

**ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND STANDARDS BOARD
4500 South 6th Street Road, Room 173, Springfield, IL 62703-6617**

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
ILETSB Main Office, 4500 S. 6th Street Road, Springfield, Illinois
December 5, 2017**

I. ROLL CALL – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The December 5, 2017 meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Springfield, Illinois, and was called to order by Chairman Hartshorn at 10:03 a.m. Roll was called by Ellen Petty and a quorum of Committee members was established.

Members in attendance:

Pat Hartshorn
Tim Gleason
Jan Noble
Valerie Salmons (via teleconference)
John Schlaf
Richard Watson

Members absent:

None

Staff in attendance:

Brent Fischer, Executive Director
Eric Pingolt, Deputy Director
Pat Connolly, Deputy Director
John Keigher, Chief Counsel
Ellen Petty, Personal Assistant to Executive Director

Others in attendance:

Carlo Montemagno, Chancellor, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale
Mark Kolaz, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale, Office of the President
Benjamin Newman, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale P.D.
Jeff Grubbs, Carbondale P.D.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 21, 2017

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Gleason, and carried by those members present to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2017 meeting, with the exception of Salmons, who voted “present” due to the fact that she was attending via phone and did not have a copy to review.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Southern Illinois University Pre-Service Program

Director Fischer introduced Chancellor Carlo Montemagno of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale who is interested in offering a pre-service program through their University Criminal Justice Department. They have a 3,000 acre facility south of Carbondale, where they propose to conduct this program, called “Touch of Nature”. They are seeking to have this program certified.

Chancellor Montemagno introduced Ben Newman of SIUC Department of Public Safety, and Jeff Grubbs, Chief of Police at Carbondale P.D. He wants to create a school of homeland security, including criminal justice, cyber-security, forensics, multi-cultural studies program, and a pre-law program. They would like to offer the opportunity for including a police academy for those who wish to go on to pursue a career in law enforcement. This academy would also be able to support the surrounding communities as needed. High quality forensic science would be embedded as part of the curriculum of this pre-service program. There are a number of facilities already in existence, which allow them to provide real experiential learning. They believe they already have 85% of the infrastructure in place, and they need only re-structure and re-brand to move ahead.

Chief Grubbs went over the handout packet with those present, explaining pictures and program details as outlined in the packet. “Touch of Nature” offers barracks, range, classrooms, and scenario and tactics training space on site, in a park-like atmosphere away from the main campus. Montemagno added that they plan to upgrade and renovate their 25-yard firing range to 100 yards with 24-lanes, and develop an urban environment training area.

The Criminal Justice program would offer the 560-hour BLE at the end of the program, as the “internship”. Their vision is to offer the academy to 4th year students with an application process to attend the academy at the end. They anticipate offering two classes per year, with 50 students/recruits in each class. They would like the first class to ideally begin in the Fall of 2018 or Spring of 2019.

Schlaf commented that we should consider how this would affect our current academies. Fischer stated that does not believe it would significantly affect the enrollment at the current academies. The program would work like the Intern program, where if the student were not employed within a certain amount of time, the training achievement would expire.

The anticipated ratio of those in the academy would be ½ to 1/3 from outside agencies and the remaining coming from the pre-service program. They feel that this would be an enrichment for both groups of students – a challenge and a benefit for both sides, enabling each group to learn from the others’ experience and background.

Salmons inquired as to what academy most agencies in that area send their recruits now. Fischer responded that SWIC, ISP, and PTI are all used by agencies in the area.

Salmons inquired how many pre-service programs we have in the state at this time. Fischer answered that we do not have a pre-service class currently, but we do have the Intern program through SWIC, which is very similar. He went on to state that we previously offered the Police Corps program through WIU, but we have never had another pre-service program. This would be different from the other similar programs offered in the past.

Watson stated that he thought there would be quite a few of the pre-service students from out of state, who would be able to apply for reciprocity in their home state. Schlaf agrees that this will be the next generation of law enforcement training and expects that others will come forward with similar programs in the future, and the Board needs to be prepared for this eventuality. Watson agreed, but stated that not all Universities will have sufficient facilities for such a program like the one at SIU at Carbondale, and situated in a location with such little coverage by other nearby academies.

Director Fischer acknowledged that the guests had a flight to catch, and thanked them for coming and presenting to the Board and advised that he would be in touch as discussions continue.

Watson asked if the committee needed to make a formal recommendation to bring the SIUC proposal to the full Board in December. Hartshorn agreed that he thought it would be a good idea.

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Gleason, and carried by all present to recommend the SIUC proposal be presented to the full Board at the December 14th meeting for further exploration or the appointment of a special committee if need be.

Schlaf suggested that the Chancellor, since he is unfortunately unable to make the Board meeting on the scheduled date in December, could send a representative to help answer any questions the Board might have about the project. Fischer agreed that he would work on arranging for that to happen.

B. HGB Foundation Update

Director Fischer shared that he has recently met with Sheriff Buffett regarding the 30,000 square foot building being constructed on the MCLETC site right now, and floor plans for that building. Inside, Romano Co. is moving forward on the construction of a mock training village with a streetscape, mat room, and storage in the southern half of the building, and food service kitchen, classroom and dining area in the northern half. This kitchen and dining facility would be used for all of the academy classes on site provided by the culinary arts program at Richland. Down the road, he is looking at building additional barracks, classrooms, and a place for a state of the art firearms simulator. It is really developing into more of a regional training center. Plans are currently in the development stage.

Buffett also indicated that he would be transitioning ownership of “The Farm”, which is the existing canine facility, Simunition house, indoor range, and classroom facility that has been in use for several years. We are currently working with him to make sure that it can remain in use.

C. Personnel Matters

Director Fischer advised that there was nothing to report.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Gleason, seconded by Watson, and carried by all present to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

