

To: All Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Member Agencies

From: Mark Doerfler, Executive Director and Karl Ottosen, Attorney

Date: October 24, 2024

Re: Revised Intergovernmental Agreement for Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

At its August 8, 2024, meeting, the Board of Directors of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network, Inc. voted to approve a revised intergovernmental agreement which will require all members desiring to continue in IPWMAN to approve. On October 23, 2024, the members approved the amendment of the agreement and by-laws.

There is no intent to change the day-to day and emergency response mutual aid program. There are a few issues which the IPWMAN Board believes should be revised through the approval of the new agreement. Significant changes from the current agreement are:

1. Clarification that mutual aid is not just for emergencies. Currently members assist each other with provision of equipment and personnel on a day-to-day basis and the new agreement expressly provides authority for this common practice.
2. The current by-laws provide for governance of IPWMAN by a not-for-profit corporate entity rather than by a board of members without a separate corporation. The Illinois Intergovernmental Corporation Act does not require the formation of a not-for-profit corporation to be the governing body. Revising the IPWMAN's agreement and by-laws to eliminate the corporate entity streamlines the organization and eliminates issues related to asset ownership, liability and tort immunity. All assets of the IPWMAN will be held in the intergovernmental agency's name going forward.
3. The new agreement provides a revised process for any future amendment. Any member may propose an amendment to the board of directors. If the board approves it, the proposed amendment will be sent to the entire membership 45 days before a general meeting. If at least 60% of the members present approve the amendment, a new intergovernmental agreement will be submitted to all members for the governing boards to approve by resolution.

Enclosed are the proposed new intergovernmental agreement, by-laws and draft resolution and ordinance authorizing the agreement. Either a resolution or ordinance may be used to authorize the agreement, with each member to modify for its own use. However, no changes may be made to the intergovernmental agreement and by-laws. If there are any questions regarding the revised agreement, please contact Mr. Doerfler.

Bylaws of The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

An intergovernmental agency for the purpose of public works mutual aid in accordance with the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5, ILCS 220/1 et seq.

Article One

Name, Principal Office, Purpose, and Powers

1.1 Name. The name of the Intergovernmental Agency is **The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN)**.

1.2 Location. IPWMAN may maintain offices and facilities either within or without the State of Illinois as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, change the address of IPWMAN's principal office by duly adopted resolution.

1.3 Purpose and Powers. IPWMAN is organized to provide a system of Mutual Aid among participating public works agencies. The purpose is explicit in the "Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement," which is incorporated herein by reference and which in pertinent part reading as follows:

"The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) program is hereby established to provide a method whereby public works related agencies, including, but not limited to, local municipal public works departments, township road districts, unit road districts, county highway departments, public water agencies and public wastewater agencies or any other governmental entity that performs a public works function in need mutual aid assistance may request aid and assistance in the form of personnel, equipment, materials and/or other associated services as necessary from other public works related agencies."

1.4 Authority. The Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network was organized under the provisions of the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act on September 17, 2008. The Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 et seq., provides that any power or powers, privileges or authority exercised, or which may be exercised by a unit of local government may be exercised and enjoyed jointly with any other unit of local government, including a unit of local government from another state.

Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network membership is in full force and in effect with the passage and approval of an executed Mutual Aid Agreement in the form approved by the Board of Directors, a companion ordinance, resolution or other legally binding document by a participating agency, in the manner provided by law, and executed by an authorized representative of a participating public works agency who has the legal authority to sign and

enter into the Agreement on behalf of his or her public works agency.

Article Two

Membership, Ratification and Termination of Membership

2.1 General Membership. Membership shall be limited to public works related agencies and individuals as described in Article One, paragraph 1.3 and as defined in the Illinois Compiled Statutes.

- a. Membership Status.* In order for an agency or entity to request and be considered for receiving aid through IPWMAN the requesting agency or entity shall have been approved for membership prior to seeking aid, or rendering assistance through an IPWMAN activation, and shall be a member in good standing, with current dues paid in full.

2.2 Membership Types. The Board of Directors, with the advice of the Membership Committee, and by majority vote shall be the sole authority to establish membership status and classification. There are hereby established, the following types of membership:

- a. Agency Members.* This class of membership is open to all public works related agencies, as defined in Article One, paragraph 1.3. Agencies may be allocated multiple memberships, based on agency size and/or type and as determined by Board of Directors policy.
- b. Associate Members.* This class of membership is open to members of public works related individuals, business and professional organizations or associations, but who do not qualify as Agency Members. This class of membership has two types: Corporate and Individual.
- c. Professional Liaison Members.* This class of membership applies to individuals designated by other professional mutual aid organizations and state and federal agencies involved in emergency and disaster response and recovery, to provide counsel, advice and support for the mission of IPWMAN. This type of member does not pay dues.

2.3 Voting Privilege. The privilege of holding elective office and serving on the Executive Committee of IPWMAN is reserved for *Agency Members*. *Associate Members* are permitted to vote in all elections, serve on and chair Committees (other than the Executive Committee) and otherwise serve the IPWMAN, but may not hold elective office. *Professional Liaison Members* are permitted to serve on and vote on Committees (other than the Executive Committee), however are not eligible to serve as Committee chairs or have voting privileges

at Board of Directors meetings.

2.4 Termination of Membership. Members who fail to meet their obligations in accordance with the terms of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement or with these By-laws may be suspended or removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Prior to the initiation of any disciplinary action against a member, the member will be notified of a hearing and shall have the right to appear before the Board of Directors.

Article Three

Board of Directors

3.1 General Powers. The affairs and activities of IPWMAN shall be managed by or under the direction of its Board of Directors ("Board").

3.2 Composition of the Board. The Governing body of IPWMAN shall be the Board of Directors, consisting of twenty-one (21) elected members, representing the following:

- 2 members from each of the eight (8) IPWMAN regions (Shown in Exhibit 1).
- The President
- The Vice-President
- The Secretary
- The Treasurer
- The Past President

In the event there are no eligible members able to serve as Board representatives of a particular region, then a member from outside the region may be selected to represent that region. For voting purposes, each region shall have one vote.

All officers and members of the Board of Directors shall serve without compensation.

3.3 Term. Each Regional Director will serve a three-year term.

Initially, beginning in October of 2009, terms shall be staggered, rotating according to the following schedule:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------|
| • IPWMAN Regions | 3, 6 and 8 | 3-year terms |
| • IPWMAN Regions | 2, 7 and 9 | 2-year terms |
| • IPWMAN Regions | 4 and 11 | 1-year term |

Following the initial elections, the terms of office shall be for three years.

3.4 Vacancy on the Board of Directors. In the event a vacancy should occur in one or more of the Regional Director positions by reason of lack of eligible candidate, resignation, removal, death or election to another office, the remainder of the term of office shall be filled by the appointment of a replacement recommended by the member agencies from that region. The appointment is to be confirmed by the remaining members of the Board.

If, within sixty (60) days of the notice of the vacancy, the Region fails to achieve consensus on a replacement, the Board of Directors is hereby authorized to designate a replacement from any Region to represent the members of the affected Region until the next opportunity to conduct an election, at which time a successor will be elected to complete the remainder of the term (if any).

3.5 Authority. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to take all appropriate actions and to perform all duties required to accomplish the purposes of IPWMAN.

3.6 Regular Meetings. The Board of Directors shall convene at least annually at a time and place specified by the Board. The President shall preside at the meeting and conduct business for IPWMAN. Draft minutes of these meetings shall be available to all members at least 30 days before the following meeting.

3.7 Annual Membership Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the IPWMAN membership shall be held each year at a time and place specified by the Board of Directors.

3.8 Special Meetings. The President, at his or her discretion, or a majority of the Executive Committee, or any six members of the Board of Directors, or five percent (5%) of the membership may call a special meeting of IPWMAN by giving at least five days advance written notice to each member, specifying the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

3.9 Quorum. Seven (7) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum thereof. Ten percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum to conduct business at a regular or special meeting of the membership.

3.10 Waiver of Notice. Any member may waive notice of any meeting, and attendance of such member at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting.

3.11 Committees and Advisory Bodies. Committees exist for the purpose of implementing the vision, mission, goals and legal obligations of IPWMAN. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, establish or appoint one or more committees, task forces or advisory bodies.

All member types are encouraged and allowed to serve on committees, however, the chair must be an Agency or Associate member. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The following committees are some which may be established:

- Finance
- Conference
- Management
- Marketing
- Membership
- Nominating
- Operations
- Social Media
- Technology
- Training

The duties and responsibilities of all Committees shall be as defined in the Administrative Policy Manual of IPWMAN.

3.11 Action without Meeting. If a matter of immediate and critical need shall arise requiring action of the Board of Directors and it is impracticable to wait to convene a regular or special meeting, the matter may be submitted electronically to each member entitled to vote thereon for consideration upon approval of not less than two Executive Committee members. The notice of proposal shall specify a deadline for voting on the matter submitted not less than seven (7) days from the date of notice. If approved by a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or the required number of votes that may be elsewhere specific in these by-laws, the action so approved shall be considered the same as though approved at a formal meeting.

Article Four

Executive Officers

4.1 Executive Officers of IPWMAN. The executive officers of IPWMAN shall be a President, a Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, and two members of the Board of Directors selected by the Board of Directors, who together shall constitute the Executive Committee. All such officers shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee of IPWMAN shall be elected from the Board of Directors members who shall have been members in good standing of the for at least one year prior to their election.

4.2 Term. The Officers of IPWMAN shall hold office for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have been duly elected, providing they continue to qualify for active membership during their term of office. All officers may be re-elected or appointed for additional terms of office. The Vice-President, upon completion of his/her two-year term of office will transition to the position of President for a two-year term. The Vice-President would have the right to decline the position of President if circumstances would prevent him/her from being able to serve as President. The outgoing President will remain as a voting member on the Board of Directors as the Past President for a two-year term. In the event a President is ineligible or declines to serve in the Past President position, the previous Past President may

continue to serve in the position, or the position may be deemed vacant and filled in accordance with these By-Laws. Upon completion of the position of Past President, the officer would be eligible to pursue another officer position within the organization. The President, consistent with Section 5.1b and subject to advice and consent of the Board of Directors, will fill vacancies to positions on the Executive Committee within the two-year terms.

4.3 President. The President shall:

- a.* Be the principal executive officer of IPWMAN and shall act as the Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- b.* Supervise and control all of the business and affairs of IPWMAN, subject to the general oversight of the Board of Directors.
- c.* Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.
- d.* Serve as an Ex-Officio member of all committees.
- e.* Sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officers of IPWMAN, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof has been expressly delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent of IPWMAN, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed.
- f.* Perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.
- g.* Make all committee appointments with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.
- h.* Perform the office in accordance with the duties and responsibilities set forth in a position description approved by the Board, which may be amended as the Board deems appropriate.

4.4 Vice President. In the absence of the President or in the event of his or her resignation, death, inability or refusal to act, the Vice President (or in the event of his or her death, inability or refusal to act, the Secretary or in the event of his or her death, inability or refusals to act, the Treasurer) shall:

- a.* Perform the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have and exercise all the powers of and be subject to all the limitations upon the President's

powers.

b. Serve as an assistant to the President and may perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the President or the Board of Directors.

c. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice-President will succeed in that office for the remainder of the term.

4.5 Secretary. The Secretary shall:

a. Keep the records of IPWMAN.

b. Prepare a written record of the meetings and any formal proceedings of IPWMAN and make copies of such minutes available to each of the members.

c. Record and keep all official correspondence of IPWMAN.

d. Keep an official register of each member of IPWMAN.

e. Have charge of and safely keep all such additional books and papers as the Board may direct.

f. Have custody of the seal of IPWMAN and affix such seal to all documents, the execution of which, on behalf of IPWMAN under its corporate seal, has been duly authorized in accordance with these by-laws.

g. Perform all duties, which are incident to the office of Secretary of an intergovernmental agency or a not-for-profit corporation subject, however, at all times to the direction and control of the Board.

h. At the expiration of the Secretary's term of office, he/she shall turn over to his/her successor, all books, papers, records, electronic data, money, securities and other valuable effects belonging to IPWMAN, taking receipt for same from his/her successor.

i. Administer the election of the Board of Directors.

j. Perform the office in accordance with the duties and responsibilities set forth in a position description approved by the Board, which may be amended as the Board deems appropriate.

4.6 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

a. Have general oversight over all funds and securities of IPWMAN.

b. Have authorization, along with at least one other member from the Executive Committee, to endorse, or cause to be endorsed in his or her name, on behalf of IPWMAN, all checks, notes or other obligations and evidence of the payment of money paid by IPWMAN coming into his or her possession, or other officers or employees.

c. See that all funds received by or on behalf of IPWMAN are promptly deposited in such banks or trust companies as may be selected as depositories of IPWMAN by the Board and shall also see that all securities are placed in safe keeping in the manner directed by the Board.

d. Pass on the electronic system of accounts and reports and provide for general overseeing and audit thereof. The report of each such audit shall be submitted to the Board.

e. Prepare a budget annually for review by the Board of Directors and file any reports required by any government agency (i.e. IRS Tax Return, Secretary of State Annual Report of Officers).

f. Perform all duties, which are incident to the office of Treasurer of an intergovernmental agency or a not-for-profit corporation subject, however, at all times to the direction and control of the Board.

g. Chair the Finance Committee.

h. Serve as Ex Officio member of the Audit Committee.

i. Set time and date for the annual audit.

j. At the expiration of the Treasurer's term of office, he/she shall turn over to his/her successor, all books, papers, records, electronic data, money, securities and other valuable effects belonging to IPWMAN, taking receipt for same from his/her successor.

k. Perform the office in accordance with the duties and responsibilities set forth in a position description approved by the Board, which may be amended as the Board deems appropriate.

4.7 Past President. The Past President must be employed by a member agency. In the event the immediate past president is not eligible, or declines to serve, then a past president who is employed by a member agency may serve, or the position may be filled as a vacant position. The Past President shall:

a. Co-chair the Nominating Committee.

b. Serve as one of the two (2) at-large members of the Executive Committee

c. Assist the President, as requested.

d. Perform the office in accordance with the duties and responsibilities set forth in a position description approved by the Board, which may be amended as the Board deems appropriate.

Article 5

Nominations and Elections

5.1 Nominating Committee.

a. For all elections, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to provide a slate of qualified candidates to fill the offices of IPWMAN. The current officers shall not serve as Nominating Committee members.

b. This committee is also empowered to recommend replacements for vacancies on the Executive Committee to the Board of Directors that are not covered elsewhere in these By-Laws.

c. Any member may submit a nomination for candidates for the Board of Directors and/or Executive Committee.

5.2 Election Procedures. Elections to the Board of Directors shall be by a paper or electronic ballot sent to each member agency at the address or email address of the primary point of contact on file with the Secretary. The person receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The President shall appoint a three-member Teller Committee to count ballots and certify elections. The Teller Committee shall tabulate the votes and report the results to the Board of Directors. Elected officers shall be installed at the annual membership meeting and shall assume their duties of office at that time. Uncontested elections may be held by voice vote at the Annual Meeting.

Article Six

Administrative Officers and Personnel

6.1 Designation of Administrative Officers. The Board of Directors shall designate titles, appoint and discharge such administrative staff officers of IPWMAN, as it shall deem necessary. Such administrative staff officers shall not be members of the Board and such

appointees shall hold their offices for such term, exercise such powers, and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board. The duties and responsibilities of all appointed staff personnel shall be defined in the IPWMAN "Administrative Policy Manual" as approved by the Board of Directors. Such Administrative Officers shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

6.2 Compensation. If applicable, the Board of Directors shall determine compensation and benefits for all administrative staff.

Article Seven

Indemnification of Officers, Board of Directors, Employees and Agents

7.1 Actions other than by or in the Right of IPWMAN. IPWMAN and its Board of Directors have the power to indemnify itself through insurance or bonds as it deems necessary for the good of the organization.

7.2 Insurance. IPWMAN shall have the power and authority to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is a member, employee or agent of IPWMAN or is serving at the request of IPWMAN against any liability asserted against him or her as a result of, or in any capacity representing IPWMAN.

7.3 Indemnification. All Executive Officers shall be bonded by IPWMAN in such form and amount as may be determined by the Board of Directors, the cost of such bond shall be borne by IPWMAN.

Article Eight

Contracts, Loans, Checks, Deposits, Dues and/or fees and Gifts

8.1 Contracts. The Board may authorize any officer or agent of IPWMAN, in addition to the officers so authorized by these by-laws, to enter into any contract or sign any instrument in the name of IPWMAN, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

8.2 Borrowing. No loan shall be contracted on behalf of IPWMAN and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued unless authorized by a resolution of the Board. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

8.3 Checks and Drafts. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness (issued in the name of IPWMAN) shall be signed by such officers or agents of IPWMAN as shall from time to time be determined by the Board. In the absence of such determination by the Board, such instruments shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President or the Vice President.

8.4 Deposits. All funds of IPWMAN shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of IPWMAN in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board may select.

8.5 Membership Dues and/or Fees. Membership dues and/or fees will be determined by the Board of Directors. The amount of the membership dues and/or fees shall be reviewed and established annually by the Board of Directors. Dues and/or fees shall be due within thirty (30) days of January 1 of each year.

The Board of Directors will determine the method and amount of any other fees to be charged or assessed by IPWMAN.

8.6 Gifts. The Board may accept on behalf of IPWMAN any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purposes or for any special purpose of IPWMAN, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

8.7 Reimbursement. The Board shall adopt reimbursement procedures and associated policies.

Article Nine

Fiscal Year, Books and Minutes

9.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year and business year of IPWMAN shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

9.2 Books and Minutes. IPWMAN shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the meetings of its Board.

Article Ten

Distribution of Assets upon Dissolution

If at any time the dissolution of this Intergovernmental Agency is authorized by the Board of Directors, the members of the Board of Directors then holding office as such shall distribute the assets of IPWMAN remaining after payment, satisfaction and discharge, or adequate provision therefore, of all liabilities and obligations of IPWMAN, to the member agencies, pursuant to a plan of distribution as duly adopted by the Board. The Board shall incur no

personal liability for failure to ascertain, after a reasonable examination, the existence of any contributor.

Article Eleven

Amendment to By-Laws

Any member may propose amendment of these By-Laws. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Board of Directors. Amendments must be approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors before being sent to the members for consideration at a duly called meeting held at least 45 days after the Secretary, or designee, has sent the proposed amendment by paper document or electronically to each member. Any proposed amendment receiving the affirmative vote of at least three-fifths (60%) of the members present at the meeting shall be deemed approved by the members and effective immediately unless specifically stated otherwise in the amendment.

Article Twelve

Retention of Property Interest

All right, title, and interest, both legal and equitable in and to property of IPWMAN shall remain in IPWMAN. If such property shall be in the possession of a member, Executive Officer, Administrative Officer or such other person so entrusted, it shall be immediately returned to IPWMAN in the event of that person's death, resignation, removal or such other action disassociating that person with IPWMAN.

Article Thirteen

Rules of Procedure

The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order – Revised" shall generally be used as a guide to govern the procedural conduct of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and its committees and advisory bodies in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-laws. Additionally, the Board may adopt its own rules of procedure, which shall not be inconsistent with these by-laws.

Adopted by the Board of Directors in accordance with these By-Laws on October 22, 2024.