



JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



JANE R. FLANAGAN
DIRECTOR

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AMUSEMENT RIDE AND ATTRACTION SAFETY UPDATE ADVISORY MEETING

January 16, 2026
10:00 AM

Crowne Plaza Hotel
Winter Garden Room
14th Floor
3000 Dirksen Pkwy
Springfield, IL 62703

Webex Meeting link

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m6b65c9aa48ea54b27d2b75dcbe249180>

CALL TO ORDER 10:04 p.m.

..... Chair

- Jennifer Akhter – Via Webex remote
- David Bennett, Chair – Not present
- Michael Clark - not present
- Jane Flanagan, IDOL Director – present physically in-person
- Joseph Kagann – Via Webex
- Andrew Purvin – not present
- Daniel Rowell, Professional Engineer – present physically in-person
- Quorum – **Not Met**: Due to physical location being at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL, and there was not a second physical location in Chicago, only 2 members who are physically present at the location count towards the quorum requirement of 4 physically of 7 total Board members. Therefore, no motions or votes allowed, and informative update provided by Amusement Ride & Attraction Safety Division (ARAS) Manager, Brian Fox.

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524 South 2nd Street, Suite 400
Springfield, Illinois 62701
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Fax: (217) 782-0596

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115 South LaSalle Street, 37th floor
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(312) 793-2800
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Regional Office Building
2309 West Main Street, Suite 115
Marion, Illinois 62959
(618) 993-7090
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OLD BUSINESS.....
Division Manager

Brian Fox presents Informative Updates of ARAS Division via PowerPoint presentation:

1. New application on Website – can grant access to employees in companies. Working on getting historical inspection reports for full history and adding new features. Asking for feedback for any questions, concerns, tec.
2. New Inspector – David Compton in Northern area. Significant needs with additional trampoline parks opening. Comes from OSHA Division and has experience with inspections.
3. 2025 Inspection Stats
4. Accident report – down of “reported accident” Reminder 48 hours to report any serious injuries. You do not get in trouble for reporting, you are subject to \$1,000 fine for failure to report. Important for trendlines to address it.
 - a. Majority Patron caused accident
 - b. 1 Mechanical
5. Bruce Monroe – new application features online:
 - a. Brian – Still working on to carry over route list from prior years, but not yet able.
 - b. Reminder - If applying less than 30 days, \$250 expeditated fee will apply.
 - c. If arrival date and open date are on a weekend an additional fee will apply. Make sure accurate information is entered in the online portal when you arrive and open.
 - d. Q’s about new website from public? None. If you have any comments or suggestions, we are open to those.
6. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for 9/10/26 at 10am.
7. Director Flanagan – We are thinking about a more formal way of getting feedback to the Department regarding customer service, but of course if you have a concern or negative experience during an inspection, bring it to Brian or myself right away. We will be getting a more formal feedback to maintain standards and we rely on you and we welcome it.
 - a. Brian – our goal is to be in partnership with you for safety and fun. Please reach out positive or negative with your experiences with IDOL.

Public Comments – Carnival Operator. A big kudos to retired Brian in the field. We work multiple states, and you have a good group of inspectors.

Brian – thankful to have good inspectors and Bill has been here 19 years and still learning new things and I am always learning from them and it’s a culture of learning.

Public Discussion – Bill – Fantasy ? - One of first inspectors passed away, John Rodgers (sp).
10am here at Crowne Plaza for January meeting well attended with the convention.

Public Comment – Based out of Peoria – Sometimes in Iowa, still need to report injury. No need on injury, but if mechanical, would appreciate it, so we can discuss with manufacture to keep a watch on it for when IL.

Brian: We still do have some openings on this Board, would appreciate your consideration.

10:35 a.m. -Advisory update ended.