

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT FINANCE AND
LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

Crowne Plaza Springfield Hotel & Convention Center

3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703

March 11, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The March 11, 2020 meeting of the Joint Finance & Legislative and Executive Committees was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Schlaf. Roll was called by Ellen Petty, and a quorum of voting members was established.

Members in Attendance:

Tim Gleason

John Schlaf

Marlon Harvey for Dorothy Brown

Pat Hartshorn

Tim Nugent

Cameron Eugenis for Kwame Raoul

Valerie Salmons

Richard Watson

Members Absent:

Timothy Becker

Staff in Attendance:

Brent Fischer

John Keigher

Ellen Petty

Pat Hahn

Laura Baker

Kelly Griffith

Eric Pingolt

Lya Ramos

Denise Matthew

Scott Schaefer

Jen Wooldridge

Keith Calloway

Glen Bell

Guests in Attendance:

William Petentler, MTU 4

Amber Shaffer, MTU 4

John Reynolds, MTU 4

Doug Coppotelli, MTU 1

Doug Fargher, MTU 1

Mike Schlosser, PTI
Bill Strayer, Sangamon County Sheriff's Dept.
Jeffrey Chapman, Chicago P.D.
Vernon Foli, Chatham P.D.
Bob Crouch, MTU 10
Kenton Manning, IROCC
Patrick Connolly, IDOC
Derek Carle, Executive Institute
Susan Nichols, Executive Institute
Heather Hotz, Executive Institute
Cindi Bricker, Executive Institute
Tad Williams, MCLETC
Marie Rangel, Cook County Sheriff's Training
Robert Siron, MTU 8
Aaron Klima, Shorewood P.D./SLEA/MTU 3
Thomas Turek, Statewide DRE Coordinator
Penny Abbott, MTU 9
Deborah Alms, MTU 2
John Perona, MTU 16
Jill Marr, MTU 16
Richard Fonck, MTU 16
Hilary Davis, New Lenox P.D.
David Clague, Knox County Sheriff
John Bennett, MTU 15
Chuck Doan, MTU 15
David Rednour, MTU 15
Kenny Winslow, Springfield P.D.
David Hayes, MTU 14
Scott Williams, MTU 14
Van Muschler, SWIC Police Academy
Christina Stephen, MTU 13
Brad Oyer, MTU 13
Brian Fengel, MTU 7
Rob Copley, Quincy P.D.

II. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Financial Items

- 1. Fiscal Information**
 - a. TACCSF Receipts**
 - b. TACCSF Balance**
 - c. Projected Academy Enrollments & Tuition**

Denise Matthew gave the fiscal report, going over the information outlined in Tab F of the Board book. There was a handout given to Board members with revised training figures to replace the figures that were sent out with the Board book. Year to date receipts into the TACCSF are \$2.6M less than what they were at this same point last year. Receipts into the Camera Grant Fund are \$361,382 less than they were at this

point last year. We have been receiving the deposits in our funds about a month after when they were collected. In addition, the Comptroller borrowed \$1M from the Camera Grant fund on January 24th, which could impact the amount of funding available for grant awards. The cost of tuition for FY20, based upon enrollment projections for BLE is \$8.55M, and for BCO is \$1.2M. PTBLE tuition reimbursements would add another \$382,000 for a projected grand total of \$9.76M for all basic training conducted in FY20.

Motion made by Salmons, seconded by Watson, and approved by all members present to approve the fiscal report as presented.

2. FY21 Budget
3. Public Accountability Report & Reimbursements
4. Final FY17-FY18 Audit Report

Denise Matthew went on to give a brief overview of the status of the FY21 Budget process, noting that GOMB has decreased several operational line items in our budget, such as personnel, contractual services, travel, printing, and operation of auto, by just under \$188,000, but that training figures remain unchanged. GOMB also dropped our approved headcount down from 27 to 25 employees. They did include in our FY21 Budget, a \$3M appropriation from the General Revenue fund, but this would only be available to us with the approval and signature of the Governor during the lapse period, should we not collect sufficient funds into the TACCSF throughout the year – these funds may only be used for training expenses. Director Fischer commented that the \$120,000 decrease in the contractual line item was due to the completion of a large scanning project the Board office has been undergoing for the past couple of years, which will get our Form E's and other records digitized and easier to file and access.

Denise went on to go over the Public Accountability Report, explaining its purpose. The report is available on the Comptroller's website for anyone who is interested in viewing it. She then went over the FY19 reimbursement listing included in the Board book, which she noted did not include direct tuition payments made to the academies with which we have a direct tuition agreement. A total of \$13.25M was reimbursed to agencies and direct tuition academies, as well as for CIT training, and funding the MTU's in FY19.

Denise also reported that the audit report for FY17 & FY18 has been finalized and is published on the Auditor General's website, and that all Board members have been provided with a copy. We had a total of 9 findings, two more than the prior audit. Six of these findings were repeats from our last audit. Seven findings were classified as material weaknesses, and two were classified as significant deficiencies. She offered to answer any questions any of the Board members might have about the findings. Director Fischer commented that we have taken a good look at what happened with the repeat findings, and some significant changes we have already implemented will help prevent them from being repeats in the future. He went over several of the findings, noting the problems outlined and what procedures have been put in place to prevent future repeats.

Valerie Salmons asked about the repeat concerns. Denise advised that the only concerns were that some of the findings were repeated. She gave an example of the petty cash

process, the various duties of maintaining the fund was supposed to have been segregated between 2 or 3 individuals, but the same individual kept doing all of the steps, but that has now been addressed and the various duties have been divided up as they should have been previously. Salmons asked if there was one person whose responsibility it is to ensure the audit findings are addressed this month, next month, and a year from now. Director Fischer indicated that we have looked at them as a staff and have addressed it with the staff members who are responsible for the areas in question, and have eliminated any common denominators.

B. Legislative and Litigation Update

John Keigher gave the legislative and litigation update, noting that there is no current litigation directly involving the Board at this time, and highlighting the following items of interest:

Appropriation Bills:

HB 5722 & SB 3972 Both the House and Senate ILETSB appropriation bills allow the Board to spend up to \$21 million in operations and training, and \$3 million for camera grants. However, it is likely that the Surcharge Fund will not bring in enough to cover those amounts, so \$3 million of GRF has been offered to close out FY 20 and another \$3 million to be used in FY 21, if needed. In both cases, the GRF may only be used with the approval of the Governor during the lapse period.

Fines & Fee Collection Bills:

HB 3892 Under the new fee collection bill, an individual may perform community service and earn credit toward an outstanding fine or fee at \$4 per hour worked. Under this bill, the \$4 would be changed to the state's minimum wage (\$11, rising to \$15). We are still waiting for information from the bill's sponsor regarding how often this accommodation is likely to be granted to determine the impact this might have on the TCCSF.

HB 4985 Adds "Gunrunning or firearm trafficking" to the list of crimes that get special financial penalties. Under this provision, an extra \$500 would be collected at the time of conviction to be directed to the Surcharge Fund for the specific purpose of assisting local police agencies to buy bulletproof vests and hire new officers. (Rep. Aaron Ortiz – Still in Rules).

SB 2557 Makes several administrative changes as to the way fees are collected for the ISP, but regarding the Board, it extends the new collection process for an additional 4 years. So rather than repealing the new act in January of 2021, it will remain in effect until January 1, 2025. This will avert the fiscal cliff and allow more time for studies and revisions. (Sen. Bennet – 2nd Reading).

SB 2982 Extends the repealer for the new fee collection statute to 1-1-2023 (2 additional years) and creates a 19-member task force to review the new fee collection process and offer recommendations before 6-1-2021. The Board, along with the AG,

ICJIA, and representatives from Sheriffs and municipalities are included in the membership. (Sen. Villanueva – Judiciary).

SB 3739 This fund transfer bill would require the treasurer to move \$5 million from the General Revenue Fund to the TCCSF so that the Board can continue to meet its financial obligations under the FY 20 appropriation. (Sen. Manar – Appropriations – has 10 cosponsors).

School Resource Officers:

HB 3935 Makes changes to the new laws governing School Resource Officers (SRO) and their required procedures when questioning students on school grounds. Under this proposal, the questioning requirements would apply to any general law enforcement officer, school security personnel, or anyone in the presence of a law enforcement officer. This change will be watched and incorporated into our SRO training if it becomes law.

HB 4776 Allows for “retired law enforcement officers associated with a law enforcement agency” to qualify as a School Resource Officer under the provisions enacted last year that allow funds to be generated locally by school districts to pay agencies for the use of such officers. This bill has not seen much support yet this year and a similar provision last year was abandoned after significant union opposition.

Crisis Intervention Training:

HB 3938 Representative Maurice West, a strong supporter of the CIT model, has filed this bill on behalf of the local NAMI affiliate from Rockford. While it would codify that CIT courses are to be 40 hours and would direct some criminal fees toward CIT trainings, it would also require all recruit officers to attend CIT. We reviewed similar proposals over the last few years and have always opposed any bill that removes the “specialized” designation of the CIT program. Rep. West was receptive to our concerns and welcomed our amendment to remove that provision should this bill move forward this session.

HB 5136 Requires the mental health mandated in-service course be at least 16 hours long. This runs contrary to our longstanding position that courses should not be mandated in length, but rather in content requirements. It also asserts that CIT training should be 16 hours as well (currently 40 hours) – which we expect is a drafting error. So far, this bill has not been assigned to a committee. If it is, we will address these concerns with the sponsor and explore ways in which we may be able to accommodate her intentions.

SB 3333 This bill requires the Department of Human Services to maintain a database on its website to help link first responders with entities that provide mental health services. We are very supportive of this concept and intend to work with the sponsor to see if we can play a role specifically linking law enforcement officers to mental health resources for the public they serve and themselves.

SB 3454 Again from Senator Martwick, this bill would require the Board's CIT program to include a block of instruction on "transportation procedures" for those experiencing a mental health crisis or otherwise requiring mental health treatment. The concept of "transporting" those exhibiting metal health distress has always been core to the CIT program and we support the specific inclusion of this requirement. Nevertheless, there is no best practice that can currently be implemented statewide, so we are reaching out to the sponsor to see if this can be addressed as this bill moves forward.

Police Training:

HB 4335 Identical to SB 2933, this bill would require anyone seeking to run as a sheriff to be previously certified as a law enforcement officer under the provisions of the Board. This would also apply to anyone appointed to serve as sheriff and contains a grandfather clause for anyone currently serving as a sheriff who does not meet this requirement.

HB 4619 This bill would require "community policing volunteers" to complete initial training in human and civil rights before being utilized by a police department. Such training would be subsequently required again every three years. This term typically refers to civilian participants who work to reduce or prevent crime within a specific neighborhood or geographic area. By our interpretation, this would not apply to Auxiliary officers. If this moves forward, we will work the sponsor to see if it can be placed in the municipal code rather than the Police Training Act as the Board is only authorized to train, and provide financial support to certified officers.

HB 5019 This bill would require all officers, including chiefs and sheriffs, to complete 2 hours of de-escalation training every month. The requirement would sunset in ten years.

HB 5205 This bill would require the Board to develop a course for "Tactical Paramedics" who support and aid law enforcement agencies in certain endeavors such as search and rescue, bomb response, civil disturbances, etc. These individuals would be required to complete extensive medical training as well as firearm training established by the Board. As drafted, the bill does not afford these individuals any law enforcement or arrest authority so it's difficult to see how they fit within the Police Training Act. If this bill moves forward, we would be happy to discuss ideas for an amendment with the sponsor.

HB 4262 This bill creates a special task force to examine the latest developments, trends and best practices in the area of domestic violence response, particularly, victim assistance. As drafted, the bill would bring together judges, the Department of Human Services, and the Attorney General to make recommendations moving forward. We have reached out to the sponsor to be included to this list so that we can participate in any discussions that are likely to involve police training and revisions to existing curriculum.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Body Camera Grant Update

John Keigher reported that at the time the Board book was prepared, we had just received word of the \$1M being taken from the fund by the Comptroller's office and things were looking pretty bleak. However, since that time and after several discussions with GOMB regarding the future of the fund, we have been assured there are no plans to take any more money this fiscal year. We have since been able to get our ducks in a row and open Round 3 of the body camera grant earlier this week. We have about a dozen new agencies already on file. With only a little over a million in the fund at this time, we won't award any more than that, but he would like to request the Board's approval tomorrow to award that additional million this round if it gets returned to the fund, as it is better to get it spent while we can than to let it sit and get borrowed again.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Director Fischer thanked the Board staff for all of their hard work with the current financial situation and all that it has brought.

V. ADJOURNMENT *(Motion Needed)*

A motion to adjourn was made by Nugent, seconded by Watson, and approved by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

