

**ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND STANDARDS BOARD  
4500 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street Road, Room 173, Springfield, IL 62703-6617**

**MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
ILETSB Conference Room, Springfield, IL  
August 15, 2017**

**I. ROLL CALL – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

The August 15, 2017 meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Springfield, Illinois, and was called to order by Chairman Hartshorn at 11:00 a.m. Roll was called by Ellen Petty and a quorum of Committee members was established.

Members in attendance:

Pat Hartshorn  
John Schlaf  
Jan Noble  
Richard Watson  
Valerie Salmons (present by phone)  
Tim Gleason (present by phone)

Members absent:

None

Staff in attendance:

Brent Fischer, Executive Director  
Eric Pingolt, Deputy Director  
John Keigher, Chief Counsel  
Kelly Griffith, General Counsel  
John Krein, Fiscal Officer  
Ellen Petty, Personal Assistant to Executive Director

Others in attendance:

Sgt. Mike Missey, St. Clair County Corrections Academy

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

June 22, 2017

**Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Schlaf, and carried by all members present to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2017 Executive Committee meeting as presented.**

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Richland Community College Agreement

Director Fischer gave background information regarding the previous discussions with Western Illinois University, touching on concerns with regard to their views on how the academy would operate and fit into their structure, after phone conferences with the Vice President. Being on a timeline with construction completion looming, and having these growing concerns, he started checking with some other institutions that might work out better, one of which was Richland Community College. They are in Decatur, they have a criminal justice program and work-force development program. He met with President Chris Valdez and his staff, and toured the facility together the same day. Richland Community College was very receptive and able to work quickly. They met again the following day, and within a couple of weeks had worked out an agreement both parties are happy with, and both President Valdez and Director Fischer have preliminarily signed off on it. John Keigher handed out copies of the agreement. Official approval for the agreement is requested of the Executive Committee at this meeting, and President Valdez is taking the agreement before his full Board later the same evening for their approval.

John Keigher expanded on the background, stating that the Board had actually reached out to Richland very early on, but had lost contact as they were going through changes and in the process of hiring a new President. We were thrilled that when we reached out to them again and found that they were very interested and in a position to move forward with the project very quickly. Keigher described the agreement as a glorified landlord/tenant relationship in that we are the landlord of the building and will own and manage it, but we are looking for a good tenant to come in and run the academy, meeting all of our standards. Richland was very willing to enter into such an agreement and had only minimal proposed changes to the Board's original concept phrasing. Director Fischer made them aware that other entities will be coming in to use the facility for training, such as MTU 10 or some specialized training through the Board. However, they do assume a lot of responsibility for the upkeep and management of the facility, such as utilities, maintenance, janitorial, etc. Richland also has a culinary arts program that would allow them to cater in food for the facility quite easily. Richland's auditorium on campus which seats about 350 with a central stage that would also be available for use for graduation ceremonies, with salons adjoining the atrium where a reception could be held with catering right on site.

Richland has already taken steps to bring a Director on board. As of last Thursday, they hired Tad Williams, recently retired Colonel from ISP, as a full-time Interim Director to get the project off the ground immediately, then posted the position the following Monday to go through the process of selecting a final candidate to hire for the position. Williams will be working out of an office at Richland until the facility construction is complete. Williams has local government law enforcement background, prior to his 21 years at ISP, and has experience running an Academy. He has already hit the ground running to get the Macon County Academy moving in the right direction.

The direct tuition agreement with Richland would allow them to pay the bills for all required services at the facility. The Director, Assistant Director, any office staff and adjunct faculty will all be paid through Richland.

The training center will be patrolled by Decatur P.D., Macon County Sheriff's Department, and Decatur Park District P.D.

As a reminder, in our agreement with the Buffett Foundation, he retained naming rights to the new facility. When we were putting together a news release with Richland regarding the agreement, he was sent a copy to review. When he sent it back, he had selected the name he wants used for the facility, which is the "Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center".

**Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Gleason, and carried by all members present with a roll-call vote, to recommend approval of the agreement between the Board and Richland Community College to operate a Basic Law Enforcement Academy out of the new Decatur facility.**

#### B. Police Training Institute

Director Fischer reported on the University of Illinois meeting of August 9<sup>th</sup> where the four stipulations from the last Executive Committee meeting were discussed. After they had a chance to run some numbers, Mike DeLorenzo felt that they needed to run three BLE classes of 70-75 students and 6 BCO classes each year (held in Sangamon and DuPage counties) to break even. They have agreed to keep the 4<sup>th</sup> Street facility open, and move out the other group currently using the building. They would like a 3-year agreement with the Board. They agreed that specialized courses would be certified through MTU 12. They agreed to put together the Advisory Board and meet as was originally agreed upon in their direct tuition agreement. They also agreed to assist in updating the BCO Curriculum. It was clarified that they were not asking the Board to guarantee an enrollment of 70-75 students in each class, or for us to backfill smaller classes, they simply wanted the ability to take that many enrollments, rather than cap enrollment at 60. Housing would remain as it has been in the past.

The need for the additional classes to offset the demand for BLE/BCO Academy seats due to current demand, backlog, and the increased length of the curriculum was discussed. The pros and cons of a 3-year agreement versus a 2-year agreement as the Board originally proposed was also discussed at length, after this being the third time we have been down this road.

**Motion was made by Noble, and seconded by Schlaf, to approve the Director to continue to move forward with this agreement with U of I. After a roll call vote, the motion passed 5 to 1, with Gleason, Hartshorn, Noble, Salmons, and Schlaf voting Yay, and Watson voting Nay.**

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Director's Evaluation

Fischer advised the Committee that he would be putting a report together for the Executive Committee prior to the September meeting, for his annual evaluation.

B. Other New Business

There was no new business.

V. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion was made by Gleason, seconded by Salmons, and carried by all members present to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m.**

