



AGENDA

ST. LOUIS AREA REGIONAL RESPONSE SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 10, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CAPTAIN CHRIS HUNT
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, FROM THE MAY 2023 MEETING
3. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Program Updates JIM WILD
 - b. Subcommittee Reports SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS
4. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Approval of Subcommittee Nominations Memo JIM WILD
 - b. Regional Security Expenditures JIM WILD
5. OTHER BUSINESS
6. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next regular STARRS Board meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2023.

Meeting Location:

East-West Gateway Council of Governments
1 S. Memorial Drive, Suite 1600 Board Room
St. Louis, MO 63102

**STARRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2023**

The meeting of the STARRS Board of Directors was called to via in-person & virtual conference call, with those in attendance check-marked:

CATEGORY A

- Abe Cook
- Frederick Patterson
- Herb Simmons
- Jeff McCreary
- Joann Leykam
- Ryan Weber

CATEGORY B

- Bryan Whitaker
- Chris Hunt
- Kevin Scheibe
- Mary Kate Brown
- Michele Ryan
- Sarah Russell
- Warren Robinson

CATEGORY C

- Ben Perrin
- Brian Gettemeier
- Dennis Jenkerson
- Derek Rieger
- Greg Brown
- Jeremy Hollrah
- Kurt Frisz
- Nick Allen
- Zach Koch

FUSION CENTER

- Ben Granda

SPECIAL VOTING

- Nick Kohlberg
- Roger Smith

NON-VOTING C

- Kyle Foerst
- Jerry Lohr
- Jocelyn Evans
- John Nowak
- Josh Wilderson
- Matt Tobben
- Mike Arras
- Tina Davis

EXOFFICIO

- Jim Wild

EMERITUS

-
-
-

ATTENDANCE:

Also in attendance were Jason Campbell (Barnes-Jewish Hospital), and East-West Gateway Council of Governments & STARRS staff including Staci Alvarez, Leah Watkins, Himmer Soberanis, Kristen Capps-Jones, Brian Marler & Brad Zoref.

Members excused in advance from this month's Board meeting include Chris Hunt, Warren Robinson, and Jeremy Hollrah.

CALL TO ORDER

Sarah Russell called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Attendance was recorded by sign-in and virtual meeting attendance list. A quorum was confirmed by Staci Alvarez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sarah Russell requested approval of the May 2023 minutes which was motioned to approve by Kurt Frisz motioned, which was seconded by Derek Rieger. The motion was carried unanimously and was approved at 9:04 AM.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

PROGRAM UPDATES

Brad Zoref shared an update on the Healthcare Preparedness Program (HPP), explaining that the group is working on end-of-year reporting and that their fiscal year ends June 30. They also continue to work on the radiation surge annex, which is due in September. Brad also updated the group on changes at the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS), sharing that John Whitaker has moved to a new position and Brendan Bagby is now our main contact at MO DHSS. The ASPR response capabilities for 2024 are also being reviewed with coalition members. Next Thursday will be the medical surge exercise for the coalition. An NDMS medical surge also recently occurred at the Downtown Airport, which was covered by Fox2 News. Kyle Foerst and Brad will present at next month's Homeland Security conference.

Kristen Capps-Jones shared an update on the CCTA projects explaining Hagerty continues to work with the region on multi-year strategies and physical materials related to the project. Planning meetings and other activities continue for the Investigation, Reunification and Recovery (IRR) project as well as Notification, Reception & Reunifications Operations (NRRO) project. Feedback is being sought prior to the guides being finalized, with additional information being available in the CCTA newsletter. Kristen also shared an update on the RCPG program stating that IEM has begun conducting GIS and vendor outreach research, and that they continue workshop development for a June workshop. Kristen also shared a summary of the All-Hazards Incident Management Team course, stating that the course was very well received and beneficial and that an additional course will hopefully be brought back to the region in the fall. She also shared that fifty people have registered for the highly anticipated IEMC course later this month.

Jim also shared an update on the search for a new STARRS Board of Directors meeting date/time combination, explaining that a new survey was available to share meeting preferences.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Roger Smith shared that the Mass Fatality group met last month and that they reviewed potential upcoming UASI funded projects. John Nowak shared that the EMS group has some upcoming new participants they are moving forward with. Zach Koch shared that Public Health's next meeting is July tenth. Kyle Foerst shared that the Healthcare Preparedness group is hosting another meeting related to the EM Academy project, and that they have had to delay some meetings and will be sending out doodle polls to get them scheduled. Brian Gettemeier shared an update for Urban Search & Rescue, stating that just finished up their Medical Specialist class, with Rope and Trench training coming up shortly. Chief Dennis Jenkerson shared that Hazardous Materials has an upcoming training as well in August. Nick Kohlberg shared an update from the Healthcare Coalition, sharing that progress has been made on their strategic plan. They also continue working on their cache assessment project and tracking projects. They are also looking at a future HCC summit to assist with healthcare preparedness topics and to present speakers. Derek Rieger shared that the Training & Exercise group is looking at sending

regional members to the upcoming TF46 Nashville exercise in preparation for a similar event in St. Louis in CY2024.

ACTION ITEMS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Michele Ryan shared information related to STARRS subcommittee membership additions and removals as described in the nomination memo. Joann motioned for approval, with Nick Allen and Greg Brown seconding individually. Both motions passed unopposed, the motions carried.

REGIONAL EXPENDITURES

Kristen Capps-Jones provided a summary of the regional security expenditure for June. The expenditure is related to the CCTA Fusion Center ILO program and includes virtual and functional exercises to validate ILO outputs and processes. The total expenditure is \$229,273. A motion for approval was made by Greg Brown and seconded by Dennis Jenkerson, the motion carried, and the expenditure was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sarah Russell thanked the group for their work on the upcoming IEMC training.

Jim Wild updated the group on the recent Violent Crime Summit, sharing information on presenters and panel discussions. Jim shared that the event was successful with good participation and that there was a consensus for a regional violent crime reduction strategy this year. The EWGCOG Board of Directors voted unanimously at a recent meeting to apply for a practicum program that will help develop a blueprint for a regional strategy. Jim provided additional details related to the practicum and other information helpful to the process.

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the STARRS Board of Directors is August 10, 2023. This date is subject to updating based upon the results of the new STARR Board meeting survey. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Captain Chris Hunt



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: STARRS
Subject: Nomination of Committee Appointments
Date: August 10, 2023

The Nominating Committee has approved the following subcommittee nominations and removals and offers the following for board consideration and approval.

Subcommittees

The Nominating Committee recommends the following additions to subcommittees:

- **Law Enforcement Subcommittee** – Sgt. Daniel Brinkman, St. Louis Co PD
- **Law Enforcement Subcommittee** – Cpt. Pete Morrow, St. Louis Co PD
- **Law Enforcement Subcommittee** – Sgt. Kristopher Weston, St. Louis Co PD

The Nominating Committee also recommends the following removals from subcommittees:

- **US&R Sub-Committee** – Chris Harris, St. Clair Special Emergency Services (SCSES)
- **Healthcare Sub-Committee** – Natalie Yanko, South City Hospital

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve the Nominating Committee recommendations.



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: STARRS
Subject: Regional Security Expenditures
Date: August 7, 2023

Staff is requesting authorization to expend funds in support of regional security that will improve the region's disaster preparedness and response capabilities. Funding will come from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. Attachment A summarizes the purchases, totaling \$477,000.00.

ST. LOUIS FUSION CENTER:

Policy, Procedure, and Audit Advisor– The Policy, Procedure, and Audit Advisor position is a new part-time position within the St. Louis Fusion Center that will ensure that statutory privacy and civil liberties policies are updated and adhered to, that personnel are trained on the policies, and ensure that all other policies and internal controls are consistent with the privacy and civil liberties policies. As this is a new position that was not previously sought, remaining funds from Cybersecurity positions within the Fusion Center that were not fully expended will be utilized to fund the Advisor position. Staff is requesting approval to enter into an agreement with St. Louis County, Missouri to provide funding from the UASI grant to support the Policy, Procedure and Audit Advisor position in the St. Louis Fusion Center for the period of October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024. The total cost for the position will not exceed \$30,000 from the UASI grant program.

REGIONAL CYBERSECURITY INITIATIVE:

Recorded Future Renewal – Staff is seeking the 12-month renewal of four (4) software licenses for the Recorded Future cybersecurity intelligence software for use by the Regional Cybersecurity Coordinator and Analyst, as well as other investigators and analysts in support of the Regional Cybersecurity Initiative. The software provides cybersecurity related intelligence and analysis of a unique nature to include threat, brand, vulnerability and geopolitical intelligence. The total cost will not exceed \$112,500 from the UASI grant program.

DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM:

CobWebs Renewal - Staff is seeking the renewal of the Cobwebs online threat identification, social media analyst, and alerting tool for use by the Regional Cybersecurity Coordinator and Analyst, as well as other investigators and analysts, in support of the Homeland Security Grant Program's Combating Domestic Violent Extremism priority area, which is a required priority area by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security / FEMA in the UASI grant. The Cobwebs platform allows the Fusion Center personnel to identify online threats and threat actors and contributes to the exchange of investigation information and capabilities with Fusion Center peers. Three software (3) licenses, in addition to dark web monitoring access, will be renewed for a 12-month period. The total cost will not exceed \$107,500 from the UASI grant.

REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAMS:

Rapid DNA is a technology that can quickly analyze DNA to verify family relationships (kinship) and identify victims of mass casualty events. Current Rapid DNA devices represent an important innovation that delivers a DNA profile in 1-2 hours. A Rapid DNA system will allow regional mass fatality teams to respond to a mass casualty event and provide expedited identification of victims. Staff is requesting the purchase of one (1) Rapid DNA System for St. Charles County, MO from ThermoFisher Scientific / Life Technologies in an amount not to exceed \$227,000 from the UASI grant program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the expenditure of funds as follows:

- allow the Executive Director to enter into a sub-award agreement with St. Louis County, MO to support the part-time Policy, Procedure and Audit Advisor for 12 months in an amount not to exceed \$30,000;
- for the renewal of four (4) software licenses from Carahsoft Technology Corp of Reston, VA for an amount not to exceed \$112,500;
- for the renewal of three (3) software licenses and dark web monitoring access from Cobwebs America, Inc. of New York, NY for an amount not to exceed \$107,500;
- for the procurement of one (1) Rapid DNA system from ThermoFisher Scientific / Life Technologies of Carlsbad, CA for St. Charles County, MO in an amount not to exceed \$227,000.

for a total amount not to exceed \$477,000.00 from the UASI grant program.

ATTACHMENT A

**Expenditures for Equipment and Services
August 7, 2023**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Jurisdiction/Agency</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Emergency Response Equipment, Planning, Training & Exercise (UASI)				
St. Louis County, Missouri	Sub-Award for Policy, Procedure and Audit Advisor Position	St. Louis County, MO	1	\$30,000
Carahsoft Technology Corp (Reston, VA)	Regional Cybersecurity Initiative Software Subscription (4 licenses)	Regional	4	\$112,500
Cobwebs America, Inc. (New York, NY)	Software Subscription - Domestic Violent Extremism (3 licenses)	Regional	3	\$107,500
ThermoFisher Scientific / Life Technologies (Carlsbad, CA)	Rapid DNA System	St. Charles County, MO	1	\$227,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES				\$ 477,000

Total UASI Expenditures: \$477,000



Memo to: Board of Directors
From: STARRS
Subject: Revised UASI Grant Application Timeline & Process
Date: August 10, 2023

Beginning this year STARRS will align our grant application process to align with the State of Missouri's Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant process. The State's IPP, in relevant part, identifies training courses that will be conducted across the state for the year. For the FY 2024 cycle, we are anticipating very minor, if any, changes to the DHS National Priority Areas, so we are well-positioned to start our UASI application process earlier than in prior years. Additionally, during the FY 2023 UASI application cycle, we identified the need to tie UASI project applications more closely to the IPP, Threat Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA), and Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR).

To accomplish this, the FY 2024 UASI project application process will begin this fall and be integrated into the existing IPP and THIRA/SPR processes. By aligning UASI project development with the IPP and THIRA/SPR processes, we believe we can increase training opportunities for the region and that project applications will score better during the review process. Staff will be prepared to work with sub-committees to tweak UASI project applications, if needed once DHS issues the FY 2024 UASI notice of funding opportunity.

The combined FY 2024 UASI project application process, IPP, and THIRA/SPR process will start very soon. Several upcoming meetings in September will launch this process. These meetings are described below and will be conducted in a hybrid format.

STARRS IPP Workshop

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, September 6, 1:00PM - 3:00PM

The STARRS annual IPPW establishes the regional strategy and structure in planning, training, and exercises for the next five years (2024 - 2028). This guidance from our partners and stakeholders helps coordinate whole community initiatives, prevent duplication of efforts, efficiently use resources and funding sources, and avoids over-extension of agencies and organizations within the St. Louis UASI.

STARRS THIRA/SPR Workshop (HCC/SLARCC)

DATE/TIME: Thursday, September 21, 1:00PM - 4:00PM

FOCUS AREAS: Healthcare Coalition, Healthcare Subcommittee, EMS Subcommittee, Mass-Fatality Subcommittee, Public Health Subcommittee, SLARCC, Fusion Center, Training & Exercise, Emergency Management Subcommittee

The STARRS annual THIRA/SPR workshops provide STARRS subcommittees with a method to review & assess the region's core capabilities and identify areas of remaining need. Areas identified as needing additional focus become open to available grant funding. If you are seeking funding for a regional project, it is vitally important you participate and document the need in the THIRA/SPR project. The Thursday workshop will focus on Healthcare Coalition related subcommittee content.

STARRS THIRA/SPR Workshop (FIRST RESPONDERS)

DATE/TIME: Friday, September 22, 9:00AM - 12:00PM

FOCUS AREAS: Law Enforcement, Urban Search and Rescue, HazMat, Communications Core Group, Fusion Center, Training & Exercise, Emergency Management Subcommittee

The STARRS annual THIRA/SPR workshops provide STARRS subcommittees with a method to review & assess the region's core capabilities and identify areas of remaining need. Areas identified as needing additional focus become open to available grant funding. If you are seeking funding for a regional project, it is vitally important you participate and document the need in the THIRA/SPR project. The Friday workshop will focus on Special Team and Communications subcommittees.

As these dates approach additional information will be shared with the STARRS Board and STARRS sub-committees related to this upcoming FY2024 UASI project application process. The deadlines for these project applications have not yet been set but are likely to fall in early November prior to the start of the holiday season.