

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, February 18, 2021

PRESENT	John "Don" Kaminar	Arkansas Commissioner	Chair
	Laura Anastasio	Connecticut Commissioner	Vice Chair
	Mary Gable	Maryland Commissioner	Rules
	Brian Henry	Missouri Commissioner	Comm & Outreach
	Rosemarie Kraeger	Rhode Island Commissioner	Past Chair
	Craig Neuenswander	Kansas Commissioner	Treasurer/Finance
	Chuck Clymer	DoD Representative	Ex-Officio
EXCUSED	Daron Korte	Minnesota Commissioner	Compliance
	Ernise Singleton	Louisiana Commissioner	Training
STAFF	Cherise Imai	Executive Director	Secretary
	Lindsey Dablow	Training & Operations Assoc.	

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

1. Chair Don Kaminar (AR) called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

2. Roll call was taken by Cherise Imai, Executive Director. A quorum was established.

ITEM 3 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. Chair Kaminar led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. Commissioner Rosemarie Kraeger (RI) motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brian Henry (MO). Motion carried.

ITEM 5 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 21, 2021

5. Commissioner Kraeger motioned to approve the meeting minutes for January 21, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Mary Gable (MD). Motion carried.

ITEM 6 – REPORTS

6. **Chair** – Chair Kaminar reviewed notes from his phone calls with commissioners. He was able to speak with approximately two thirds of commissioners regarding the National Guard Reserve Task Force. He said the discussions will continue after commissioners meet with their State Councils.

7. **Vice Chair** – Vice Chair Laura Anastasio (CT) did not have new updates for the Committee.

8. **Executive Director** – ED Imai briefed on trainings the National Office conducted in the last month. She will brief on the National Guard and Reserve guidance at Maryland and Delaware's State Council meetings in early March. There are two newly formed work groups at the Council of State Governments (CSG): One will develop guidance on to the in-person event planning and the other for a return to work framework. The CSG loan forgiveness reimbursement under the PPP program will likely be in Fiscal Year 2022. ED Imai reported she was invited to a roundtable meeting with the White House and Dr. Jill Biden on the needs and concerns of military families and students. Dr. Biden is very focused on a Joining Forces 2.0 program. She seeks solutions to address the needs for military families and has engaged the organizations that support them. Dr. Biden is holding sensing sessions over the next few months and will develop a strategic plan on the way forward.

9. **Finance** – Treasurer Craig Neuenswander (KS) reported on the Fiscal Year 2021 dues collection, the Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Vanguard Investments. ED Imai gave an update on the Kentucky Employees Retirement System. MIC3 was offered a reduction of costs to 10% from 49% of payroll for retirement benefits. The National Office will be doing a request for proposals related to the Operations Audit. Additionally, ED Imai said the National Office is researching how each state funds their Compact.

10. **Communication and Outreach Committee** – Commissioner Henry thanked ED Imai and Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow for providing a Compact training for Missouri. At the Committee's last meeting, they discussed the Successful Transitions Video campaign. He encouraged commissioners to include ED Imai and Ms. Dablow on any video submissions. All documents were approved for Month of the Military Child upcoming in April.

11. **Compliance** – ED Imai provided the report for Compliance. She gave an update on the Texas legislation the Department of Defense (DOD) Representative is working on, and it has been reviewed by General Counsel Rick Masters. While the language hasn't been sponsored yet, the DOD representative is hoping it will be introduced this legislative session. Recently, a military parent reached out with questions regarding compliance in Texas and the requirement of a state council, She added Commissioner Daron Korte provided a response as the Compliance Chair.

12. **Rules** – Commissioner Gable gave a summary of the most recent Rules Committee meeting. The National Office gave an update on the cases the National Office received, and ED Imai gave an overview of the National Guard and Reserve. Commissioner Kathy Berg (HI) was very complementary during the Rules Committee meeting of the work done on this issue after the task force concluded their work.
13. **Training** – Ms. Dablow noted the Training Committee meets on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 and a report will be available after the next meeting.
14. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Kraeger stated they have not met.
15. **DoD Liaison** – Mr. Chuck Clymer gave an update on the Purple Star program, which the DOD has identified as a priority for states to adopt. He has checked in with the State Liaison office and shared concerns expressed by numerous state commissioners. He hopes the state liaisons will carry the message that they support the commission's primary focus of implementation of the compact and avoid the potential conflicts with the commissioners. The National Defense Authorization Act has several pieces of legislation dealing with special needs family members, but no guidance has been given from the DoD. The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) and the services were invited provide feedback on a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study regarding the pandemic and learning losses. More feedback will be given on this study in the future. Lastly, Commissioner Kraeger inquired about Bill Hampton reaching out to different installations regarding legislative priorities. Mr. Clymer said it is perhaps regarding a meeting the Air Force had but he wasn't aware of any concerns. He stated he would reach out to Mr. Hampton.

ITEM 7 – OLD BUSINESS

16. **Commissioner Recognition Program** – Chair Kaminar showed the updated graphics for the Commission Recognition Program. Commissioner Henry motioned to approve the graphics as presented, Commissioner Gable seconded. Motion carried.
17. **Tier Groups** – ED Imai reported three of the four commissioners have accepted the request to be a tier group facilitator. She is following up with the remaining request and report at the next meeting.
18. **CSG Legal Review of the Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest and Guidelines for Commission Meeting Policies** – Mr. Jason Moseley, the Deputy Executive Director/General Council, reviewed the Commission's Code of Conduct, Guidelines for Commission Meetings, and Conflict of Interest documents. ED Imai stated this is done periodically to ensure MIC3's policies are in alignment with CSG's. As an example, she noted the travel policy had been modified several times in the past. She stated there were several areas that needed additional language to align with

CSG's policies and under the pandemic, and also to clarify use of communications under the Commission. Mr. Moseley provided recommendations for review.

19. ED Imai said the modifications would help strengthen verbiage for both virtual meetings and in-person meetings. She said the language may be a bit strong for MIC3's needs but thinks they can work together to develop some language that will suit. She also said the "why" will need to be addressed when it is introduced. Chair Members voiced concern with making the language milder because it may need to be modified again. Members agreed it would be better to start out with stronger language in the policy rather than have to strengthen the language in the future. ED Imai stated the initial language could be passed by EXCOM, provided to another committee for review and approval, with the final versions then approved by the EXCOM. She noted the revised policies would need to be ratified at the Annual Business Meeting. The EXCOM asked ED Imai to revise the policies based on Mr. Moseley's advisement.

20. Commissioner Kraeger motioned for the EXCOM to consider Mr. Moseley's recommendations, seconded by Commissioner Gable. Motion carried.

21. **Talking Points for Commissioners to Address Purple Star Program Advocacy/Requests** – Chair Kaminar reported some commissioners have been approached to develop Purple Star Programs within their states and they questioned whether the Commission required them to adopt or advocate for the program.

22. Commissioner Gable motioned to adopt the Talking Points for Commissioners to Address the Purple Star Program, seconded by Vice Chair Anastasio.

23. Members unanimously agreed the Purple Star Program is not a MIC3 program and suggested revisions. Due to time constraints, members agreed to forward edits to ED Imai

24. Commissioner Gable amended her initial motion for EXCOM members to review the documents and send input to ED Imai by February 28th close of business, seconded by Vice Chair Anastasio. Motion carried.

ITEM 8 – NEW BUSINESS

25. **Spring EXCOM Meeting** – Commissioner Gable motioned to hold the Spring EXCOM Meeting virtually, seconded by Vice Chair Anastasio. Motion carried.

ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

26. The Executive Session was tabled until the next EXCOM meeting.

ITEM 10 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

27. **DOD's Concern Regarding Intrastate Transfers – Due to time constraints**, ED Imai and Mr. Clymer decided to begin this discussion with the EXCOM via email and the topic will be added to the March EXCOM agenda.

28. **Webinars and Townhalls** – Ms. Dablow said *The Pandemic and its Impact on Schools* webinar has been viewed over 15 times by 7 unique viewers. The Townhall: Duties and Responsibilities of a State Commissioner and State Councils is scheduled for February 24, 2021 and has 69 individuals registered. She encouraged registering for the session.

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

29. With no further business to conduct, Chair Kaminar adjourned the meeting at 2:13 PM.