

STATE ARMORY BOARD

June 1, 2022

The Indiana State Armory Board (SAB) convened at 11:05 A.M., Wednesday, June 1, 2022, in the Adjutant General's Conference Room, located on the second floor of Building One, Indiana Joint Force Headquarters at Stout Field, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241, in compliance with Center for Disease Control (CDC) meeting guidelines, pursuant to notice given to all concerned.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

BG (Ret) Michael A. Kiefer - President
MG R. Dale Lyles – The Adjutant General of Indiana – Secretary-Treasurer
COL (Ret) Marjorie K. Courtney – Member
COL (Ret) Timothy R. Warrick – Member
MSG (Ret) Donivan J. Mahuron – Member – connected via telephone

OTHERS PRESENT:

BG Justin L. Mann – Director, Joint Staff
Mr. Scott R. Collins – Director, State Operations
Mr. Jason Thompson – General Counsel, Adjutant General's Office
COL (Ret) John Silva – Controller
Mrs. Mary Carrico – Director, State Purchasing and Contracting Office
Mr. James Mahern – Director, State Facilities Office
Mrs. Stephanie Brossman – Field Auditor
Dr. Vonda K. Brooks – Indiana National Guard Solutions Group
Mr. John Piper – Indiana National Guard Solutions Group
LTC Stephen M. Spencer II – Commander, Muscatatuck Urban Training Center
CSM-IGR Charles Brown – Command Sergeant Major Indiana Guard Reserve
SFC Joshua Stephens – NCOIC, Indiana Ceremonial Unit
Mr. Jason Brady – Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO)
CPT Brenton McDonald – Assistant Course Manager Officer Candidate School (OCS)
Ms. Mary L. Barbee – Recorder

THOSE ABSENT

BG (Ret) Ronald W. Henry – Vice President

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

General Kiefer informed the Board of an excused absence for General Henry and that Sergeant Mahuron would be connecting to the meeting via telephone.

General Kiefer opened the floor for a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 29, 2022, Meeting which was made by Colonel Courtney, seconded by Colonel Warrick, and carried.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Colonel Silva alerted the Board, staff accountant, Jamie Renaud suffered from a medical condition which resulted in her being on long-term disability and would not be returning to the office; during the interim of filling that position, Ms. Patty Hagerty, Deputy Controller, would be assuming those duties.

The Board was made aware the Quicken bookkeeping program used by armory managers was no longer permitted for use on federal computers. Colonel Silva informed the Board, field auditor, Stephanie Brossman was working on a possible solution to carry the local armory boards through the upcoming State Board of Accounts' audit in August. The Board will continue to be updated on the status of acquiring a bookkeeping program for the local armory boards.

Colonel Silva began the financial brief with the State Armory Board's Special Programs Account's opening balance of \$248,173.70—Accounts Receivable consists of monies owed by students as well as \$35,000.00 owed by Ivy Tech, who pays in arrears.

The Special Programs account has total assets of \$280,028.71; an amount which is subject to a spending plan to be put in place. Colonel Silva indicated the account could grow faster; however, he wants to utilize dollars which come into the account to be used for items needed by the Cyber Academy, enabling them to be 'self-sufficient.'

While the Special Programs account is on a path for growth, the State Armory Board account is decreasing as most of its funds are going out with little coming in. Colonel Silva noted the interest rates on the Board's Certificates of Deposit are not high and reminded the Board he is not able to extend the terms of the Certificates beyond eighteen months as per State Board of Accounts' guidance. Including the \$900,000 secured in the Certificates of Deposit, the State Armory Board's assets are \$3,187,742.59

Colonel Silva turned to the liabilities section of the Balance Sheet and reported on each line, assuring the Board he would give them an exact amount which was spent against each of them at the next meeting after the transition to the upcoming Fiscal Year 2023. General Lyles indicated he would like for the persons who oversee the Soldier's Memorial and Project Hero to appear at the next meeting. General Kiefer agreed with this recommendation.

Colonel Warrick inquired the number of horses stabled by the Ceremonial Unit and the costs to house them at The Woods Equestrian Center in Columbus, Indiana. The Indiana Ceremonial Unit has eight horses and incurs a charge of \$14,400.00 per quarter to board them. General Lyles testified the cost to board the horses might be expensive;

however, he feels it is worth the cost as volunteerism with the unit is increasing, as is the exposure of the unit and the horses to the public. Indiana's Ceremonial Unit is one of the few organizations, other than the 3rd Infantry Regiment (Old Guard) which include horses.

The Hoosier Youth ChalleNGe Academy (HYCA) has its expenses split between cadet expenses which go against monies donated by the Hoosier Youth ChalleNGe Foundation: these dollars support outings and parties for the cadets. The other expenses at HYCA go against state appropriated dollars and are reimbursed at a later date. Currently, there are \$14,997.00 awaiting receipt by the State Armory Board from the Treasurer of State.

During Fiscal Year 2022, as in past years, the IGR had funds remaining to be returned to the State Armory Board. Most of the \$13,150.00 they had spent during the year are for mileage incurred during the course of Operation Allies Welcome.

Colonel Silva explained a plan to enable local armory boards to keep more money in their accounts, freeing up State Armory Board funds: rather than having the armory reimburse the State Treasurer's Office for payments made to individuals overseeing the rentals of armories, the armory is to keep those funds in their account: this will enable the armory to purchase their own beautification products, their own carpeting, their own paint, and any other supply they have relied on the State Armory Board to provide. General Kiefer expressed concern for the process, which was just explained, stating that he wanted to ensure there were oversight ability to answer any question which might arise during an audit by the State Board of Accounts. Colonel Silva explained oversight would be conducted during regular visits conducted by Mrs. Stephanie Brossman as she conducted her visits with armory managers.

At the conclusion of Colonel Silva's financial brief, Sergeant Mahuron indicated banks in his area were offering interest rates of 1.03%--Colonel Silva informed him the Board would not have a CD come up for renewal until November, and assured him that the bank giving the best rate would be considered, provided it did not exceed the 18-month restriction.

5. MRS. MARY CARRICO WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON CURRENT STATE ARMORY BOARD CONTRACTS.

Mrs. Carrico indicated there were no new contracts to be signed at this meeting; however, she began to brief the Board concerning the awarding of bids: the HYCA Dining Facility (DFAC) roof replacement had been awarded in the amount of \$478,000.00 and would take place this year.

General Kiefer interrupted the brief stating that he had been approached by Mr. Kurt Layer of CIBUS, LLC, regarding the food service contract at the HYCA DFAC. General Kiefer stated he had not done any work with Mr. Layer since July of 2018 and it

was a private affair and he had not returned any calls to Mr. Layer, nor would he return any outreach from him.

Mrs. Carrico explained to General Kiefer and the Board, the award of the food service contract to the HYCA DFAC was decided upon by going through a bid process established by the Indiana Department of Education. She stated the bidders for the contract were indeed CIBUS, as well as Side Street Food Service; and explained that there was a panel of five who reviewed both companies, submitted their evaluations to the Department of Education and the lowest bidder was chosen. She emphasized Mr. Layer was upset and contacted her as a result. General Kiefer expressed being contacted by Mr. Layer was improper and he would not respond to him, stating as far as he was concerned: "time cures all ills," he and Mrs. Carrico agreed Mr. Layer had serviced the National Guard and its satellite organizations for many years and wished him the best.

Mrs. Carrico continued her contracting brief by stating there had been a bid for the Terre Haute boiler; however, it had not been awarded as it went over the amount set forth by the State Budget Agency. She indicated that bids for the Remington, North Vernon, Bluffton, and Huntington roof replacements are awaiting further information before they might be awarded.

Upcoming bid openings are June 2, 2022 for the Stout Field Building Three roof replacement, and the barrel-roof at Stout Field Building Nine is scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2022.

6. LIEUTENANT COLONEL ADAM TSCHERNE WILL PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH AN UPDATE OF THE CYBER ACADEMY LOCATED AT MUSCATATUCK URBAN TRAINING CENTER, IN BUTLERVILLE, INDIANA.

In the absence of LTC Tscherne, Mr. John Piper of the Cyber Academy stated the Academy had recently been well represented in both broadcast and printed news and asked that Dr. Vonda Brooks brief the Board concerning the Academy. Dr. Brooks stated the Academy began at Muscatatuck four years ago, and will graduate 21 students on Saturday, July 16, 2022; bringing the total students to graduate from Ivy Tech Community College's Associate's Degree Program to 103. She stated Dr. Steven Combs, president of the Columbus campus, praised the Cyber Academy as being the best program in the area. Dr. Brooks stated the Cyber Academy is looking forward to expanding its endeavors to possibly offer an 8-week criminal justice certificate program as well as a four-year bachelor's degree program in cyber security.

7. LIEUTENANT COLONEL ADAM TSCHERNE WILL PRESENT THE BOARD WITH THE FY-2023 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE CYBER ACADEMY.

Dr. Brooks continued her brief to the Board by presenting their budget for Fiscal Year 2023, mentioning items students requested as part of their 'wish-list' for their time at the Cyber Academy. These items include small kitchen appliances, a television, table, and chairs for the 'common area,' as well as a ping pong table, totaling \$4,350.00

General Lyles looked over the Solutions Group's proposed budget and discussed each item as he came to it—the item which caused the greatest amount of concern to him was the proposed \$104,000.00 wages and salaries line. Mr. Collins states the position would be filled by a contract employee. Mrs. Carrico emphasized the contract would be for one year with a one-year renewal clause as a contract employee cannot be utilized for more than one year at a time, and the contract must be renewed annually.

Motion to approve the Solutions Group's Fiscal Year 2023 budget was made by General Lyles, jointly seconded by Colonel Courtney and Sergeant Mahuron, then carried.

8. LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEPHEN SPENCER WILL PRESENT THE BOARD WITH THE FY2023 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE MUSCATATUCK URBAN TRAINING CENTER (MUTC) COMMANDER'S FUND.

Colonel Spencer approached the Board with the MUTC Commander's Fund budget which was nearly identical to the past year's budget. He indicated there would most likely be an increase in the amount of income earned through the sale of gift shop items. Colonel Silva settled anxiety MUTC would just 'break even' by stating the organization generally makes money through its laundry service.

Motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 budget for the MUTC Commander's Fund was made by Colonel Courtney, seconded by Colonel Warrick, and carried.

9. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INDIANA GUARD-RESERVE (IGR) WILL PRESENT THE BOARD WITH THEIR FY-2023 BUDGET REQUEST.

Mr. Collins introduced IGR Command Sergeant Charles Brown to present their budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

Command Sergeant Major Brown began his brief by stating the IGR has gone through a reorganization and that Mr. Collins has assumed the role of commander, at the rank of IGR Colonel. He also stated the number of volunteers within the IGR has diminished to seventy-three dedicated persons out of a total force of 134.

General Lyles stated the IGR has been reorganized to reflect an army brigade, under the umbrella of the 81st Troop Command. He considers them to be a valuable asset to the Indiana National Guard, calling upon them for such missions as assisting with checkpoints at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, mobilizations from Camp Atterbury, as well as overseeing Operation Allies Welcome, also at Camp Atterbury.

Command Sergeant Major Brown indicated an area of the budget which has increased from prior years is flags and uniforms. He stated the request will provide the means to secure flags and guidons relative to the design of a brigade, as well as uniform items specifically designed for the IGR. He concluded his brief by saying the IGR needs to get back to basics and learn the skills required to cause the volunteers to look and act like soldiers as the greater population, through no fault of their own, cannot distinguish a member of the IGR from a member of the Indiana National Guard.

Sergeant Mahuron, who was pleased at the reorganization of the IGR, recommended approval of their budget; seconded by Colonel Courtney, and carried.

10. SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JOSHUA STEPHENS WILL PRESENT THE BOARD WITH THE FY-2023 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE CEREMONIAL UNIT.

Sergeant Stephens began his brief, informing the Board the Ceremonial Unit's budget request would be less than previous years in that no horses were anticipated to be purchased during the upcoming year. The Indiana National Guard has eight horses: boarding costs are five thousand dollars per month, or sixty thousand dollars annually. He stated an emphasis is being placed on training for the upcoming year to ensure all of the horses can be used for events.

A request for \$2,500.00 to cover the cost of the anticipated Ceremonial Unit Awards Banquet; Sergeant Stephens stated there has not been an awards banquet since the time CoVid-19 halted public gatherings, and he would like to reinstate it to recognize the unit's many accomplishments. General Lyles indicated that he would like to participate in that event as the Ceremonial Unit performs a very important duty.

Colonel Courtney asked about the condition of the unit's caisson; Sergeant Stephens indicated that is in good shape, but the trailer which pulls it isn't in great shape—he anticipates requesting a gently-used trailer in the future, but its replacement is not immediate.

Colonel Courtney moved to seek approval of the Ceremonial Unit's Fiscal Year 2023 budget; seconded by Colonel Warrick and carried.

11. MR. JAMES MAHERN WILL PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Mr. Mahern informed the Board he was requesting utility easements be approved, signed, and notarized, as the requests had been reviewed by himself and agency general counsel: Mr. Jason Thompson.

A. REQUEST TO GRANT PERMANENT UTILITY EASEMENT AT RICHMOND IN SUPPORT OF THE FIELD MAINTENANCE SHOP (FMS) EXPANSION.

Mr. Mahern stated this easement is being sought to bring Phase Three Power to the 2.3-million-dollar FMS upgrade at the Richmond armory. He stated it is a buried easement which stretches from the back of the property,

Colonel Courtney made the motion to approve the easement; seconded by Colonel Warrick and carried.

B. REQUEST TO GRANT A TEMPORARY UTILITY EASEMENT AT THE LEBANON ARMORY IN SUPPORT OF A SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT.

Mr. Mahern stated this is a temporary easement with the City of Lebanon as a new sidewalk/greenway is being place in front of the armory. He stated the property will be re-seeded upon completion of the project

Sergeant Mahuron made the motion to approve the easement; seconded by Colonel Courtney and carried.

Mr. Mahern indicated the final easement requiring action had been previously discussed under the Public Comments portion of a past meeting and asked if he should wait for that portion of the meeting to discuss the easement at Shelbyville with Indiana American Water. Colonel Courtney made the motion to approve the Shelbyville armory/Indiana American Water Utility easement; seconded by General Lyles and carried.

12. A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT OFFICE (CFMO) WILL BRIEF THE BOARD ON PREPARATORY EFFORTS FOR THE DIVESTITURE OF THE MARION ARMORY.

Mr. Jason Brady informed the Board on February 24, 2022, 38th Infantry Division Commanding General, Major General Timothy N. Thombleson, toured the Marion armory and indicated he would like to move soldiers assigned there to the vacant armory in Huntington until completion of the Hamilton County Armory in 2025. Mr. Brady stated the armory in Marion was already scheduled to be divested; however, the process can now be expedited due to the vestiture of 2nd Battalion, 152d Infantry (Mechanized) to the Missouri National Guard.

Mr. Brady stated there are two courses of action which can take place once the Marion armory is declared as surplus: the property can be sent to the Indiana

Department of Administration (IDoA), or it can be disposed of by the State Armory Board.

General Kiefer suggested the property be sent to IDoA; at which time, general counsel Jason Thompson agreed, stated a working group should be established to interact with them in divesting of the Marion Armory.

Colonel Courtney made a three-part motion to:

1. Move the current unit to the Huntington National Guard Armory as soon as possible.
2. Establish a working group with a member of the State Armory Board, and
3. Divest the Marion Armory through the Indiana Department of Administration.

Colonel Courtney asked that she be made part of the working group and to be informed

when she would be needed to participate.

13. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE RETIREE GROUP—THE GUN FIGHTERS, WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL.

Mr. Collins informed the Board that General Henry had intended to present the request for the Gunfighters as well as the Red Legs' retiree group; however, in the general's absence, he would present the requests.

Mr. Collins read a letter from retired Colonel Kathy Kiger expressing desire to utilize the Umbarger Conference Center for a meeting of the Gunfighters.

Mr. Thompson reminded the Board they had previously agreed monies would be made available to pay the fees associated with rental of the Umbarger Conference Center. He stated the prior agreement stated the Board would pay the rental fees upon receipt of an invoice by the Board: all scheduling of the Conference Center is the responsibility of the organization seeking use of the facility.

Mr. Collins stated General Henry was a member of the Red Legs and this request was being made for the Gunfighters; however, a request was also going to be made for the Red Legs.

General Kiefer asked for a motion to approve the requests for both the Gunfighter and the Red Legs to use the Umbarger Conference Center for their events. Sergeant Mahuron made the motion for approval; seconded by Colonel Courtney and carried.

14. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE RETIREE GROUP—THE RED LEGS, WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL.

General Kiefer asked Mr. Collins to inform General Henry and Colonel Kiger their requests for the rental of the Umbarger Conference Center had been approved.

15. REQUEST FROM THE REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (RTI) TO PURCHASE A CEREMONIAL WEAPON FOR THE HONOR GRADUATE.

Captain Brenton McDonald, assistant to the Officer Candidate School (OCS) Course Manager requested \$639.00 for the purchase of a SIG Sauer M18 also known as the Eriksson Trophy to the OCS Distinguished Honor Graduate; he reminded the Board this has been an annual tradition. Colonel Courtney recommended approval of the request, seconded by Colonel Warrick, and carried.

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no visitors and no comments from the public sector at the meeting.

17. REMARKS FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

General Lyles provided a brief to the Board on the status of the Indiana National Guard. He began his brief by informing the Board the last group soldiers who were on CoVid orders are coming off orders, the Indiana National Guard will be completely out of the CoVid business by June 4, 2022.

He informed the Board of upcoming missions the Indiana National Guard would be undertaking, to include the mobilization of the 76th Brigade to Kosovo; a mobilization to the Sinai Peninsula; the 38th Infantry Division's Warfighter, and the Division's possible deployments to Germany or Poland.

General Lyles stated he has presented the State Budget Agency with his 15-year plan to divest the number of armories in the state of Indiana from sixty-nine to thirty-five, indicating that a "mega-armory" would be built every five years. He also stated he was approaching the budget agency to allow for funds to be utilized for the maintenance and upkeep of the older armories until time they could be replaced by a new, consolidated armory such as the one currently in Johnson County and the on-going Hamilton County Armory. He proposed the next new armory be constructed in Sellersburg as it is a very fast-growing community; and that armory could house units currently in Madison, New Albany, Salem, Seymour, and Scottsburg.

General Lyles mentioned the ability to recruit citizens into the armed forces and police departments is low; however, out of every 3,800 people who do enlist in the armed forces in Indiana, he would like to see 1,500 of them choose the National Guard

as their preference to sustain the current force. He indicated retention of National Guard soldiers is high because members have a sense of servitude.

He stated Armored Personnel Carriers have been sent from Indiana to Ukraine, and that Indiana would continue to partner with Slovakia as part of the international partnership. General Kiefer asked for a status report on Indiana's involvement with Slovakia; to which General Lyles replied Slovakia has strengthened the alliance with the NATO battlegroup and that Slovakia was supporting Ukraine. He stated during his last visit to Slovakia, his meeting with the CHAD was phenomenal as he and Governor Eric Holcomb met with Ambassador Bridget Brink.

18. ESTABLISH DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

Having determined there was no further business to conduct, Colonel Courtney made motion to adjourn the June 1, 2022 meeting of the State Armory Board. Motion was seconded by Colonel Warrick and carried at 11:35 A.M.

The next state Armory Board Meeting will take place on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 10 o'clock in the Adjutant General's Conference room at Joint Forces Headquarters in Indianapolis.

Michael A. Kiefer

BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL A. KIEFER, INARNG (RET)
PRESIDENT, INDIANA STATE ARMORY BOARD

R. Dale Lyles

MAJOR GENERAL R. DALE LYLES, INNG
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, SECRETARY-TREASURER