

Tri-River Police Training Region

14300 Coil Plus Dr.
Plainfield, Illinois 60544
Telephone (815) 630-5212 training@tri-river.org

Tri-River Police Training Region Advisory Board Minutes of May 27, 2026 Meeting

The May 27, 2026 Tri-River Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Chairman Brian Benton in the Community Room at the Plainfield Police Department, and a quorum of members and proxies was established.

Members in attendance:

Nick Keedy for Chief Mike Rompa
Chief Eric Allen
Chief John Arizzi
Sherrie Blackburn for Chief William Evans
Chief Al Swinford
Chief Leanne Chelepis
Dustin Seale for Chief Alicia Steffes
Chief Brian Benton
Brandon Tilton for Chief Micah Nuesse
Anthony Lazzaroni for Chief Scott Koerner
Chief Robert Miller
Will Garrison for Chief Ryan Gulli
Mimi Bejda for Chief Brandt Hromadka
Danielle Malone for Chief Phil Arnold
Steve Formenti for Sheriff Mike Kelley
Hilary Davis, ILETSB Representative

Members absent:

Chief Adam Bogart
Chief Michael Imhof
Chief Edward Clark
Chief Marc Reid
Sheriff Ken Briley
Chief Justin Meyer
Chief Robert Dykstra
Mark Revis, Will County Board
Chief Adam Zink
Village of Channahon President Missey Schumacher

Others in attendance:

Don McKinney, Joliet PD
Jason Louthan, Mokena PD
Rick Bleichner, ILETSB
Bradley Hertzmann, Tri-River, Executive Director
John Perona, Tri-River, Police Training Coordinator
Becky Novak, Tri-River, Administrative Assistant

Mobile Training Region #16 – Funding assistance
provided through the ASSIST Program Illinois Law
Enforcement Training and Standards Board

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APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Anthony Lazzaroni made a motion to approve the April 22, 2026 meeting minutes, seconded by Chief Miller and carried by all members present. Motion passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

No Report

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Chairman Benton went around the room for introductions and welcomed all to the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **PERSONNEL:**

No Report

- **FINANCE:**

Director Hertzmann reviewed the Financial Report dated 5/27/2026. A copy was distributed. (Report will be attached to these minutes to be archived)

May Highlights:

- Tri-River classes held: Rescuing the Rescuer \$4,000.00, Patrol Rifle Instructor \$14,400.00, ILETSB Firearms Waiver Class \$400.00
- IDOT Grant classes held: (1) \$1,500.82
- H.S. Grant classes held: (1) \$10,000.00
- ILETSB/CIT/SRO/LHI Grant classes held: (8) \$27,887.58
- FY26 Grant reimbursements: IDOT \$2,112.63, CIT/SRO/LHI \$38,516.11, HS \$0.00
- Paid (3) payments from CPD in-service fund totaling \$66,557.38
- Paid The Cincinnati Insurance Co. check # 4752 in amount of \$851.00 to add new 2026 Ford Explorer to policy

- **POLICY AND BYLAWS:**

No Report

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- **TRAINING:**

No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Tri-River Membership Dues for FY27

- We have already received over \$100,000.00 in payments. Membership payments are due on 6/30, but if you will be making payment after then, please let Becky know so she can make a notation.

Consideration of Merit Raises for Tri-River employees

- At last month's meeting, Chief Benton provided attendees with an overview of a Zoom call with Paul Petty from ILETSB regarding the budget and salaries for Tri-River. Comparing performance with other MTUs, it was suggested Tri-River employees are worth more than ILETSB is offering for raises, and Paul would be in support of merit raises, in addition to the 4% ILETSB awarded.
- If the Board agrees, Director Hertzmann will see if the State will absorb any additional raise, but if not, MTU funds could cover the cost.
- Director Hertzmann shared the salaries of the 3 Tri-River Employees, and provided dollar amounts for raises of various percentages for each. Without the 3 Tri-River employees present, the Board discussed and agreed they all deserve an additional 4% merit raise.
- A motion was made by John Arizzi, and seconded by Mimi Bejda, to recommend a 4% raise across the board, and should ILETSB not approve this funding, the Board will cover the cost. Motion carried by all members present and passed.

Upcoming Training Schedule

- John Perona passed out a list of upcoming courses, none of which currently have low enrollment
 - Street Survival Seminar is a great class for new or veteran officers.
 - The Basic Truck Weight Enforcement 1 and Portable Weight Scale Certification is listed as a new class because we are using instructors who are new to us.
 - He shared some information from ILETSB regarding who is allowed to attend our classes. Officers placed in an inactive status or officers in or awaiting enrollment into an academy may not attend MTU courses.
 - LETAC shared a class on Debt-Free Retirement and Financial Planning that he plans on holding next fiscal year.

MAY 2026 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS FOR REVIEW:

A motion was made by Chief Chelepis, seconded by Mimi Bejda, and carried by all members present by roll call vote to approve May's bills. Motion passed.

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- Total payments \$156,385.15

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Hilary Davis informed attendees of the ILETSB Quarterly Board Meetings, taking place on 6/3 & 6/4 in East Peoria. They will be going over the procedure for officers who did not complete their verification. She thanked all of her agencies for ensuring their officers got this done.

Hilary Davis also introduced her new supervisor at ILETSB, Rick Bleichner.

Chairman Benton advised that the meeting with Paul Petty also led into the discussion of a standalone building or facility for MTUs. The State is looking to set aside money to accomplish this goal, perhaps next fiscal year. If you see an available building come up in your area that might be suitable, let us know.

- It was asked whether Tri-River would continue to hold classes at member agency departments if we had our own facility. Director Hertzmann explained most of our classes would be held at our facility, but we would still hold some elsewhere.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE:



The next meeting date is set for June 24, 2026, at our office location at the Plainfield Police Department Community Room, 14300 Coil Plus Drive, Plainfield, IL 60544.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chief Miller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Anthony Lazzaroni, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Submitted by:

Transcribed by:

	
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Chief Alicia Steffes, Secretary, Advisory Board

Becky Novak, Administrative Assistant, Tri-River