

Advisory Board Meeting
LETAC Training Center
September 16, 2015
11:30 a.m.

Call to Order –

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Jan Bowsher at 11:47 a.m. with the following members present: Chief Jan Bowsher (Chairman), Chief Barclay Harris (Vice-Chairman), Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp (Treasurer), Chief Daniel Bland, Chief Brad Gentry, Acting Chief Vern Foli, Chief Deputy Mike Walker (proxy for Sheriff Shofner), Chief Greg Damarin, Deputy Chief Brian Hile (proxy for Chief Herpstreith), Chief Craig Kennedy, Sgt. Brad Allen (proxy for Chief Sweeney), Under Sheriff Rick Robbins (proxy for Sheriff Vazzi), LETAC Director Ellen Petty, IROCC Project Manager Kenton Manning, IROCC Compliance Manager Ted Street, PT Basic Training Coordinator Dan Ryan, Shawn Galiher Administrative Assistant of LETAC, and Myrna Madison PT Secretary of LETAC.

Approval of July 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes –

Chairman Bowsher called for the approval of the meeting minutes from July 15, 2015. A motion was made by Vern Foli to approve the minutes, and seconded by Brian Hile. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion was carried without further discussion.

Approval of the Bank Statements/Reconciliation/Bills –

Director Petty stated that the July reconciliation was in the packet but not the August one. Since Jennie Alt has been out of the office, the August bank statements have not been reconciled as of yet and they will be included with the September and October ones and provided to you for the November meeting. Chairman Bowsher called for the approval of the bank statements. A motion was made by Vern Foli to approve the bank statements, and seconded by Barclay Harris. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion was carried without further discussion.

FY16 Training Report –

Director Petty stated that for your information, she has included a copy of Mark Gleason's monthly report in the drop box as he keeps us informed on the activities he does for us in the field. In addition, she has included the training ledger for the classes that we have provided so far with the exception of four (4) classes where the paperwork has yet to be received back into the office. We are on track for the 1st quarter of the fiscal year. We don't have any classes cancelled in September with the exception of the last class of the month, Correctional Gang Intelligence. This is pretty average as far as the training that we have done thus far.

We have also included the FY 16 training schedule which was sent to the training board yesterday. These are the classes that we have scheduled for the upcoming quarter, but most likely many of these will be cancelled because we can't host them. We just don't have the money for all of them until the state starts sending us money. So there are a good number of these classes that will be cancelled. Many of these classes are full but we have to cancel them due to the budget. The classes are needed but we just don't have the money to put them on because of the state's financial issue. That is pretty much what you will hear for the remainder of the meeting but that is all she has on this subject.

FY16 Financial Report –

Director Petty stated the budget stalemate handout that she has placed in the drop box pretty much lays it all out. Normally for the year, operating budget is \$629,900 which includes the local member assessments that you all pay for your members, the state share or quarterly payments, \$15,000 from administering the IROCC and grant funds. But until the state has a budget, we will not have access to the quarterly payments and/or grant funds. We have \$86,650 to operate from. We do have some excess funds that we can borrow from such as excess membership funds and part time training funds but remember we can't use too much of the part-time basic training funds because we have to be sure that they have enough to function as they have a class going on now. We have temporary access to this \$78,105. The average monthly cost to operate MTU while providing training is \$52,492 and without training or only providing some free training, that amount drops down to \$24,825.

As of today, September 16th, we have spent \$78,000 to operate and provide training from July 1. Take into account, we have \$86,650 to operate off of for the remainder of the year. We are in pretty dire straits. We have \$78,105 available to us to continue operating until state money arrives. But, that amount will last less than 2 months if we continue to conduct training which will mean that we will be broke as of November 1st. If we do not continue to conduct training, that amount will last for 3 months and we would be broke by December 15th. Director Petty got a call from the training board today stating that they strongly discouraging laying anyone off. We can cancel the classes now and put the classes on later. If we let people go, we could lose institutional knowledge and may not get them back. In addition, if we do lay people off where would we get the money to pay all of their benefits for letting them go.

Hopefully the folks up at the capitol building will work something out before we have to lock the doors. She did mention to Sean Smoot at PBPA about our situation and he indicated that he would wait for any rent payments until the beginning of the year. He further stated that if it got dire, he offered to let MTU #10 borrow money at a zero percent loan in order to keep the doors open. But ILETSB did not support this option as they felt it might be a conflict of interest. So we will not do anything like that unless we had the board approval. We also have the IROCC program that we could possibly borrow money from but again this is not state or local funds and we would have to get board approval and this should be our last resort.

Director Petty has spoken with Jim Alsup of PATC, he is the one who agreed to do training and wait until the funds are received so we kept those on the schedule unless they are classes that are grant funded, like death investigation grant, those are state monies and we can't afford to put on those classes if we don't receive the money. And, at this point we don't know if we can get that money so we will have to cancel those classes too. She has spoken with Wicklander-Zulaski & Associates and they, too, have offered to do the same, put on classes and wait to be paid, but their classes are grant classes and we will have to cancel them as well.

Does anyone have any comments, suggestions, questions, money? We have had these issues before but it has never gotten this bad. In the past, we have had some relief on the horizon and at this point there is not. We are just kind of keeping our fingers crossed. If anyone has any political connections or anyone's ear, it would be helpful to let them know how it is affecting the departments. Also included are the two news bulletins that were sent, emails that the CIT grants are up in the air until they are signed and the IDOT grants are up in the air until it is signed, however we do have access to the homeland security grant as they are federal funds. There is also a letter to Director McClain included in the packet. All of the MTU directors were encouraged to write letters explaining how the budget situation would affect our MTUs so she included that, too.

Ted Street asked to speak up and made mention that he applauds Director Petty and the other directors for their letters. He also spoke with Director McClain and Manager Hahn, about the geographical location of this MTU, to let it be known that classes have to be cancelled. He thinks it would benefit all of us that this MTU board consider making some announcements. We cannot afford to continue running classes. We are far better off than others but MTU 3 is planning to close the doors on November 15th. He thinks there is some merit to letting the media know what is going on. Training is having to be cancelled. Build that pressure because it does not seem that they are hearing the board. In the scheme of things, 93 police departments, 8 counties, there is some mileage to be gained by making it known publicly that this is happening. Chairman Bowsher asked if he was recommending that they make notifications to the governor and other politicians, regarding our state of need. And, his response to her was yes.

Dan Ryan spoke up and asked Ted if the training board would support that action or would Ellen be left out to dry? Ted responded with absolutely not, that is why he is speaking out in front of witnesses.

Chairman Bowsher asked Director Petty to write the press release and she agreed to do it. Ted spoke up and agreed to assist with it. As indicated earlier he had met with Director McClain and Manager Pat Hahn and they have both agreed that we should unite and do some press releases. We are the ones affected by this not the training board.

Chairman Bowsher asked that we call for a motion to cancel classes. Director Petty said that she would like a motion or at least an understanding and/or support to cancel classes that are going to cost us money and the classes that are supported by grant funds until that money is freed up. Chairman Bowsher asked if she would rather have a motion or an understanding and Director Petty stated that she would rather have a motion just in case anyone has any issues. Chairman Bowsher asked for a motion to be made about cancelling the classes. A motion was made by Brian Hile to cancel the classes and was seconded by Barclay Harris. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion was carried. One question came up regarding our next LETAC meeting and it was discussed that the next meeting would be in November. It was asked if we had to could we call an emergency meeting. Director Petty stated that she hopes all will be settled before then or at least have a positive outlook before then; but if nothing has changed, we will need to sit down and discuss how we are going to handle things. She stated that she did not see the need to call one but if there is a need we could call an emergency meeting, a special meeting in October. Chairman Bowsher stated that she did not see the need if nothing changed, it would be a moot point. Chairman

Bowsher asked again if everyone was ok with doing a press release and there were no objections. And, it was stated that if we do hold a press release, we will want everyone to show up. The more presence the better.

FY17 Membership Assessment Rate Discussion -

Director Petty stated that the next page in the handout is her recommendation for FY 17 membership assessment. She is recommending that no increase be made to the assessment rate for FY 17. We collected a small surplus in the amount of \$1,651.14 for the current year. She has no reason to believe that any of that would change for the next year. There is a possibility based on what we were told last week at the board meeting, that we may see some funds because of the new body camera legislation. There is money tied into that so we could see that money as early as FY 17 or possibly FY18. We won't have to vote on this right now as we are not increasing the rate. No additional questions were raised.

ILETSB Report (Ted Street) –

Ted Street reported on the Re-branding Project for IROCC. The final revisions have all been done and he and Ernie Ashby will meet with the board tomorrow. They are going to start moving forward and working with the major overhaul of the IROCC data base and will move forward with phase 2, MFS&W (technology vendor).

The Cook County situation involving 4 retirees from the Cook County Sheriff's Court Services division whose IROCC applications have neither been approved nor denied while further information was being requested was heard in the Cook County Circuit Court last month. A subsequent hearing was held in August with the understanding more information was to be provided to assist in determining a disposition in this matter. In the meantime, a Freedom of Information request was prepared and returned setting forth that the Cook County Sheriff's office did not have sufficient records to confirm that certain individuals were primarily responsible for enforcing the criminal code. The individuals who have not sent any documentation will receive notice that they will not be considered as eligible for IROCC participation by virtue of no ILETSB training records.

The eligibility of Airforce, Army & Navy Military Police becoming participants in the IROCC program is awaiting authorization from ILETSB. None of us want to be in a situation where an individual fires a weapon and we receive a freedom of information request for his training records and that person has no training records. Some new policies and procedures are being considered to determine a new protocol for processing and issuing authorization for concealed carry.

Director Petty stated that she would like to continue on with things that are going on with the training board. She placed more information in the drop box that has come from the training board's website. She received word that Director McClain has announced his retirement and the search is on for a new Director. The position announcement is on the top of their website if anyone is interested in that position. In addition, she has placed some information or a letter from Director McClain to the county probation offices in the state that outlines what their officers need to do to get their officers their mandatory firearms training. The laws changed earlier this year. That is just a quick reference for you. She also put a copy of the Use of Force pamphlet in there. They want all officers to have a copy of this pamphlet. We keep them out on the table but if you want a digital copy she has put it out on the drop box. There is also list of all courses that are approved for the (LHI) Lead Homicide Investigator continuing educational training courses. All of ours are listed on page 8-9. Since we are coming down to that deadline, where you have 4 years to take 32 hours of continuing education training to maintain that certification, she has included it so that you have something to refer to. It's also on our website.

Part-Time Basic Training Report (Dan Ryan) –

PT Coordinator Dan Ryan stated that Class 25 graduated 25 new officers last Thursday. Class 26 starts Class Orientation on 8/29/15, and they have finished the SFST and the MFT. They will start up with the Police Ethics courses next. There are 25 registered for the Class 26.

Concealed Carry Program Report (Kenton Manning) –

We have included two new ranges in the Chicago area. They have worked with the Belvidere PD and the Chicago Police Academy to offer these two additional ranges. The first range date for the Chicago one was August 22, 2015 and everything went smooth. The first shoot for the Belvidere range is scheduled for October 14th.

Old Business –

There are several things that Director Petty has included in the drop box. She has included a copy of the pamphlet that Don Hayes sent out on Public Act 99-0352. He has gone through and noted changes. Good document to review. Election ballots for the upcoming Board elections went out last Friday, September 11th and they are due back in by November 11th. So when you receive them, please vote and return them before that date. We will open them at the November board meeting. The ballots are just for the county representatives and the executive board; the at-large members are not up for election until next year. She has also included in the drop box the ASSIST Budget Survey for FY2016, just for your information. At the budget meeting, she and Jan had with Pat Hahn, it was stated that we must request permission of large expenditures even if it is in the budget. We will no longer send out the cards for the meetings. We will comply with the Board's direction. And, going along with that, back in May we voted in to increase Dan Ryan's pay. She has requested permission from Director McClain to implement this, but she has not received any response on it as of yet. The same goes for Jennie Alt to be an office manager; she has not received any response. She will probably have to request these two again when we have a new director and the budget is cleared up

New Business –

No new business other than the next LETAC Board Meeting is November 18, 2015 11:30 a.m.

Adjourn –

A motion was made to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. by Vern Foli, and seconded by Greg Damarin. A vote was taken, all were in favor, and the motion was carried without further discussion.