STATE ARMORY BOARD
11 MARCH 2026

An Executive Session was held prior to the regular meeting from 10:00 A.M. through 10:28 A.M..

The session was attended by:
Brigadier General (Retired) (BG (Ret.)) Michael A. Kiefer – President
VACANT – Vice President
Colonel (Retired) (COL (Ret.)) Timothy R. Warrick – Member
Major General (MG) Lawrence Muennich – The Adjutant General – Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Jason Thompson – General Counsel

The Indiana State Armory Board convened at 10:49 A.M., Wednesday, March 11, 2026, in the Adjutant General's Conference Room, located on the second floor of Building One at Indiana Joint Force Headquarters, located at Stout Field, 2002 South Holt Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241, pursuant to notice given to all concerned.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Brigadier General (Retired) (BG (Ret.)) Michael A. Kiefer – President
VACANT – Vice President
Colonel (Retired) (COL (Ret.)) Timothy R. Warrick – Member
Colonel (Retired) (COL (Ret.)) Todd Townsend – Member (via Microsoft Teams)
Major General (MG) Lawrence Muennich – The Adjutant General – Secretary-Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT:
Brigadier General (BG) Michael Grundman – Director, State Operations
Mr. Jason Thompson – General Counsel
Colonel (Retired) (COL (Ret.)) John Silva – Controller
Ms. Alexis Teller – Director, State Purchasing and Contracting Office
Mr. James Mahern – Director, State Facilities Office
Ms. Heather Salinas – Director, National Guard Alumni Programs
Mr. Jason Brady -- Construction and Facilities Management Officer (CFMO)
Ms. Stephanie Brossman – Field Auditor
Ms. Terri Levy – Executive Assistant to the Director, State Operations
Ms. Mary Barbee – Business Administrator – Recorder

THOSE ABSENT:
Command Sergeant Major (Retired) (CSM Ret.)) Brenda Simmons -- Member

DETERMINE A QUORUM:

BG (Ret.) Kiefer, who presided, acknowledged enough members were present, to include attendance via Microsoft Team, to establish a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:49 A.M.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025, Indiana State Armory Board Meeting was made COL (Ret.) Warrick, seconded by BG (Ret.) Kiefer, and carried.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT. – COL (RET.) JOHN SILVA, CONTROLLER

Prior to his presentation of the Treasurer's Report, COL (Ret.) Silva covered the most recent audit by the State Board of Accounts, with the emphasis being on property and construction projects. COL (Ret.) Silva stated there were no findings from the audit, and indicated this is the second audit where there have been no findings revealed by the State Board of Accounts due to the expertise of the agency's accounting and contracting teams.

Special Programs Account — Balance Sheet
- Total receivables (Special Programs): $419,385.47
  - Balance has been intentionally reduced due to expenditures on the Memphis Initiative.
  - A lower balance reduces scrutiny from the State Board of Accounts, consistent with early board policy.
- Liabilities and equity: $45,000 in gain; $103,000 in long-term equity.

Special Programs — Cyber Academy Profit & Loss
- Total Income: $76,148
  - AGO Administrative Fees: $10,000
  - IVY Tech Facility Charge: $15,000
  - Student Fees: $102
  - Room Revenue (Cyber Academy): approximately $40,000
- Total Cyber Academy Expenses: $18,872
  - Wi-Fi Expenses: $10,000 (spanning several months)
  - Community Fees and Repair & Maintenance: $1,500
- EV Charging Station: $9,000 received; $1,400 returned per reporting period.

- NIC Fees (website): $203; Professional Fees: $261.

Memphis Initiative — Property Purchase

- $5,000,000 ACH transfer for purchase of the Memphis property was transmitted the morning of the meeting.
- Estimated surplus from that transaction: approximately $48,000.
- COL (Ret.) Silva advised he is preparing an invoice from the State Armory Board to the State to recover associated expenses.

Main Account — Liquid Assets and CDs

- Liquid Assets: approximately $1,060,000.
- Certificates of Deposit: approximately $1,400,000; no immediate need to liquidate.
- COL (Ret.) Silva monitors CD rates at 6-, 12-, and 18-month intervals; next rollover anticipated in April.

Liabilities — Selected Line Items

- HYCA Cadet Fund: Status to be determined after July/August; managed by the board.
- Knightstown Fund: Reduced to $75,000; armories closing for upgrades have funds held in main account until reopening.
- Muscatatuck Account: $40,189.
- Ceremonial Unit: $110,000 remaining; horse care and feeding costs now charged to the Armory Board due to general fund reductions. Total Ceremonial Unit expenditure for the reporting period: $35,515.
  - Board previously approved absorbing these costs rather than dissolving the unit.
  - COL (Ret.) Silva noted the possibility of billing the State for animal care costs, as the horses are State assets.
- IGR: $57 remaining. Lawrence (fully expended): $400.
- Alumni Outreach: $119,000 remaining; all expenditures approved at multiple levels.
- TAG Public Relations: $15,000 (to be replenished next period); current expenditure $17,551.
  - Travel expense: $2,252, of which $1,800 is expected to be reimbursed as TAG travel to conduct State business.
  - Wellness Center: $1,544.
- Umbarger Conference Center: $5,000 reserved; board has not yet voted to remove this line. Facility has not been used by the Gun Club, Artillery Group, or Fire Group in approximately 18 months. COL (Ret.) Silva will retain the line item pending a formal board vote.
- Plaques & Awards: $4,900, with $4,500 attributed to the Hamilton County Armory plaque.
- Professional Fees (Lafayette): Wi-Fi equipment purchase to be reimbursed by the local armory board.

Unique Property — Rental Income

- City Interest Income: $1,400.
- General rental properties (primarily farms): Total profit $38,686.
- IGR travel/fuel reimbursement: $8,713 (related to two staff members attending the state convention in Florida).
- SCAT expense: $31.

COL (Ret.) Silva noted that local armory board balance information was included in the meeting packet for reference.

- Due to shortfalls in preventive maintenance funding, local armory boards are being asked to absorb increasing expenses.
- Staff is monitoring local board account balances to assess capacity before drawing on those funds further.

5. MS. ALEXIS TELLER WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON CURRENT STATE ARMORY BOARD CONTRACTS

Ms. Teller updated the Board on current State Armory Board Contracts; she expects appraisals for the Elwood and Kokomo armories to be signed and returned to her by March 25, 2026.

Two contracts had been executed in the prior quarter:

- Indiana National Guard Economic Impact Study — $55,000 (University contract; see Vote below).
- Cyber Academy Carpet Replacement — funded from previously approved funds.

VOTE — Indiana National Guard Economic Impact Study

- COL (Ret.) Warrick moved that the board authorize payment of $50,000 to the University to examine investment opportunities, resource improvement, and revenue enhancement for the armory system broadly. The motion was clarified to encompass the full Indiana National Guard economic impact study, not armories exclusively.
- Motion seconded by MG Muennich and carried.

6. MR. JAMES MAHERN WILL PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON STATE FACILITIES.

Mr. Mahern presented the construction project status spreadsheet included in the meeting packet. He noted that percentages reflect payment applications received, and that actual construction progress may be ahead of those figures.

Preventive / Routine Maintenance Fund

- Remaining balance: approximately $844,000; approximately 70% through the state fiscal year.
- Upcoming significant expenditures:
  - Mowing contract — Stout Field / 38th Division / Lawrence.
  - Heat pump replacements, Lawrence Armory — estimated $80,000 or more.
- COL (Ret.) Silva confirmed this fund is the AGO maintenance fund referenced earlier.

Deferred Maintenance Discussion

- MG Muennich asked whether current funding permits addressing deferred maintenance.
- Mr. Mahern clarified: at this point in the fiscal year, funds are directed toward urgent and emergent needs, not deferred maintenance.
- Estimated total deferred maintenance backlog: approximately $118,000,000.
- Example of deferred maintenance consequence: a boiler at Lafayette Armory that failed after 22 years due to insufficient preventive investment; expected useful life with proper maintenance would have been 30–35 years.
- The board acknowledged that all deferred maintenance work is dependent on State appropriations. Future budget requests will seek increased maintenance funding.
- Mr. Grundman described the maintenance staffing structure:
  - One Building Service Worker (BSW) / state maintenance employee embedded in each facility.
  - Five regional Physical Plant Directors (PPDs) managing all armories by region.
  - Annual maintenance conference held with all staff to review routine checklists and procedures.
- BG (Ret.) Kiefer expressed interest in attending the next annual maintenance conference as a non-speaking observer.
- Mr. Mahern stated boilers are blown down daily; water quality monitoring is ongoing to extend boiler service life.
- Mr. Mahern reminded the Board that all pressure vessels are subject to annual inspection by the Department of Homeland Security.

7. MR. JAMES MAHERN WILL REQUEST $1,350.00 FOR FEE SIMPLE PURCHASE OF 0.112 ACRES AND A CONSTRUCTION TEMPORARY EASEMENT OF 0.007 ACRES FOR THE ANDERSON ARMORY FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (INDOT) TO ACCOMMODATE SIDEWALK AND NEW CURBS.

Mr. Mahern reported INDOT is acquiring 0.007 acres (a small sliver at the armory turnout) from the Anderson Armory property for curb and turnout improvements.

- Consideration: $1,350 paid by INDOT to the State Armory Board.
- The acquisition is preparatory to the Indiana 9 improvement project underway by INDOT.
- Mr. Mahern confirmed no further land acquisition from this property is anticipated in connection with this project.
- Mr. Thompson recommended the board accept the fee simple offer and authorize the President to sign the necessary documents.

COL (Ret.) Warrick made the motion to enter into agreement with INDoT for the fee simple acquisition at the Anderson armory and accept payment of $1,350.00; seconded by BG (Ret.) Kiefer, and carried.

8. MR. JAMES MAHERN WILL REQUEST AN EASEMENT FOR THE LAPORTE ARMORY TO BRING SEWER AND WATER TO THE SITE IN SUPPORT OF THE LAPORTE ARMORY MODERNIZATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

- The LaPorte Armory is currently under an approximately $9,000,000 modernization construction contract.
- The armory is one of the last remaining facilities operating on septic and well systems.
- The City of LaPorte requires a utility easement — approximately one-third of an acre, 20-foot corridor along the front of the property — to extend public water and sewer to the site.
- Consideration from the City: $1.00 (nominal).
- Mr. Mayher recommended the board approve the easements.

VOTE C — LaPorte Armory Utility Easements

- Motion: To approve the utility easements for LaPorte Armory as presented by the City of LaPorte, in support of the ongoing modernization project.
- Motion seconded.
- Vote: All members in favor — Aye. No opposition.
- RESULT: Motion passed. President authorized to sign easement documents.

9. MR. JASON BRADY WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON TRANSFORMATION AND POTENTIAL ARMORY CLOSURES.

Mr. Brady presented a list of 15 armories identified for potential divestiture, derived from analysis of ongoing National Guard transformation (unit relocations involving the 190th Transportation, 1638th Transportation, and 438th Chemical).

Process and Disposition Framework

- Divestiture is a multi-step process beginning with environmental assessment and appraisal.
- Disposition of each armory is governed by the original deed:
    - Properties deeded to the State Armory Board revert to the board to manage divestiture.
    - Properties deeded by external foundations or municipalities (e.g., Ross-Ade Foundation for Hammond; City for Washington and Bedford) revert to the original grantor.

Notable Status Updates on Selected Armories

- Washington / Bedford: Further division analysis resulted in a preference to retain Bedford and divest of Washington (reversed from earlier analysis).
- North Berman: Moving forward; discussed in executive session.
- Peru: Congressional interest expressed; no substantive engagement yet.
- Elwood and Kokomo: Appraisals in progress; city re-engagement to follow. Significant commercial interest in Kokomo anticipated.
- Hammond (lakefront property): Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center has expressed interest in connection with drone corridor and maritime evaluation programs. Property's proximity to Lake Michigan and channel access noted.
- Jasper Armory: City previously explored incorporating the armory into a health and wellness complex. Political considerations and community pushback led to city purchasing adjacent property instead. Armory remains in the modernization plan; no near-term divestiture planned. Current status in flux following mayoral transition.
- Winchester: Unit already relocated in support of Anderson Armory modernization; divestiture will be accelerated.
- Connersville: Unit already relocated; divestiture to follow.
- Meredith: Armory Board has formally relinquished control. Deed interpretation confirms the Board does not own the property. Environmental sampling (IDEM) nearing completion; final report expected within approximately two weeks. USPFO still working on disposition of armory equipment (tank).

The President acknowledged that the divestiture list represents moving targets as transformation plans continue to evolve, and that the Armory Modernization Plan is being updated accordingly.

10. MR. MICHAEL GRUNDMAN WILL PROVIDE A MEMPHIS UPDATE.

- Closing on the Memphis, Indiana property (Eastside Makers) is scheduled for Friday of this week.
- All environmental hurdles in the brownfield process have been cleared since the last board meeting.
- The $5,000,000 ACH transfer was transmitted the morning of the meeting; downtown approval anticipated with no anticipated complications.
- Mr. Goodman expressed appreciation for the board's flexibility and foresight throughout the 18-month acquisition process.

VOTE D — Resolution: Signatory Authority for Memphis Closing

- Motion: To approve a board resolution transferring all final signatory authority to Mr. Goodman for the purpose of executing the Memphis Armory closing on Friday.
- Motion seconded.
- Vote: All members in favor — Aye. No opposition.
- RESULT: Motion passed. Resolution adopted. Mr. Goodman is authorized to sign all closing documents on behalf of the State Armory Board.

11. MR. MICHAEL GRUNDMAN WILL DISCUSS FACILITY DISPOSITION.

12. MR. MICHAEL GRUNDMAN WILL REQUEST $2,175.00 ON BEHALF OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL DEREK SUTTON, 113TH ENGINEER BATTALION, FOR COINS TO HONOR HOOSIER GUARDSMEN DEPLOYED TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

A request was presented on behalf of the 113th Engineer Battalion Commander for funding to purchase commemorative coins for soldiers deployed in support of the Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) operation in Washington, D.C.

- Requested amount: $2,175 (original request).
- Background: The Battalion attempted to fund the coins through J-4 federal channels; federal rules on the percentage of coins that may be purchased precluded that option.

Discussion centered on the precedential implications of the expenditure and whether it falls within the board's charter. Legal counsel confirmed that expenditures promoting morale and welfare of the Guard are legally permissible. The board acknowledged the decision is a policy question, not a legal one, and noted that the state's operational tempo is increasing.

VOTE E — 113th Engineer Command Deployment Coins

- Motion: To approve $3,000 (increased from the original request to provide a reasonable contingency) for the purchase of commemorative coins on behalf of the 113th Engineer Command.
- Motion seconded.
- Vote: Aye — President Drummond, Mr. Warrick. Opposed — Provost Townsend (remote). Abstained — General Kiefer.
- RESULT: Motion passed (2–1, with one abstention). A simple majority was confirmed as sufficient given the established quorum. Expenditure of up to $3,000 for the 113th Engineer Command coins approved.

13. REMARKS FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

MG Muennich reported that the Alumni Association held a meeting event at the Hamilton County Armory in Atlanta, Indiana on the previous weekend.

- The event was well-received; the facility performed impressively.
- Board members were encouraged to follow the State Armory Board's social media platforms, where post-event coverage have been shared.

14. NEXT PROPOSED MEETING DATE 17 JUNE 2026 WITH AN ALTERNATIVE DATE OF 1 JULY 2026.

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made by BG (Ret.) Kiefer, seconded by COL (Ret.) Warrick, and carried.

The next scheduled meeting of the Indiana State Armory Board will take place on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, in the Adjutant General’s Conference Room, located on the second floor of Building One at Indiana Joint Force Headquarters, located at Stout Field, 2002 South Holt Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241.