

INDIANA SECURED SCHOOL SAFETY BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2018

Indiana Government Center – South, Conference Room 12

1:30 p.m.

302 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

**Members Present:**

Eric Bowlen (Martinsville)

Kevin McDowell (ATG)

David Murtaugh (ICJI)

Sup. Douglas Carter (ISP)

Bryan Langley (IDHS)

**Members Absent:**

Scott Mellinger (Madison County Sheriff)

David Woodward (IDOE)

**Also in Attendance:**

Michelle Allen (IDHS)

Mike Kersey

Adam Theimann (IDHS)

Kim Snyder (IDHS)

Jonathan Whitham (IDHS)

Taylor Workman (IDHS)

The meeting was called to order at 1:43 PM. Director Bryan Langley, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Board Member and Audience introductions were made. Roll call was taken and it was determined that there was a quorum. A motion was made to accept the minutes from the January meeting.

Proposed by: Douglas Carter

Seconded by: David Murtaugh

Vote: carried

Allen advised the Board to authorize the Indiana Office of the Attorney General to serve as the administrative law judge while IDHS ALJ is on military leave.

A motion was made to authorize the Indiana Office of Attorney General to serve as administrative law judge effective January 8, 2018 through May 7, 2018 while IDHS ALJ is on military leave.

Motion: David Murtaugh

Second: Doug Carter

Vote: carried

Michelle discussed the non-final orders of dismissal for South Montgomery Community Schools, Sunman-Dearborn School Corporation, Lawrenceburg Community Schools, and Milan Community Schools. These schools had been offered informal resolutions at the previous meeting.

Kevin McDowell noted that if any of their ALJ's are involved in any of the appeals that he will need to abstain.

A motion to affirm the decision of the ALJ and issue final orders of dismissal for the schools that were previously offered informal resolutions.

Motion: Doug Carter

Second: Eric Bowlen

Abstained: Kevin McDowell

Vote: carried

Allen briefly discussed the application for Lebanon Community schools. Questions that had been raised by the Board at a previous meeting were answered by the applicant and presented to the Board.

Motion: Doug Carter

Second: Eric Bowlen

Vote: carried

An updated version of the bylaws were reviewed and all changes made since the previous Board meeting were outlined by Michelle Allen.

A discussion took place regarding the requirement of Board represented agencies to provide a minimum of three reviewers for the grant review process. It was determined that only Members of the Board that by statute were eligible to assign designees would carry this requirement. The required number of volunteered reviewers was lowered to two.

Doug Carter questioned if it would be possible to include outside organization representation in the review process. Carter commented that this could assist in conducting a more objective review process.

A motion was made to approve the bylaws pending the discussed recommended changes.

Motion: Eric Bowlen

Second: David Murtaugh

Vote: carried

Kim Snyder discussed the upcoming grant trainings and explained that this is great opportunity to disseminate as much information as possible about the upcoming grant cycle. Snyder questioned if the Board had any priorities that they would like to focus on in the upcoming cycle.

Murtaugh indicated that identifying priorities was not something that he was in favor of as the needs change year by year and the grant should remain as flexible as possible. Eric Bowlen commented that this decision should remain at the local level.

Snyder commented that instead of placing a priority on either SRO's or equipment, the Board could choose to place a priority on new or continuing programs and discussed the idea of implementing a step down plan.

A discussion took place regarding the future implementation of a step down plan potentially beginning in the 2020 appropriation. It was determined that the Board would not set priorities for the fiscal year 2019 funding cycle, but rather, each application would continue to be scored on merit.

Snyder brought up a previously discussed idea to offer all schools funding for a threat assessment to be conducted with the deobligated dollars from previous years. This would assist with making data driven final funding decision if IDHS is able to clearly identify the needs of each school in comparison to what is being applied for.

Doug Carter commented that this could bring on a tremendous level of liability if the State were to contract with an external vendor to do this assessment.

A discussion took place about including a question in the application that would provide more information regarding the assessment process for determining the schools need for what they are applying for.

The next meeting will be held June 12, 2018 from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 PM.