

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD
MINUTES
4th QUARTER BOARD MEETING – October 15, 2025**

Present were Illinois State Police Merit Board Chairman Tim Touhy, Secretary Michelle Carrera, Member Dr. Linda Flowers, Member Honorable William Stiehl, Executive Director Emily Fox, and Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Dykstra.

Mr. Bruce Bialorucki, Illinois Troopers Lodge; Captain Dustin Geier, Illinois Command Council; Master Sergeant James Knipper, Teamsters; Sergeant Trenton Waller, Illinois Troopers Lodge; and Trooper Ashley Bain also attended the meeting in person.

The meeting was held at the Illinois State Police Merit Board, 531 Sangamon Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois. Chairman Touhy opened the meeting at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Touhy asked the Board Members and guests to introduce themselves.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the 3rd Quarter Board Meeting minutes held on July 16, 2025.

Executive Director Fox updated the Board on the Applicant Process. Cadet Class 151 – Lateral began on September 28, and 152 – Traditional is set to begin on October 19, 2025. The deadline to apply for CC153 – Lateral was May 1, 2025. Applicant testing was held on May 3, May 14 and May 17. A total of 252 applicants were invited to participate in PFIT testing. Overall, 53 passed, 17 failed, and 112 no showed. Out of the 53 applicants who passed the PFIT, 49 passed the Recruitment Exam. Backgrounds have been initiated, and background review is scheduled for October 15, and interviews are scheduled for October 28. Cadet Class 153 is set to begin in January 2026. The deadline to apply for Cadet Class 154a – traditional was October 1, 2025. Applicant testing was held on October 4, in New Lenox, and will be conducted on October 18, and October 22 in Springfield. Background review and interviews will be conducted in March, with the class starting in June 2026. We are now accepting applications for Cadet Class 154b – lateral which is set to begin in September 2026.

Executive Director Fox updated the Board on the 2025 Promotional Process. In 2025, the Board will be testing to the rank of Lieutenant and Captain. In 2025, the Merit Board tested to the rank of Lieutenant and Captain. Testing was conducted September 15-19, at the Merit Board office in Springfield. There was a total of 41 target Captain candidates, and 101 target Lieutenant candidates who participated in the promotional process. The 2025 Promotional Certification Lists are set to be published by December 1, 2025.

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Executive Director Fox provided a summary of the 80 Ill. Admin. Code 150.430 proposed amendments to the Board.

The Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

Chairman Tim Touhy, Secretary Michelle Carrera, Member Dr. Linda Flowers, Member Honorable William Stiehl, and Chief Legal Counsel Daniel Dykstra attended the closed session portion of the meeting.

The Board discussed the Trooper Cameron Skaja Joint Motion & Settlement Agreement.

The Board discussed the Trooper Ashley Bain Motion to Dismiss.

Chief Legal Counsel Dykstra updated the Board on the Discipline Report.

The Board discussed keeping the July 16, 2025, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board voted unanimously to go out of closed session and return to open session.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the adoption of the proposed rule amendments.

The Board voted unanimously to accept the Joint Motion & Settlement Agreement in the Trooper Cameron Skaja matter.

The Board voted unanimously to grant the Motion to Dismiss in the Trooper Ashley Bain matter.

The Board voted unanimously to keep the July 16, 2025, closed meeting minutes confidential.

The Board announced the following 2026 Board Meeting dates:

- Quarter 1: January 14, 2026
- Quarter 2: April 15, 2026
- Quarter 3: July 15, 2026
- Quarter 4: October 21, 2026

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



Michelle Carrera, Secretary