

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

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

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois 62703

March 4, 2026
3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The March 4, 2026 Joint Finance & Legislative and Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Vice 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:

John Idleburg
Nora Gomez
Brendan Kelly
Ghida Neukirch
Richard Watson

Designees in Attendance:

Elias Voulgaris for Mariyana Spyropoulos

Members Absent:

Sean Smoot
Kwame Raoul

III. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Financial Items ~ Courtney Bott

Bott noted Tab F contains the FY26 expenditures and cash flow analysis through January 31, 2026. She stated the Board has consumed roughly 17% of its appropriated budget for this fiscal year.

The camera grant application period closed on December 31, 2025. The grant team received 183 applications requesting almost \$38M in funding, and the team's review is almost complete. They anticipate signing and filing contracts soon, then staff will begin processing payments in the coming weeks.

The Governor's State of the State and Budget Address presented a \$115.3M budget for ILETSB. This included increased headcount to fulfill the SAFE-T Act, additional funding for law enforcement training, and cashflow shifts due to fluctuations in revenue streams. SB 4235 and HB 5666 reflect this, one is based on estimated spend and the reappropriation in the drafted bill is based off of 12/31 actual expenditures. The bill drafts reflect the total of \$143M.

The Federal Projects Project line item came into question as there are no expenditures

included; Bott explained that this line is included in case the Board ever receives a Federal Grant then staff would have a means to spend it out.

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

B. Personnel Matters & DEIA Report~ Ellen Petty

Petty noted her report can be found under Tab G in the Board book. She stated staff headcount is currently at 57. Since the December Board meeting, two employees have left for positions at other agencies and one employee has retired, five new employees have been onboarded, and one internal transfer has been processed. HR is currently working on eight job postings to backfill positions due to departures and internal movement, as well as two postings for newly created positions. Two positions are currently posted, and an additional posting is expected by the end of the week. Petty noted that staff requested adding twenty positions to the budget; while not all were approved, some positions will be filled, and additional approvals may be granted by GOMB if needed.

C. Legislative and Litigation Update ~ John Keigher & Andrew Janetzke

Keigher noted the Joint Finance & Legislative Committee held a WebEx meeting last Friday to discuss bills. He then introduced Andrew Janetzke as the new General Legal Counsel [and Ethics Officer].

Janetzke stated the litigation cases have remained stable. He noted that two of the cases are on appeal, and all of the cases for Gibson have been dismissed except for the first appeal he filed.

Janetzke then briefly discussed the Board's bills, and the bills staff are watching.

The Board's Bills:

- HB 4645: Juvenile Officers specialty certification
- SB 4043: Training Reorganization to make mandates clearer
- SB 3414: Extends sunset dates for insurance revenues
- HB 2350: Camera Grants for Auxiliary Officers

Bills staff are watching:

- HB 4775: ISP Reciprocity

Training Mandates: Staff are working on Amendments

- HB 4249: Trauma Informed
- SB 3306: Epi Pen Training
- HB 4234: Epilepsy Training

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SAFE-T Act Update ~ John Keigher

Keigher reported the Board has three Administrative Law Judges (ALJ's) on loan from CMS who will be working with the three ALJ's the Board now has on contract. The first of the preliminary hearings are set for March 17th, 18th, and 19th, and the next Certification Review Panel meeting is expected to take place in early April.

Keigher stated staff submitted proposals for the Administrative Rules to both JCAR and the Secretary of State. He noted legal staff did a robust overhaul of the existing rules and integrated them with new requirements. Keigher gave a shout out to David Catlin, Special Projects Policy Advisor, who has a long history of creating rules, and noted the legal team expects the number of parts and sections to double under this project. Staff will present more at the June meeting.

Keigher reported that verification is the final step of the SAFE-T Act process. The initial verification period concluded in January, with 75% of the group having reported by the end of that phase. The process has now moved into the grace period, during which reporting has increased to 82%. Staff will send an additional reminder email to both the officers and their respective agencies that have not yet responded.

Keigher noted staff is watching the Attorney General's Bill: HB 5517 which focuses on discretionary decertification. It incorporates some of the wishes of the unions and other stakeholders. Staff would prefer to let the current plan run its course before any adjustments are made.

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Neukirch, and carried by all members present to accept the SAFE-T Act Update.

V. NEW BUSINESS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Gomez, and carried by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

