

**MEETING OF THE INTERAGENCY MILITARY BASE SUPPORT &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, September 22, 2006

**OFFICE OF ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR QUINN,
JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER, CHICAGO &
STRATTON BUILDING ROOM 414, SPRINGFIELD**

Call to Order:

Lt. Governor Pat Quinn called the meeting to order (2:07pm)

Introduction by Committee Member:

Chicago Office (or via teleconference):

Lt. Governor Pat Quinn; Mike Kocher, Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR); Elizabeth Norden, Lt. Governor's Office; Eric Schuller, Lt. Governor's Office; Glen Hersh; Gen. Randal Thomas; Dave Streicker (DCEO); Jason Lee (DCEO); Gretchen Tucka, (IDNR); Jim Morgan; Brig. Gen. Frank Rezac; Gary Gray; Brig. Gen. Randal Thomas, Brig. Gen. Keistler, Illinois Department of Military Affairs; Col. Gene Blade

Springfield Office:

Clarence Smith, Manager of Federal Site Remediation Section, Illinois EPA; Bob Carson, Manager of Federal Facilities Unit, Illinois EPA; Carolyn Brown-Hodge, Lt. Governor's Office; Israel Salazar Jr., Lt. Governor's Office

Opening Remarks:

Lt. Governor Quinn thanked every one present for attending the committee meeting and he also welcomed the public committee members.

Economic Subcommittee

Dave Streicker → The committee began meeting at the beginning of August and discussed information available from 2005, including the BRAC summary of bases. It was then mentioned that a replacement is needed for Katy Podagrosi from Rantoul.

Lt. Gov. Quinn → commented on the departure of Ms. Podagrosi and then mentioned that it would be useful to share the Rantoul experience with others. (i.e. Quad Cities and Savannah)

Dave Streicker → mentioned how Gen. Rezac and Dan Silverthon are assisting the Peoria area while Perry Hansen is helping the Savannah area. It was also stated that a meeting should be set up with the Base Commander of Scott Air Force Base once more information has been made available.

Economic Subcommittee / Transportation Subcommittee

Dave Streicker → it was noted that Dick Smith (who was not present) is working on a 5-year plan. One current transportation issue is a need for road improvements and entrance relocation to the 183rd as well as a County Road in need of improvements with the 182nd.

Col. Gene Blade → there will be a new entrance to the 183rd with lighting and gate improvements. There is 6.1 million dollars to be used to attain additional acreage as well as other improvements. These funds are from the Federal Government (earmarked from the National Guard Budget). Col. Blade mentioned that a “white paper” was developed and will be delivered to Lt. Governor Quinn.

Dave Streicker → currently, there is no budget but funds are being sought for the needed improvements. Scott, Springfield and Peoria will be building on what is currently in place; however, more work is needed on Great Lakes. Community near Scott AFB needs to reduce air pollution. Once this is done, the Military will be able to place more aircraft at the installation. Furthermore, the perception of the installment needs to be improved as well. It must be shown to be a more “ideal” location and operation for continued success.

Brig. Gen. Rezac → After the completion of preliminary summaries, a meeting with the Base Commanders will take place. At this meeting, the Commander’s input will be requested on several topics. One such topic is transportation and access problems. Peoria, for example, needs wider roads due to the expansion of local trucking industry. Wider roads will provide improved access to the installments in a safe manner. Additionally, Ken Spirito (of the Greater Peoria Airport) has been influential in planning efforts and may be a good candidate to add to this committee. Bob Wybra of the Quad Cities has all been helpful in economic improvement of the local area.

Environment & Energy Subcommittee

Mike Kocher → Currently, IDNR is involved in a cleanup of Savannah

Elizabeth Norden → IDNR is doing this in several facilities across Illinois

Clarence Smith → IEPA; approximately 130 facilities are being worked on annually. These facilities range from small sites to large Superfund sites. These sites are usually divided into two groups, large and small. 1) The small “run-of-the-mill” types are typically National Guard and Army Reserve installation with underground storage tank contamination and other easy-to-clean problems. 2) The larger types, typically larger military installations, take years to clean and could involve un-exploded ordinances. The goal is to convert the area to economically viable land for community use. IEPA meets with various commissions to assist in the clean up. Quarterly meetings are conducted with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss ongoing projects.

Currently, there are no plans (other than the BRAC ’05 list) for closures. MILCON projects do not typically entail the closing of an installment. These projects are for facility updates and other needed construction.

Additionally, the ECOS and DOD will conduct a “Forum For A Sustainable Future” in San Diego, California November 1st through the 2nd, 2006. IEPA will be sending 2 people to attend this event. There are DOD funds available for other agencies that wish to attend. Please see www.ecos.org/section/sustainability_forum/ for more information or contact Clarence Smith (IEPA) at 217-524-1655.

Military Housing & Educational Support

Eric Schuller → for Great Lakes, the population is starting to move towards Kenosha. As the population grows in that direction, fewer students will be enrolled in the North Chicago School System. This drop in enrollment could create problems when the School System seeks funding. Additionally, due to Military personnel increases in Rock Island, their school system could expect an influx of students. The school system needs to be adequately prepared to handle a larger population of pupils.

Lt. Gov. Quinn → In addition to school systems, there needs to be adequate housing that is affordable and in a commuter-radius from the installations.

Jim Morgan → A survey for additional housing may be needed.

For example, the housing issue for Scott is dependant upon the intention to add personnel to the installation. Currently, they are functioning at capacity; however growth could be expected to expand to other areas.

Lt. Gov. Quinn → Metro Link will allow people to access the base from less-expensive areas. This will expand the commuter-radius for the installation and benefit personnel in many different ways.

Eric Schuller → Rock Island may need new development. They are expected to receive 1,500 to 2,000 additional personnel at this installment.

Closing Remarks

Lt. Gov. Quinn → Next meeting is scheduled for December 14th, 2006.

Asked for a motion to approve the minutes from June 14th, 2006.

Dave Streicker → moves for approval of minutes (on behalf of Jack Lavin)

Mike Kocher → Seconds the motion

Lt. Gov. Quinn → Minutes have been approved

Adjournment

Lt. Gov. Quinn → Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm until Thursday December 14th, 2006.