

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM
STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Springfield, IL – WebEx Video Conferencing due to COVID-19
October 23, 2020**

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

The October 23, 2020 meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order at 12:00 Noon by Chairman Timothy Gleason. Roll was called by Ellen Petty, and a quorum of voting members was established.

Members in Attendance:

Timothy Gleason (via WebEx)
John Schlaf (via WebEx)
Brendan Kelly (via WebEx)
Richard Watson (via WebEx)

Members Absent:

Mitchell Davis III

Staff in Attendance:

Brent Fischer
Eric Pingolt
Keith Calloway (via WebEx)
John Keigher
Kelly Griffith
Jennifer Wooldridge (via WebEx)
Pat Hahn
Denise Matthew (via WebEx)
Ellen Petty

Guests in Attendance:

Due to WebEx format, there is no available listing of all guests listening in on the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Gleason called for approval of the minutes.

Motion was made by Schlaf, seconded by Kelly, and carried by all members present via roll call vote to approve the minutes from August 14, 2020.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Financial Update

Director Fischer asked Denise Matthew to give a brief financial update, based upon the documents she had provided for the meeting.

Denise gave a 4 year comparison of receipts into the funds to illustrate the drastic downward trend, as well as current balances in the funds. She reported that our GOMB representative has advised her that we must submit a request to have the \$1M that was borrowed from the camera grant fund in FY20 returned to us, they won't just automatically repay it to us.

Motion was made by Schlaf, seconded by Watson, and carried by all members present via roll call vote to submit a request to have the \$1M returned to the Camera Grant fund that was borrowed in FY20.

Denise went on to report that the MTUs have now been paid for the first quarter of FY21 as well as \$15K each to cover the cost of their annual audits, as is customarily done during the 1st quarter of the year. 2nd quarter is generally when we deduct the grant funds recovery from the prior year from their payments, but since we didn't pay them their 4th quarter payments in FY20, we don't anticipate that there will be any funds to recover. To clarify, Denise explained that it is a federal law that we have to recover any funds that the MTUs did not expend from the previous year's awarded grant amount. This figure is reflected in the MTU audits each year, and rather than having them reimburse us that amount, we simply deduct that amount from their 2nd quarter payments the following year. Director Fischer went on to explain that by the time we had the funds to pay the MTU 4th quarter payments in FY20, it was too late in the year for them to be able to spend it, and most advised that they didn't want the payment at that late stage, because they couldn't spend it before the end of the fiscal year and would only have to pay it back.

Denise went on to outline how the \$3M from the GRF transfer was spent during lapse, namely direct tuition payments owed, executive institute payments owed, and the remaining were paid out in reimbursements to departments for basic training tuition, which we were able to cover at 75%, but we did have to use TACCSF monies for that as well, to be able to pay out that amount. She advised that we have received quite a number of calls from agencies wanting to know why they did not receive reimbursement of the full amount of the tuition paid, and she has had to explain that we were only able to pay out at the 75% amount due to a lack of funding.

Director Fischer advised that we were approximately \$7M short in FY20 from what was collected in FY19, and FY19 was short from the prior year as well. We are currently about \$2.5M down for the first quarter of FY21, which means that the downward trend seems to be getting worse instead of better. We have made sure that everyone is aware of the issue, from the Lt. Governor's and Governor's staff, to the law enforcement organizations, to the General Assembly. We've been working hard to piecemeal out payments whenever we get a new deposit in, so that we can move it out as quickly as it comes in. Kelly added that he believes the police reform matters will ultimately fall on the Board, which will cost significantly more money when we can't even fund our current programs, and those involved in those discussions have been made very aware that new reforms will require significant funding.

B. Personnel Update

Director Fisher reported that there were two items he wanted to bring to the attention of the Committee since his last update. First, that Lya Ramos has given her 2-week notice and that this is her last day with the Board. She is our HR Manager and FOIA Officer. He does have someone with an HR background who he believes will be a good candidate to fill that spot. Since it is a spot that he can fill without having to go through the usual posting process, with the Committee's blessing, we can get it filled pretty quickly, especially since we are going to rely heavily upon this position in the near future with regard to increasing staffing levels to support any police reform measures coming our way.

In addition, we are wanting to bring on Jeffery Chapman, who is retiring from the Chicago Police Department. Both of these matters have been discussed with Charles Watkins of the Lt. Governor's office, and he has been very helpful in his recommendations to work with CMS Personnel to make some changes to the positions which, as it turns out is just a bit of housekeeping, cleaning up how these positions were originally coded – so we are in the midst of working with CMS on implementing those changes, with his direction and approval.

Fischer went on to state that we are getting a lot of activity here in the office in advance of the potential police reform coming our way, and he discussed this with Charles yesterday, to keep him in the loop on personnel matters, and even though we are tight on money and in the midst of a hiring freeze, he advised that we should go ahead and take a look at our organizational chart and if we have an essential position or two that need filled, there are some things we can look at to help with that. With that, he just wants the Committee to be aware that we will continue to develop something in that area and will keep everyone in the loop on our progress.

C. Police Reform Update

Fischer reported that he and Board staff have been involved in a large number of meetings and side conversations with the AG and administration and legislators regarding a number of areas of police reform, as well as having been asked to testify in Senate hearings on those subjects, most of which involve compliance and accountability of law enforcement. He and staff have attended 4 such meetings during October, so far, and he knows that Director Kelly is heavily involved in these meetings and that Chairman Gleason calls in on some of them as well. Staff has been asked to testify in the Senate hearing on November 10th and will be involved in a few preparatory meetings prior to that, with the administration. It seems that ILETSB is the agency being mainly considered to be the administrative support for this reform. Hiring and initial certification/licensing standards, ongoing certification requirements, handling of complaints at the local and state level, transparency, and discretionary discipline for misconduct that doesn't necessarily meet the level of decertification are among the topics being discussed. Again, as Director Kelly can attest, we constantly remind them of the financial burden that will be on the Board to implement these reforms. Kelly confirmed that statement, and also advised that he had an upcoming meeting with the Black Caucus and would be asking them to consider how law enforcement training and reforms can be paid for.

D. Trainings During COVID-19 Update

Fischer commented that he was glad this topic was on the agenda, as there are changes in the mitigation guidelines at various locations around the state due to the spikes in

positive cases in those areas, so this is very much on our radar right now. We will be taking another look at the guidelines we developed earlier this summer to determine if any adjustments or changes are needed with the way things are developing right now. We've been staying in touch with the Academy Directors and they've been reaching out as questions come up, but with the new mitigation efforts, we need to take an even closer look at some of our basic training methods and how academies are handling positive cases, as well as how to suspend and restart academy classes back up when an outbreak occurs.

Pat Hahn reported on how in-service training has been progressing through the MTUs with great success and Jennifer Wooldridge gave an overview of how CIT training is being conducted with small class sizes to allow for more distancing. She also added that we will be trying a different approach for CIT refresher classes, and that next month will feature a pilot of a new 1-day refresher course in place of the previous 16-hour version. There are already quite a few enrolled and she will report on how it went in her December Board report. She added that she will be working with the Executive Institute to plan a live, in-person CIT summit in May 2021, possibly in Bloomington, where the focus is going to be on de-escalation. The concept is that there will be a plenary session at the beginning with a breakout room where skills can be honed with role play, or the option of a full 8-hours of de-escalation training in another breakout room. She will be bringing the outline for the 8-hour standalone de-escalation course to the December Board meeting for approval, as well. Pat Hahn added that there are a number of private vendors who offer standalone de-escalation classes through the MTUs as well, that are widely attended, in addition to what the Board offers.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Director's 2020 Evaluation Update

Chairman Gleason gave a quick update on the Director's 2020 Evaluation, explaining that as the Executive Committee is aware, he made a call for a 360 degree evaluation, and the window for that just closed. Thirty-six responses were received, some in a different fashion. They are preparing a binder for every Executive Committee member and they will be sent by via FedEx or delivered in person during the next week. He added that he cannot stress enough the confidentiality of this binder that's going to be shared. Once the binders have been delivered, they will move onto the next steps and he will be reaching out individually. He asked Fischer to finalize the document he has prepared for his evaluation in years past, where he has outlined his accomplishments for the previous year and send it along to the Executive Committee. Once everyone has had a chance to digest all of that information, he will possibly call a special Executive Committee meeting to discuss it and go over it in person with Director Fischer, possibly in Springfield. This likely won't be until the week after the election due to his busy schedule, likely November 12 or 13th.

B. Special Executive Nomination Committee Update

Brendan Kelly advised the Committee has met a couple of times and will likely meet a couple more. They've directed John Keigher to finalize some of the questions they've come up with and there will be a call to the Board to determine who is interested in serving as the Chair. The Committee consisted of himself, Ghida Neukirch, and Mitchell Davis and he thinks they've had some pretty good insights and thinks this is probably a

good strategy. He believes if we are going to the legislature and asking for a pretty penny, and we are right to do so, he believes the more we show a professionalism and a commitment to due diligence and thoughtfulness and standards, the better off we'll be. The Committee came up with an application of sorts, 4 or 5 questions, as well as a general job description for the Chair and Vice-Chair. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to say where they want to go with their time as Chair and then the Committee will vet those things and come back to the full Board with a recommendation.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Schlaf, and carried by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 12:49 p.m.

