

ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND STANDARDS BOARD
500 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT FINANCE & LEGISLATIVE
AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Crowne Plaza Hotel & Convention Center
3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703

September 6, 2023
3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The September 6, 2023 Joint Finance & Legislative and Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Committee Chair John Idleburg.

II. ROLL CALL ~ ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Roll was called by Michelle Mlinar, and a quorum of voting members was established.

Members in Attendance:

Sean Smoot
John Idleburg
Tim Nugent
Richard Watson

Designees in Attendance:

Jason Lococo for Brendan Kelly
Anthony Escamilla for Iris Martinez
John Carroll for Kwame Raoul

Members Absent:

J.W. Price

Staff in Attendance:

Keith Calloway
Anthony Cobb
Kenley Cowgill
John Keigher
Allison Mesecher

Michelle Mlinar
Ellen Petty
Jill Wieland
Cherylynn Williams

Others in Attendance:

Eric Danford, SWIC
Joe Gallo, PTI
Michael Schassburger, Cook Cty PA
Jason LaMendola, Sauk Valley PA

Karl Pannier, St. Clair Co CA/SWIC
Tim Tyler, Champaign PD
Carla Redd, Rockford PD
Liz Brown-Reeves, LBR Consulting

III. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Financial Items ~ John Keigher for Steven Pingolt

Keigher noted the Financial report can be found under Tab 6 of the Board book. He stated the funds are healthy and there is money coming into them at this time. Keigher explained this report shows what a little over a month expenditure cycle looks like for the Board, as these reports were prepared in early August and the fiscal year begins in July. He also noted it does not show any of the grant disbursements that were made after that date, but it does reflect the first quarter payment to the MTU's.

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Smoot, and carried by all members present to approve the financial report.

B. Personnel Matters ~ Ellen Petty

Petty noted that since the June meeting Andrew Oldfield has been promoted to the Application Solution Architect position, Barb Wood had been hired to be the Manager of Specialized Programs, Kristi Sorenson was hired to a Certification Specialist position, Joan Hahn to the Grant Accountant position, Christopher Haubrich is now the Instructor and Course Certification Specialist, and we have hired four Field Investigators: Brent Shownes, Hilary Davis, James Bianchi, and James Buchanan. Lee Ryker is back on a 75-day contract to help train the Field Investigators. The field investigators and Lee Ryker all started on September 1st.

C. Legislative and Litigation Update ~ John Keigher

Keigher stated he will give a detailed update at tomorrow's meeting. Currently there are five pending lawsuits against the Board and one Human Rights matter consisting of several complaints from the same individual. The Attorney General is working these cases for us.

Regarding Legislation, the two bills mentioned [SB 1543 and SB 1754] at the June meeting have both passed and been signed by the Governor. They do not go into effect until January 2024, so the Board has time to figure out implementation. Staff are working on the 2024 legislative proposals. They are working closely with the Lt. Governor & Governor's offices and will be expecting the proposals soon. Keigher is looking at three possible bills for the next session:

1. SAFE-T Act Trailer:

- Specifically, to allow Board staff to review LEADS and Secretary of State data and set the stage to get NCIC access to conduct national background checks.
- Increase waiver turn-around time from 7 days to 15 days as those from out of state take longer to process.

- Clarify the dates of when the new misdemeanors become actionable for decertification. The current phrasing is confusing and needs to be clarified.
 - Need to clarify that “termination” is still a basis for requiring a professional conduct report to be completed and submitted to the Board. Termination was removed with the SAFE-T Act and it needs to be clear that termination is still included.
2. Police Training Act Cleanup:
- Separate the training requirements of Section 7 into subsections based on certification type. Basic Law Enforcement now includes over 70 items and needs to be reorganized into distinctive sections for Basic vs Corrections vs Court Security.
 - Consolidate the in-service mandates into a single section of the Police Training Act.
 - Change the Domestic Violence in-service mandate to a 3-year cycle to fit the other mandates. It is currently in a 5-year cycle.
 - Clarify that state agencies can attend trainings paid for with Surcharge Fund money. These funds have limitations on how they can be used, the Board is currently doing more statewide trainings due to the SAFE-T Act and using the Surcharge fund for these trainings needs to be allowable.
3. Officer Wellness / CIT Clarification:
- Trailer bill to SB 1543 (PA 103-382) to change “Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator” to “Statewide PTSD Officer Wellness Coordinator” as the Board already does work for mental health through the CIT program. Also, this would not cause confusion around the mental health training the Board already offers.

Board Chair Sean Smoot introduced the new legislative liaison, Liz Brown-Reeves. She is at the Capitol and dedicated to making sure the Board has open lines of communication with the legislators, which is something the Board has not had for several years. This should eliminate bills being passed that affect the Board without our knowledge. Smoot noted staff is working with Brown-Reeves to develop a plan for the legislation Keigher just discussed, and she is rebuilding relationships on the Board’s behalf.

Smoot then asked the Committee members for any input regarding the proposed legislation or any other issues with legislation they have had come up as he would like to get everything ready before the General Assembly starts back up in the fall. Sheriff Watson noted the disappearance of the small agencies. Small towns cannot maintain a police department any longer due to the SAFE-T Act because they can’t train or pay officers, and now the county agencies and state police must cover these areas without any additional pay. Smoot noted he has been working with Director

Calloway regarding possible internships and part-time training, they have been formulating a way to open a pipeline for people to enter law enforcement. This would position the Board to be a leader on this front as this is not just an Illinois issue, it is a national issue.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SAFE-T Act Update ~ John Keigher

Keigher reported that 11 of the 13 members of the Certification Review Panel have been appointed, and there is an in-person training scheduled for the third week of September. This group has met once online for a brief orientation and they were given online training at that time.

Keigher is working on a trailer bill to clean up issues with the SAFE-T Act, and he is hoping to get the working groups started this fall to work on some of the Administrative Rule issues.

B. Grant Update ~ John Keigher

Keigher reported the FY 23 Grant period ended on June 30th and the Board awarded \$10.4 million dollars in grants, more than three times what the Board has ever distributed before. Specifically, \$1.5 million for in car (311) and officer worn cameras (698), \$300,000 for data storage costs associated with camera programs, \$60,000 for the operation of ballistics imaging equipment, \$3.4 million for Recruitment & Retention efforts, and \$5 million to the City of Chicago for Recruitment and Training which was a specific grant for them.

Keigher mentioned that several staff members worked overtime to ensure awards were processed as quickly as possible despite the challenges of learning a new application system, personnel departures, and severe storms during the last week of June that knocked out power to parts of the state in the final days. Keigher noted several agencies were not able to secure an award even though they had begun the application process, so staff has already started the process to open the FY 24 grant programs within the next few weeks. He received notice that the FY24 Camera Grant has been approved by the grant team, watch our website for updates. Keigher noted over the last two years the camera grant has had an appropriation of about \$30M, the Board can spend \$33M, but there is roughly \$25M in the fund at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Smoot informed the Committee about the Ramos case. The Riverside Police Department requested a waiver on a new employee, staff reviewed the waiver and due

to her background information the waiver was initially denied. Smoot noted that when he learned of the Police Department contesting the decision he appointed a standing committee to the case and instructed the Director to provide all resources necessary to review the case. The Waiver Review Committee is intended to be a permanent committee with ISP Director Brendan Kelly being appointed chair, and the members being Chief Carla Redd, Chief Tim Tyler, Mayor Tim Nugent, and Sheriff Richard Watson. With the declaration of forming the Committee, Chairman Smoot authorizes the Committee to conduct hearings, make findings and recommend Board action for administrative appeal of any current or future denied training waiver cases. There was a hearing conducted last week in Chicago regarding the Ramos appeal, the Committee unanimously voted to grant the waiver, and staff has implemented the Committee's decision. Smoot noted that going forward staff will work to polish the procedural rules for this Committee and thanked everyone, especially Director Kelly and Pat Hahn, for their hard work on this case.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Lococo, and carried by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

