-OHS) – Clayton Kuetemeyer,
 Chris Dodd
 Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA) –Michael Fleming (DuPage County)
 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) –
 Illinois Firefighters Association –
 Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) – Joseph Holomy
 Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) – Heather Moore
 Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHHA) – Keneatha Johnson (DuPage County)
 Illinois Incident Management System (IL-IMS) – Chauntelle Biagi
 Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) – Larry Evans, Bryant Seraphin
 Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) – Eric Arnold, Derek Carle, Heather Hotz
 Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) – Mary Connelly (DuPage County)
 Illinois Public Health Mutual Aid System – Stephen Melega
 Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) – Mark Doerfler
 Illinois School Psychologists Association – Rosario Pesce (DuPage County)
 Illinois School Resource Officers Association –
 Illinois Sheriffs' Association – Jim Kaitschuk
 Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE) – Amy Kelly
 Illinois State Police (ISP) – Brendan Kelly, Scott Ahrens
 Illinois Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) – Matthew Miller, Jordan Spreitzer
 Lake County Emergency Management Agency – Dan Eder (DuPage County), Michael Jackson (DuPage County)
 Logan County Emergency Management Agency –
 McHenry County Emergency Management Agency – Dave Christensen (DuPage County)
 Metro-East Emergency Management Agency (St. Clair – Madison Counties) –
 Mid-West Truckers Association – Don Schaefer
 Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) – Bernie Lyons (DuPage County)
 Nicor Gas – Mark Guth (DuPage County)
 Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) –
 Ogle County Emergency Management Agency –
 People's Gas and Northshore Gas Companies –
 Quad Cities –
 Regional Superintendents of Schools – Shannon Fehrholz
 Secretary of State Police (SOS) –
 Will County Emergency Management Agency – Allison Anderson (DuPage County)

Advisory Members

Steve Lyddon – U.S. DHS

Other Attendees

Julie Beamer-Pfeifer – WIU/IEMA-OHS
Chris Cochran – IDPH
Bob Evans – IEMA-OHS
Aaron Kustermann – ISP STIC
Dan Nelson
Tara Perry – IEMA-OHS

Doug Poole – ISP STIC
Karl Pound – IEMA-OHS
Ashley Reichert – ISP STIC
Nichole Strayer – IEMA-OHS
Beth Windisch
Victor Zepeda – IEMA-OHS

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2025, full membership meeting.

Motion to Approve: Mick Humer, Cities of Bloomington-Normal

Seconded: Derek Carle, ILETSB

Motion carried.

Public Comments

None.

Homeland Security Updates

Ted Berger, Homeland Security Advisor/Acting IEMA-OHS Director, introduced himself to attendees, as this was his first full membership meeting. He acknowledged the uncertainty of federal funding, which will necessitate working together to chart new pathways, evaluate opportunities, and determine the best course forward to recommend to the governor. He also said he would like to meet with organizations to talk about their priorities, how they envision their work going forward, and opportunities to invest in those future efforts. Lastly, Acting Director Berger introduced Beth Windish, who will be starting next Monday as IEMA-OHS Deputy Director of Homeland Security.

Aaron Kustermann, Chief Intelligence Officer, Illinois State Police - State Terrorism and Intelligence Center, provided an intelligence briefing.

Jason Bowen, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Innovation and Technology, provided a cybersecurity briefing.

New Business

- Discussion and approval of SFY26 Preparedness and Response (PAR) Grant Program projects and budget: Chief Evans provided background on the PAR program, which is funded at \$10 million for SFY26. The Council of Chairs met in June and approved a project list to present at this meeting. (Attached at the end of minutes.) Organization representatives provided summaries of their projects and answered questions from the membership present.

Motion to approve SFY26 PAR budget and projects

Motion to approve: Eric Arnold, ILETSB

Seconded: Joseph Holomy, IFCA

Motion passed.

Evans said that once the PAR budget and project recommendations have been reviewed and approved by IEMA-OHS leadership, grant agreements will be forthcoming. September 30 is the end of the first quarter, with October 30 the first due date for reimbursements for items going back to July 1.

- **Budget timeline updates**

- FFY25 Homeland Security Grant Program: Evans reported that FEMA has still not released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). For reference, applications are usually submitted sometime in June. Lacking a current NOFO, HSAC has been planning projects based on last year's funding amount. Evans pointed out the unknowns for this year's NOFO, including national priorities/minimum spending amounts, application deadline, etc. Depending on the timing of the NOFO release, Evans advised a special Council of Chairs and/or full membership meeting may be scheduled.
- Unmet Needs List Projects (FFY22 HSGP): Evans explained how FEMA granted automatic one-year period of performance extensions for grant years FFY17 to FFY21 due to supply chain issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. The automatic extensions then ended, and IEMA-OHS requested and was granted a one-year extension for FFY22 (extending the performance period to August 31, 2026). IEMA-OHS plans to ask for extensions for FFY23 and FFY24 but has been advised to wait until August 31 to do so. This uncertainty will necessitate considering two scenarios when formulating the unmet needs project list this fall. If the FFY 23 extension is denied, two years' worth of grant funding will be expiring August 31, 2026. Evans said information will be sent to committees regarding the submission of their unmet needs requests, including the amount of current grantees' available funding to help inform the committees' requests.

Closing Remarks

Acting Director Berger explained that as a former Cook County employee, he is bound by revolving door ethics requirements and thus will recuse himself from financial matters directly involving Cook County for one year. IEMA-OHS Chief Financial Officer Karl Pound will have decision-making authority in these matters.

Berger stressed the importance of advocating for the work the HSAC does, including documenting and sharing the impact of investments. This is especially important as the group looks at potential new funding streams or difficult decisions regarding changing direction with current investments.

Other Business

- Upcoming Meetings/Events
 - Council of Chairs Meeting – September 24, 2025, 10 a.m.
 - Full Membership Meeting – October 22, 2025, 10 a.m.
 - Council of Chairs Meeting – December 10, 2025, 10 a.m.

Adjournment

CURRENT BUDGET REQUESTS FOR SFY 2026 PAR

Subrecipient	Project Name and Description	SFY 2026 Potential PAR Project	Adjustments	Final
Chicago/FD	(2) Polymerase Chain Reaction Biological Threat Detection Systems for each of its HazMat Units- Change to (1)	\$78,000	-\$39,000	\$39,000
Chicago/OEMC	One (1) Federal Signal Rapid Deployment Trailer	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
Chicago/PD	Ballistic Shields Replacement Project	\$429,000	-\$343,000	\$86,000
Chicago/OEMC	Two (2) HVAC Trailer Units- Change to (1)	\$250,000	-\$125,000	\$125,000
Chicago/FD	(1) Mobile Concentrated Foam Delivery System	\$250,000	-\$250,000	\$0
Chicago/OEMC	Two (2) Water Buffalo Water Filtration Unit Trailers	\$100,000	-\$100,000	\$0
Chicago/OEMC	One (1) G-150 Generator Trailer	\$175,000	-\$175,000	\$0
Chicago/OEMC	Portable Field Hygiene Assets	\$75,000	-\$75,000	\$0
Chicago/FD	Replacement Boat for Water Rescue, Recovery, and Response	\$1,000,000	-\$1,000,000	\$0
IDPH	Regional Health Care Coalition Comms Replacement	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
IDOT	Traffic Incident Management Training Courses	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000
IEMA/EM	2 Automatic Sandbag Machines- Change to (1)	\$126,000	-\$63,000	\$63,000
IEMA/EM	4 Manual Sandbag Machines- Change to (2)	\$80,000	-\$20,000	\$60,000
IEMA/EM	(6) 8" Diesel Pumps with Hose Kit for flood fight response- Change to (3)	\$1,020,000	-\$510,000	\$510,000
IEMA/EM	Upgrades to State Unified Command posts and technology maintenance	\$500,000	-\$250,000	\$250,000
IEMA/EM	EM Training	\$209,641	\$0	\$209,641
IEMA/EM	(24) Message Boards	\$384,000	-\$384,000	\$0
IEMA/EM	Road Barricades (Type III)	\$99,000	-\$99,000	\$0
IEMA/EM	2 Sprinter Vans for Mobile Field Deployment	\$225,000	-\$225,000	\$0
IEMA/Comms	Replace current IEMA-OHS Operations Center Dispatch Consoles	\$600,000	-\$600,000	\$0
IEMA/Comms	Portable Cache/ Operational Radio Upgrade	\$300,000	-\$150,000	\$150,000
IEMA/Comms	Radio Repeaters	\$150,000	-\$50,000	\$100,000
IEMA/Comms	50 ft Radio towers for HF at 2 regional offices	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
IEMA/Comms	Enhance the security infrastructure of the SEOC. Add wall and card readers to secure upper floor of SEOC. Cellular device storage and white noise emitters.	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000
IEMA/Comms	STARCOM on Wheels Upgrade	\$50,000	-\$25,000	\$25,000
IEMA/Comms	IEMA-OHS Communications vehicle upgrade	\$150,000	-\$50,000	\$100,000

IFSI	ASIM ADVANCED SRP/SRM Training	\$763,813	\$0	\$763,813
IFSI	Front End Loader/Training Equipment	\$130,000	-\$130,000	\$0
IFSI	NIMS Courses	\$525,000	-\$126,087	\$398,913
IFSI	ICR	\$193,322	-\$18,913	\$174,409
ILEAS	ILEAS MFF Equipment Truck (2)	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000
ILEAS	ILEAS SRT Ford 350 Diesel Truck (2)	\$175,000	\$0	\$175,000
ILEAS	ILEAS MFF Trailers (3)	\$26,000	\$0	\$26,000
ILEAS	ILEAS Special Teams Equipment	\$207,000	-\$207,000	\$0
ILEAS	ILEAS Operational Costs	\$70,000	\$0	\$70,000
ILEAS	ILEAS SRT WP NVG Replacement	\$82,824	\$0	\$82,824
ILEAS	ILEAS Special Team Veh Maint.	\$50,000	-\$10,000	\$40,000
ILEAS	ILEAS IT Update Servers/Computer replacement	\$37,400	\$0	\$37,400
ILEAS	ILEAS Less Lethal Munitions	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
ILEAS	ILEAS Training Center Equipment	\$90,000	-\$60,000	\$30,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS PSAP/EMA Starcom 21 Radio	\$175,000	\$0	\$175,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS Recurring Costs/Services Starlink	\$160,000	-\$130,000	\$30,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS Special Teams Comms	\$165,000	-\$10,000	\$155,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS Cache Radios	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS HF Radios	\$224,000	-\$10,000	\$214,000
ILEAS/Comms	ILEAS Communications Update/Maint.	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
ISP STIC	OPS travel for Analysts	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
ISP SWMDT	OPS SWAT Personnel & Travel	\$175,000	\$0	\$175,000
ISP SWMDT	Robotic Platform	\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000
ISP SWMDT	Port Security Vessels and Equipment	\$480,000	\$0	\$480,000
ISP SWMDT	Specialized Plate Carrier	\$100,000	-\$25,000	\$75,000
ISP SWMDT	CBRNE Response Vehicle	\$80,000	-\$20,000	\$60,000
ISP SWMDT	Night Vision Equipment	\$225,000	\$0	\$225,000
ISP SWMDT	SCBA WMD Shield Replcement	\$200,000	-\$200,000	\$0
ISP SWMDT	WMD Specialized Clothing for Inclement Conditions	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
ISP SWMDT	CBRNE Cannisters	\$10,000	-\$10,000	\$0
ISP SWMDT	Ballistic Shields	\$60,000	-\$30,000	\$30,000
ISP SWMDT	Specialized Clothing-BDU's	\$120,000	-\$30,000	\$90,000
ISP SWMDT	Bomb Suits	\$100,000	-\$100,000	\$0
ISP SWMDT	2nd Line EOD Kit	\$20,000	-\$20,000	\$0
ISP SWMDT	X10 Chemical Tester	\$150,000	-\$150,000	\$0
ISP SWMDT	Medical Kits and Supplies	\$30,000	-\$15,000	\$15,000
ISP SWMDT	Law Enforcement Aerial Surveillance Equipment	\$100,000	-\$50,000	\$50,000
ISP SWMDT	WMD Tactical Entry Equipment	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000
ISP SWMDT	Armor Body Plates and Side Panels	\$100,000	-\$50,000	\$50,000
Logan CO	IESMA Generator Maintenance	\$125,000	\$0	\$125,000
MABAS	OPS, Insurance	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
MABAS	CSS	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000
MABAS	Equipment	\$1,100,000	-\$100,000	\$1,000,000
MABAS	USART	\$900,000	\$0	\$900,000
MABAS	IPWMAN Ops	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
	Total Amount Requested	\$16,035,000	-\$6,035,000	\$10,000,000

Budget

\$10,000,000

\$10,000,000

Budget Amount Remaining

-\$6,035,000

\$0