

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

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

Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board
500 S. 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701

September 25, 2024
3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The September 25, 2024 Joint Finance & Legislative and Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chairman Sean Smoot.

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
Brendan Kelly
Tim Nugent
J.W. Price
Richard Watson

Designees in Attendance:

Anthony Escamilla for Iris Martinez
John Carroll for Kwame Raoul

Members Absent:

None

III. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Financial Items ~ Steven Pingolt

Steven Pingolt stated expenditures through September 4, 2024 and an analysis of funds can be found under Tab F. Pingolt replied to a grant question and stated for the Recruitment and Retention grant, the full amount of funds was distributed, but for all other grants, the full amount was not distributed. This year [FY25] for camera grants the Board was appropriated \$60 million and the grant should open soon. \$10 million was awarded for the FY24 camera grant program.

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

B. Personnel Matters & DEIA Report ~ Ellen Petty

Ellen Petty stated her report can be found under Tab G in the Board book. Petty commented on a few updates that have happened since her report was submitted. She

stated two new field investigators started on August 1st, both are based in McLean County. Headcount is still at 40 employees; however, staff will be onboarding three new employees in October: a Receptionist/Secretary, a Specialized Training Assistant, and the Assistant Legal Counsel. There are two rounds of interviews scheduled for next week, for Chief Certification Counsel and the Web Developer. Interviews for the Public Information Officer will occur once CMS has given approval, and the Assistant Fiscal and Chief Accountability Officer position has been approved and will be posted soon. There are also several grant positions to be posted to help move the grant money out. There are currently two employees on a leave of absence.

C. Legislative and Litigation Update ~ John Keigher

John Keigher stated the litigation report will be given tomorrow at the full Board meeting during closed session. As for legislation, staff is watching the Hate Crimes bill that passed out of the Senate but did not pass in the House. Keigher noted staff is working on seven new proposals filed with the Lt. Governor and Governor's office that will hopefully be filed next spring. The seven proposed items are; experience requirement for training waiver, direct access to the Board's criminal history records, repercussions for failure to report officer misconduct, sheriff certification requirements, statewide Brady list, crisis therapy dog certification, and body cameras for auxiliary officers.

A brief discussion then followed around these items: feedback for the Governor's office on issues arising out of the Sonya Massey case specifically things that can be done without legislation, the possibility of increased penalties in schools due to social media content, could the Board start to certify Lead Homicide Officers in the Attorney General's office, and the police training accident in Massachusetts where a recruit was killed – it is imperative that the Board knows what is happening in the academies. Brendan Kelly added that the FBI and CISA released a tool kit today consisting of best practices for schools with instructions for clear and present danger reporting and working with local law enforcement.

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Nugent, and carried by all members present to approve the Legislative and Litigation report.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SAFE-T Act Update ~ John Keigher

Keigher reported that the Board has completed 17 of 21 requirements under the SAFE-T Act. Staff is working on the Administrative Rules for the discretionary decertification hearings. They will be filed with the Secretary of State, and there are plans for public meetings regarding the rules in October, starting October 11th. The certification verification is coming up, and the enhancements to the portals are being improved daily.

B. Grant Updates ~ John Keigher

Keigher stated grant funds have been appropriated, and NIBIN was reduced to \$2 million, Recruitment & Retention stayed the same at \$10 million, and the camera

grant was increased to \$60 million. Keigher then asked the Committee to recommend for approval full funding for the NIBIN Grant of \$2 Million, for \$7 million for Recruitment & Retention because that is all that is available in the fund at this time, and for \$30 million for cameras, with the reservation to ask for additional funds in December if funds are available.

The FY24 camera grant program ended at the end of June and staff disbursed \$10 million in camera grants. That is three times our highest award. The FY25 camera grant program is being updated as the BIMP bill requires advance funding to be allowed for camera grants. Keigher also noted that our grant team was recognized by the Governor's office for being the third highest awarding agency in the state.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Officer Reimbursement Agreements ~ John Keigher

Keigher stated that occasionally, the Board is presented with a situation in which an officer is being pursued by their former employer for leaving the agency while under a training reimbursement agreement. The Board has always discouraged these agreements as recruits must be treated with all the benefits of an employee and not a contractor at the time they are going through training. Staff is currently waiting on a memo from the Department of Labor as to how the Board should be handling this. Recently the Board was presented with a case in which an officer was pursued by the agency for \$6,500 in training costs. When researched, it was found that the Board had already reimbursed the agency \$9,500 for training and mileage. Under the Funds Recovery Act the Board is now on notice to ensure the Board's granted funds are properly spent and to not allow a double recovery to the agency. The Governor's office has suggested changing our policy.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Watson, and carried by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

