

**ILEAS  
BOARD MEETING  
MAY 27, 2010**

**Meeting called to order:** Board President Mark Beckwith called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

**Attendance was taken:**

Chief Mark Beckwith	Present
Sheriff Dave Snyders	Present
Sheriff Roger Scott	Present
Chief Bill Feithen	Present
Sheriff John Zaruba	Absent
Chief Jeff Chudwin	Present
Sheriff Mike McCoy	Absent
Chief Robert Williams	Absent
Chief James Kuchenbecker	Present
Sheriff Robert McCarty	Present
Sheriff Jim Vazzi	Absent
Chief David Hayes	Present
Sheriff Andrew Hires	Absent
Chief Larry Evans	Present
Chief Lyndon Thies	Present
Sheriff Keith Brown	Present
Deputy Supt Dan Dugan	Absent
Deputy Chief Wayne Gulliford	Present
Chief Tim Swanson	Present
Sheriff Tom Schneider	Present
Director Jonathon Monken	Absent

Out of the 21 Board Members, **14** Board Members were present.

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Also in attendance were ILEAS Executive Director, Jim Page; ILEAS contractors, Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer, Richard Huston, Mick McAvoy, Ken Swails, Danielle Eades, and Jeff Regan; Jan Noble, Belvidere Chief, ITTF; John Simon, IESMA; Margo Luczak, Sharon Dotson, Marry Remmach, and Moses Lee, IMERT; and Thomas Ruyle, IL-IMT; Cindy Barbera-Brelle, IL-TERT; Barb Stiehl and Chris Isbell, IPWMAN; Lindsey May, Captain Galesburg PD/ IL- IMT; Dominic Cappelluti – Group Supervisor – Lake County Major Crimes Task Force; and Mike Chamness, Chairman ITTF.

President Beckwith expressed the ILEAS Board's condolences to the Chicago Police Department who had an officer killed in the last week; the Illinois State Police who had an officer pass away this week, an officer in Northwestern IL who died in a motorcycle accident. The Boards thoughts and prayers are with the officers' departments, friends, and families.

President Beckwith presented Laverna Harper with a plaque for her superior volunteer efforts. Beckwith and Page stated that Harper is a superior volunteer. Some of the things that Harper does for ILEAS include: organizing lunches and greeting visitors to the Training Center. Beckwith stated that Harper is a great face for ILEAS. She is phenomenal and we are lucky to have her as a volunteer and look forward to working with her for years to come.

**Previous Minutes:** The minutes of April 29, 2010 were discussed. Kuchenbecker motioned and Schneider seconded to approve the minutes of April 29, 2010 as presented. Voice vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Huston gave a brief update of the financial situation. Snyders motioned and Chudwin seconded to approve the financial report as presented. Voice vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

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**Current Issues & Updates for Board:**

**Authorize the Purchase of Generators:** Page gave an overview of the generator program. ILEAS has received a \$2,000,000 grant in FY 2009 for the purchase of trailer-mounted generators to be granted to local qualifying emergency management agencies. ILEAS retained \$60,000 for Management and Administration leaving \$1,940,000 for the purchase of generators. This grant was overseen by ITTF Emergency Management Committee. ILEAS is providing fiscal responsibility and staff support for this grant. The budget for the generator project has already been approved in the FY 2009 budget by the governing Board. ILEAS policy requires Governing Board authorization to exceed any individual purchase with a value over \$100,000.

The Emergency Management Committee developed specifications, bid and then re-bid the project. Bid documents are available upon request. They considered three vendors: Roland, Springfield, IL; Altorfer, Springfield, IL; and Baldor's, South Roxana, IL. The bid was awarded to Roland for \$1,434,670.

Kuchenbecker motioned and Scott seconded to authorize the purchase of generators not to exceed \$1,500,000. Voice vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**Special Team Validation Progress Report:** Page reported on the SRT Validation Process. He has a book with the reports on the validation of each team. The validation was done as an exercise so there are action items for the teams. The exercise does an inventory of the equipment, ensures that all the equipment works, and that all the members know the procedures. Chief Chudwin complimented the process and told how invaluable it was. It ensures that all officers can work with other officers throughout the State.

**Reorganization Proposal:** Page gave background on the reason for the reorganization proposal. Recognition of Board members' concern for mission creep is a major reason.

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Page reported that ILEAS has adopted a strategy of being a homeland security team player and aggressively pursuing grant opportunities in the public safety arena which has resulted in the strengthening of ILEAS' operational and service capabilities to our membership. This strategy also positions ILEAS to receive even more funding making it potentially more indispensable and ensuring its survivability. This strategy seems to be successful given the fact that ILEAS has grown in the last two years as the economy shrinks and other similar organizations have struggled or disappeared.

Mike Chamness, Chair of the ITTF, noted that ILEAS is invaluable to the State of Illinois. The infrastructure, procedures, and knowledge of contractors that ILEAS has set up and maintains are invaluable. To replicate this system which operates so effectively and efficiently would be cost prohibitive and very wasteful of Homeland Security Funds. ILEAS gets the job done and done well.

Page noted that many people rely on ILEAS. This is to ILEAS, ITTF and Homeland Security's benefit but the restructuring needs to take place so contractors can focus on their mission. Law Enforcement groups can focus on law enforcement missions and the other groups can focus on their missions.

Regan discussed the history of the inventory process. This was a small part-time duty to begin. It has expanded beyond a part-time position. Requirements are now such that eyes must be on equipment before it can be paid for. There will be another 7000 pieces of inventory going into the field. This is much more than a contractor can do along with their other full-time duties. Page noted that he feels that there will now need to be a full-time on-site inventory person.

Evans verified with Page that if ILEAS inventories the equipment that ILEAS is not liable for the equipment. Page confirmed that ILEAS' only responsibility is to keep track of the property, not to replace or maintain the equipment.

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Board members expressed concern regarding the growth of the inventory program. Their concerns included that it will become too labor intensive and perhaps even not cost effective for ILEAS to continue to do the work. For instance, if the M&A funds would not be available, then would ILEAS need to use their own funds to maintain the inventory. Chairman Chamness stated that if the M&A is not available then ILEAS would not have the responsibility to continue to update the inventory process as it would not be funded. Chamness stated that he feels that it is a year to year agreement and that if ITTF provides the funds, ILEAS will maintain the inventory, but if the money is not given, then the responsibility is not ILEAS'.

**Business Side of ILEAS**

Mark Beckwith thanked Brendan McGinty for his support for Jim Page's vision of using the old Champaign County Nursing Home and the County lease of the facility.

McGinty noted that Carle Hospital would like to use the C wing of the ILEAS facility to operate eight different simulated rooms at the same time. This would benefit Carle as it can improve in house care. Carle will be providing \$50,000 for "extensive clean-up". Carle already uses the center as a surge center. They have beds here as well as other supplies.

Kuchenbecker questioned whether the program will cost ILEAS anything. Page and McGinty stated that there will be no cost to ILEAS as a part of the program. Carle feels that the first phase will be a great success and then they will again provide the funds. Page also noted that Carle will be providing \$48,000 per year in rent.

**Discussion of IMERT:** IMERT (IL Medical Emergency Response Team) and INVENT (IL Nurse Team) are multi-disciplinary groups of volunteers trained to respond to medical disasters and provide interim medical care for survivors or evacuees, supported by additional volunteers with technical expertise in other mission support roles.

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IMERT – INVENT is capable of a flexible and scalable medical response at times of disaster. With volunteers and equipment strategically located throughout the State, a roll out of the advance and strike teams can be accomplished in 12-24 hours, guaranteeing that IMERT-INVENT will be available and ready for activation at any time.

Past deployments include Decatur for severe ice storm, flooding in Illinois, and even Katrina. During Katrina, IMERT-INVENT offered vaccinations to all of Illinois firefighters and law enforcement officers.

The primary mission of IMERT-INVENT is to assist with emergency medical treatment and response. IMERT-INVENT also coordinates and develops education and training programs throughout Illinois for medical, nursing, pre-hospital and community responders.

Their vision is to take the pressure off the local medical resources in their time of need until they can be back up at fully functional.

Chudwin questioned if there was any plan, chance of IMERT-INVENT being integrated with our Special Teams. Such as during the Katrina deployment, FEMA would not treat our officers as we were a State deployment and not a FEMA deployment. The intent would not be to send IMERT as a tactical part but as a support system. This is something that needs to be followed up on.

Mary Connelly feels that IMERT-INVENT does not belong at a SRT situation but if it was a large scale disaster such as FEMA, certainly they would want to be there to support and care for our officers.

Chief Kuchenbecker motioned and Sheriff Scott seconded that all four parts of the staff recommendation for ILEAS reorganization be approved and that the Executive Director have the authority to do whatever needs to be done to make this happen in an efficient and effective manner. Voice vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

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**PROGRAM INCOME:** Page reported that the accounting contractors will be tracking program income now to ensure that the income is reported correctly whether it is program income or grant cost reductions.

**IPWMAN:** IL Public Works Mutual Aid Network representatives gave a brief overview of their organization. Any public works organization is welcome to join. They are available for deployment throughout the State and even throughout the nation if necessary.

A description of resources available was given. IPWMAN can provide manpower, road equipment, barricades etc. They can assist in road blocks, search and rescue etc. They could have even provided a low boy to take the bearcats to the G-20 for us.

They are requesting that ILEAS enter into an agreement with them so ILEAS would manage their grant money and assist with their website. They would like to pattern their agreement off the one with IESMA.

It is the intent to merge their information with ILEAS'. Therefore there would be one source to search for resources.

Chris Isbell is looking at what IPWMAN can do for ILEAS as well as what ILEAS would be doing for IPWMAN.

**ITERT:** Cindy Barbera-Brelle reported on ITERT. There are currently nine deployable teams in the nation, one of which is in Illinois. ITERT has 120 Telecommunicator and 20 team leaders. 41 agencies are members. They have been in existence around four years. Teams are focused on training such as ICS training, On-line TERT awareness class, and field workshops. ILEAS has been a GREAT source of assistance.

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**IMT:** Incident Management Team representatives made a presentation. There are three IMT in Illinois. They are: Team Illinois, Team Chicago, and Team Conversity in DeKalb. There are some members on each team that are on more than one team. There are total 78 team members. They are top members of their organizations (police depts., sheriff's depts., etc.). The team is in the top 10 in the nation. It is a team not to come in and take over but to come in and assist in handling things.

There are three Response areas: Metro, North Division, and South Division. They are not strictly team deployments due to availability of personnel. They have been a partner with ILEAS for some time.

**Illinois Task Force Communications:** There was a discussion regarding funding for Communications.

**IESMA:** John Simon new president of Illinois Emergency Management Association (IEMA). He thanked ILEAS for the partnership between IESMA and ILEAS. The main focus is to coordinate amongst different organizations.

Simon reported that there is a need to continue partnership between IESMA and ILEAS. It only makes sense that we have one type of funnel for funding and grant management. IEMA fully supports ILEAS's reorganization suggestions as it ensures that IESMA won't get lost.

Simon reported that IEMA feels that the partnership has worked well in past and definitely needs to continue. ILEAS has done a great job for IEMA.

**ITTF:** Chamness reported that he had four grants that they have given to us because they don't have anyone to manage them.



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**LOCAL AGENCY GRANT:** Page reported that the application process will open that up on June 4 which will run for a period of 30 days.

**OTHER ISSUES:**

Chief Swanson expressed concern regarding employee contractor resolution. Page requested that ILEAS be able to contract with an employment specialty company to assist in resolving the issue. Kuchenbecker motioned and Hayes seconded to approve the request. Voice vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Kuchenbecker noted that ILEAS is probably one of the few organizations in the State that are doing things right. To be less than 10 years old and have all these organizations wanting to be a part of the ILEAS family is a great compliment. Kuchenbecker wants the Board to step back and let the Executive Director run things and for the Board to work on supporting him. He has great faith in Page and feels that if he makes a recommendation that is good enough for him.

Kuchenbecker expressed frustration with ICLEAR and the delay in the roll out.

At 2:15 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes are respectfully submitted,

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Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer  
August 18, 2010