

**Illinois Homeland Security Advisory Council**

**Council of Chairs Meeting**

**March 26, 2025, 10:00 a.m.**

Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security  
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.*

Alicia Tate-Nadeau – Homeland Security Advisor/IL-HSAC Chair/IEMA-OHS Director (via WebEx)

Claire Moravec –Deputy Homeland Security Advisor/IL-HSAC Chair Pro Tempore

Clayton Kuetemeyer – IEMA-OHS Deputy Director of Emergency Management

Committee Chairs

Communications:

- Matt Miller – Illinois Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

Critical Infrastructure:

- Mark Doerfler – Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (attended in Joliet)
- Joe Gasparich – Illinois Department of Transportation

Cybersecurity:

- Jennifer Rominger – Department of Innovation and Technology

Emergency Management:

- Allison Anderson – Will County Emergency Management Agency (attended in Joliet)

Fire Mutual Aid:

Law Enforcement Mutual Aid:

- Larry Evans – Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System

Prevention:

- Eric Arnold – Illinois Law Enforcement and Training Standards Board
- Roger Alvey – Illinois Association of School Administrators

Public Health:

- Andrea Dos Santos – Illinois Department of Public Health

Urban Area:

- Ted Berger – Cook County Dept. of Emergency Management and Regional Security (attended in Joliet)

Staff/Members:

Ahrens, Scott – ISP

Albert, Damian – Cook Co. DEMRS (Joliet)

Beamer-Pfeifer, Julie – WIU/IEMA-OHS

Bowen, Jason – DoIT

Dodd, Christopher – IEMA-OHS (Joliet)

England, Jon – IEMA-OHS

Evans, Bob – IEMA-OHS

Gorup, Anthony – IEMA-OHS

Gutierrez, Natalie – City of Chicago

Lewin, Jonathan – Cook Co. DEMRS (Joliet)

Lyons, Bernie – MABAS

Moore, Heather – IFSI

Porter, Tammy – IEMA-OHS

Reichert, Ashley – STIC

Seraphin, Bryant – ILEAS

Strayer, Nichole – IEMA-OHS

## Minutes

### ➤ Call to Order

IEMA-OHS PGA Section Manager Bob Evans welcomed everyone attending in Springfield and in Joliet.

### ➤ Minutes

*Motion to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2024, Council of Chairs.*

*Motion to Approve: Jennifer Rominger, DoIT*

*Seconded: Eric Arnold, ILETSB*

*Motion passed.*

### ➤ Public Comments

None.

### ➤ Recognition

Deputy Homeland Security Advisor/IL-HSAC Chair Pro Tempore Claire Moravec recognized and congratulated Homeland Security Advisor/IL-HSAC Chair/IEMA-OHS Director Alica Tate-Nadeau on her upcoming retirement at the end of March. She thanked Tate-Nadeau for her contributions to the state over the past six years+, which will have lasting impacts – particularly her work to enhance Illinois' preparedness, prevention, resilience, and response capabilities.

### ➤ State Homeland Security Updates

- HSA/IEMA-OHS Director Tate-Nadeau expressed her appreciation for working with the HSAC on critical legislation and initiatives, encouraged the HSAC to remain proactive in addressing emerging threats and providing counsel to the next HSA, and emphasized the importance of mutual aid across the state.
- Deputy HSA/IL-HSAC Chair Pro Tempore and IEMA-OHS Deputy Director of Homeland Security Claire Moravec addressed the existing federal funding freeze, explaining that the State of Illinois is currently litigating the matter in federal court. She advised HSAC organizations to consult their legal counsels regarding how to move forward – or not move forward – on their current projects and noted that any additional updates she is able to share will be promptly communicated.

Considering the ongoing uncertainty surrounding federal funding allocations and reimbursements, Moravec emphasized the importance of continuing to be strategic and disciplined in utilizing federal funding, focusing on projects with the greatest impact. She said initial FFY 25 grant project proposals will be evaluated based on necessity, feasibility, and alignment with homeland security priorities, ensuring projects have clear, measurable outcomes with sustainable long-term benefits statewide.

### ➤ New Business

- Open Meeting Act – IEMA-OHS Staff Attorney and OMA Officer Jon England discussed the OMA Act in relation to allowing remote attendance at HSAC meetings. If the council chooses to allow remote attendance, a change to the HSAC Bylaws will be required, after which time the Act allows for remote attendance under specific circumstances as long as there is a quorum physically present at the primary meeting location(s). Moravec advised that with the current HSA retiring soon, no changes will be made to the bylaws until a replacement is named. England clarified that committees are currently allowed to set up remote meeting locations that meet all OMA criteria (open to the public, notice publicly posted, etc.).
- Budget Timeline Update – Evans shared that the president has signed the federal budget, which includes a total HSGP funding amount that is the same as last year. The usual course of events after the budget is signed involves FEMA scheduling webinars with the states to discuss national priorities, state allocations/splits, etc. To date, no information has been shared by FEMA. Evans said he will push out information as it's received.

The current budget timeline includes switching the May HSAC meetings – May 7 will be a Council of Chairs meeting, and May 28<sup>th</sup> will be a full meeting. Evans went over the tentative timeline, which is

based on the Notice of Funding Opportunity being released sometime in April. (Timeline is attached to these minutes.) Moravec reminded chairs that federal funding is currently frozen; however, the HSAC is continuing to move forward with the grants timeline as usual so Illinois will be positioned to act on key initiatives when funding becomes available.

- Review of Federal FY25 SHSP/USAI Budget Proposal Recommendations – Evans said that all initial project proposals were received and entered into a spreadsheet, which he displayed for the group. Initial requests totaled \$3.3 million more than last year’s allocation, which is this year’s anticipated allocation. Staff will work with funding recipients individually to ascertain if some items could move to the PAR grant, what projects are sustainment vs. new, if some projects are scalable, etc. Moravec also asked organizations to keep in mind existing open awards that could be utilized for proposed projects. Evans mentioned that any national priorities that are announced could affect how much funding is available for other projects. Moravec said that once the final numbers are agreed upon, the HSAC will present its proposal to the HSA, who will determine final allocations.
- Development of the State FY26 PAR Budget Recommendation – Evans advised committees to start looking at projects for the SFY 26 Preparedness and Response Grant Program, which starts July 1, 2025. The request for the PAR program in this year’s state budget is \$10 million. Evans said he will be sending out a request for PAR program proposals, similar in format to the request for unmet needs proposals.
- Current PAR program – All funds for SFY25 are currently allocated to grantees. IEMA-OHS retained a share of the funding for some communications items. Roughly three months are left in the performance period: all items must be delivered and reimbursed by July 31, 2025. He urged grantees to notify him or Nichole Strayer immediately if they need to revise their budgets, as it’s extremely important to ensure all funds are expended.

➤ **Other Business**

- Upcoming Meetings
  - [UPDATE] Council of Chairs Meeting – May 7, 2025, 10 a.m.
  - [UPDATE] Full IL-HSAC Meeting – May 28, 2025, 10 a.m.
  - Council of Chairs Meeting – June 25, 2025, 10 a.m.

➤ **Adjournment**

## **FFY 2025 HSGP and SFY 26 PAR Timeline**

**All dates are tentative.**

**(Updated 3-26-25)**

**February 5th-** Attachment A's sent out to committee chairs.

**February 5th through March 19th-** Committees meet to discuss strategy and projects for FFY 25 HSGP funding. (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, performance period).

**March 20<sup>th</sup>-** 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 26th-** IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs to discuss Attachment A's project submissions, overall SHSP/UASI split, State/Local split (*if allocations available from FEMA*).

**March 27th through May 21st-** Committees meet to discuss strategy and projects for SFY 26 PAR funding. (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, performance period).

**April(?)-** Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) with Investment Justifications and allocations released by FEMA.

**May 7th-** IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

IL-HSAC Chairs meeting to discuss and vote on final FFY 25 HSGP recommended project submission to Full IL-HSAC.

Chairs discuss strategy and projects for SFY 26 PAR

**May 14th-** Organizations submit Final Attachment A's for FFY 25 HSGP approved projects.

**May 21st-** Committee project requests for SFY 26 PAR due to IEMA-OHS

**May 28th-** IL-HSAC Full meeting

Full membership meets to discuss and vote on FFY 25 HSGP recommended project submission to FEMA. Full membership to discuss the strategy for SFY 26 PAR funding. (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, performance period)

**June 15<sup>th</sup>-** IEMA-OHS submits FFY 25 HSGP application to FEMA.

**June 25th-** IL-HSAC Chairs meeting

Chairs vote to approve SFY 26 PAR project funding recommendations.

**July 23rd-** IL-HSAC Full meeting

Full membership meets to discuss and vote on SFY 26 PAR project funding recommendations. (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, performance period)

**September-** IEMA-OHS receives FFY 25 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.