

ILLINOIS TERRORISM TASK FORCE
Minutes of Council of Chairs Meeting
August 25, 2021
ATTENDEES

Don Kauerauf – Illinois Terrorism Task Force- Chair

Committee Chairs

Critical Infrastructure:

Juskelis, Vydas - Am. Public Works Association

Cybersecurity:

Ford, Adam -IL DoIT

Rominger, Jennifer - IL DoIT

Emergency Management:

Sullivan, Marc - IL Emergency Management Agency

Nelson, Dan - City of Naperville

Fire Mutual Aid:

Keiken, Jim - IL Fire Service Institute

Ericksen, Glenn - Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Law Enforcement Mutual Aid:

Page, Jim - IL Law Enforcement Alarm System

Sons, William - IL State Police

Public Health:

Friend, Andrew - IL Dept. of Public Health

Fox, Amy - IL Association of Public Health Administrators

Urban Area:

Guidice, Richard - City of Chicago OEMC

Staff/Members

Armstead, Alix – OSFM

Beamer-Pfeifer, Julie – WIU

Brewer, Troy – IEMA

Brown, Renysha – IEMA

Corso, Joe – IEMA

Edwards, Jonathan

Eller, Amy - IDOT

Evans, Bob – IEMA

Evans, Larry – ILEAS

Findley, Elizabeth – IEMA

Gutierrez, Natalie – City of Chicago OEMC

Hayward-Buys, Kim – Cook County DEMRS

Kim, Myong-Ae – IEMA

Kustermann, Aaron – ISP

McClain, Meghan – IEMA

Perez, Matt - OSFM

Porter, Tammy – IEMA

Sanford, Jason – IEMA

Savage, Gloria – ILEAS

Sluga, Dan - DoIT

Smith, Pete – ILEAS

Statham, Anna – City of Chicago OEMC

Thoele, Ashley – IDPH

Trame, Chris – ISP

Call to Order

Chairman Don Kauerauf called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone attending in person and via the WebEx meeting. *Quorum was established.*

Minutes

- *Motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2021, Council of Chairs meeting.*
Motion to Approve: Andrew Friend, IDPH
Seconded: Jennifer Rominger, DoIT

National and Illinois Homeland Security Updates

- Governor's Homeland Security Advisor, Alicia Tate-Nadeau, IEMA Director, provided a briefing regarding five items of focus from a national perspective and how the threat emphasis has changed as compared to 20 years ago, and noted upcoming recognition of the September 11, 2001, events. Director Tate-Nadeau noted the President's Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity and the IEMA Act modification that now includes cybersecurity. Illinois is competing with other states to be selected to participate in Grid-Ex, a national level, cyber-electric grid training exercise being held November 16 – 17, 2021, that would provide valuable lessons-learned information regarding the state's response to electrical grid attacks on critical infrastructure. Illinois continues to be a leader in emergency management and response, just as it was pre-COVID-19 when Illinois participated in the National Biodefense Science Board Crimson Contagion 2019 Functional Exercise, preparing Illinois for a pandemic. Director Tate-Nadeau reported that Illinois now has the first Governor-approved Homeland Security Strategy since 2004, called Illinois Homeland Security Strategy "Vision 2025." The Strategy will function as a grantee's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO); everything the ITTF does will be tied to the goals and objectives in the Strategy, which closely align with federal-level priorities and strategies. Lastly, Director Tate-Nadeau reported that Illinois was again awarded the National Governor's Association (NGA) Preventing Targeted Violence Policy Academy funding (formerly known as Prevention of Domestic Violent Extremism). Director Tate-Nadeau thanked Don Kauerauf for his many years of service, announced his appointment as director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, and presented Don with a plaque.
- National and State Intelligence Briefing (FOUO) – Aaron Kustermann, Chief Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center (STIC), Illinois State Police, provided a briefing on national and Illinois security issues.
- Cybersecurity Briefing – Adam Ford, Chief Information Security Office, Illinois Department of Information and Technology, provided a briefing on cybersecurity issues.

Framework for Development of Committee Capital Replacement Plan

Chairman Kauerauf stated the goal of the project is to develop a long-term plan for the funding needs of the State of Illinois to continue our nationally recognized program. It is understood that current federal and state funding will not allow Illinois to replace aging equipment and retrain to federal/state certification levels. Illinois needs to begin the process to secure funding to maintain our homeland security capabilities going forward. Chairman Kauerauf displayed the Capital Replacement Strategy Project Template DRAFT for discussion. Revisions were recommended for the template, and Chairman Kauerauf announced committees should provide the completed templates to Bob Evans and Laura Sedory by September 17, 2021, as this topic will be on the agenda for the September 22, 2021, Council of Chairs meeting. Director Tate-Nadeau explained the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) budget cycle is driving the deadline for this document, which, along with the Annual Report, provides her opportunities to request PAR funds that augment the federal grant dollars needed to close capability gaps and strengthen Illinois.

Criteria for Identification and Prioritization of Unmet Needs

Chairman Kauerauf reported the Unmet Needs list exercise was performed last year and is being used again this year. "Unmet Needs" specifically refers to short-term projects not previously submitted as part of a homeland security application and not currently on the PAR funds list. He asked that the committees submit their lists in priority order to Bob Evans and Laura Sedory by September 17, 2021. This topic will also be on the agenda for the September 22, 2021, Council of Chairs meeting and will then be taken to the full membership meeting in October.

Voting/Advisory Member Discussion

Chairman Kauerauf explained that ITTF administrative staff have to support and track the completion of the three mandated training requirements for around 300 individuals with voting privileges within the ITTF. He also stated the Open Meetings Act requires a quorum of people attending in-person, and due to COVID-19 restrictions, that is not in the best interest of public safety (currently quorum due to the number of voting members is 36).

Chairman Kauerauf stated the ITTF would be more efficient by reducing the number of voting members, and he requested discussion about reducing the number of organizations with voting privileges from 70 to 15 or less. Those remaining would be advisory members. Director Tate-Nadeau noted that it is within the committees where the work is done and where voices are heard; the reduction would streamline the efforts of the committees and may also stimulate individuals to participate more within their committee. Discussion ensued.

Illinois Homeland Security Strategy Vision 2025

Chairman Kauerauf reported that the Homeland Security Strategy Vision 2025 is the first to be approved by all Public Safety Directors and provides the baseline for how IEMA operates. Chairman Kauerauf thanked all the participants in developing the Strategy and next referred to the **Goals and Objectives** document distributed. He stated he developed the Goals and Objectives using specifics from the Strategy and assigned committees to primary and secondary roles for each objective; however, committees have the liberty to make changes to these assignments. This data will provide the information for the compilation of the Annual Report and provide transparency to what individual entities are doing within the State of Illinois, at all levels of government comprehensively, to meet each objective. Chairman Kauerauf stated committees should consider reviewing and updating this document at each monthly meeting. Discussion ensued regarding information gathering, the passing of the state budget, FEMA's NOFOs, what project should be listed that address each strategy, etc.

2021 ITTF Annual Report Format Change

Chairman Kauerauf referred to the **Annual Report** document distributed and stated the format for submission has changed. He reviewed each item on the document and explained the Annual Report going forward will reflect the Strategy's goals and objectives and what has been done to achieve them. Specific dot-points, not long narratives, will be required for submission. He then referred to the **Work Plan** draft document distributed as the tool that committees will use going forward to report from a strategic standpoint, and this will be due to Laura Sedory and Julie Pfeifer quarterly, before each full membership meeting. Julie Pfeifer will ultimately use this information to compile the Annual Report. Chairman Kauerauf recommended the Work Plan serve as an agenda for committee meetings. Discussion ensued. Director Tate-Nadeau stressed the importance of this work to improve funding opportunities to close capability gaps and strengthen Illinois, reducing the propensity for audit findings.

Closing Announcements

Chairman Kauerauf announced Andrew Friend, IDPH, will no longer be the co-chair of the Public Health Committee, as he has accepted a position with FEMA, Region V.

Jim Page thanked Aaron Kustermann and STIC for creating the Cybersecurity Safety Cards for Police Officers, free to officers, and reported 7,500 had been distributed thus far. Chairman Kauerauf noted this project is a cyber awareness tool that meets 1.1 of the strategic objectives and should be listed as an accomplishment, although it was NOT funded by the ITTF.

Director Tate-Nadeau concluded that while a great deal of information was discussed regarding structure and strategy, the work shows a commitment to safeguard the residents of Illinois. These are guides and templates that will be revised to incorporate improvements and suggestions. She noted these changes are to enhance the roles of the committees, where the hard work and the deconflicting occur, and recognized that no good strategy is discipline-pure.

She thanked all participants for their hard work and bid farewell to Andrew Friend and Don Kauerauf.

Adjournment