

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Thursday, March 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	Treasure & Finance
	Ernise Singleton	Louisiana Commissioner	Training
	Daron Korte	Minnesota Commissioner	Compliance
	Chuck Clymer	DoD Representative	Ex-Officio
	STAFF	Cherise Imai	Executive Director
Lindsey Dablow		Training & Operations Assoc.	
Mary Pendleton		Administrative Asst.	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL**

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

**ITEM 3 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

- Commissioner Brian Henry (MO) motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ernise Singleton (LA). Motion carried.

**ITEM 5 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 18, 2021**

- Commissioner Craig Neuenswander (KS) motioned to approve the meeting minutes for February 18, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Henry. Motion carried.

## ITEM 6 – REPORTS

6. **Chair** – Chair Kaminar praised the National Office for taking care of issues before they come to his attention. He reminded the committee to provide feedback to ED Imai from each state's respective State Council on the proposed expansion of the Compact to the National Guard and Reserve so the EXCOM has a chance to review prior to the Annual Business Meeting. He asked to remind members of this during standing committee meetings.
7. Chair Kaminar mentioned April is Month of the Military Child and asked the commissioners to tag #MIC3compact and #purpleup4militarykids in their social media posts with their creative celebrations.
8. **Vice Chair** – Vice Chair Laura Anastasio (CT) did not have updates for the committee.
9. **Executive Director** – Administrative Assistant Mary Pendleton reported on the Quad Fold Brochure project which have been updated and ordered. ED Imai attended and gave a brief on the National Guard and Reserve Task Force during Delaware and Maryland's State Council meetings. She will be attending Idaho and Florida's meeting in April to give the same brief. ED Imai reported MIC3 will be doing a Compact 101 webinar with MCEC on April 7. Additionally, MIC3 will be a part of a podcast in the fall with MCEC which will be discussed further.
10. **Finance** – Commissioner Neuenswander reported on the Fiscal Year 2021 dues collection, the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditures, and the Vanguard report. Commissioner Neuenswander gave an update on the Kentucky Employees Retirement System and the Council of State Government's proposal to make up a percentage of the contributions for employees. ED Imai added the rate of MIC3's contributions would return to 10 percent which is was when we became an affiliate.
11. Ms. Dablow reported on the research she is doing on how the states fund Compact operations. Once the research is completed there will be additional updates. The Operations Audit request for proposals was released two weeks ago and the National Office is currently working to determine which company should be used.
12. **Communication and Outreach Committee** – Commissioner Henry reported on the committee's March meeting. The committee is working on the Successful Transitions Video campaign and promoting Month of the Military Child. He noted Missouri is considering the MIC3 training in the state's education conference each year which would further promote the Compact. He gave a brief update on the Strategic Plan initiatives and how the committee is working towards its goals.

13. **Compliance** – Commissioner Daron Korte (MN) said they have not met since the last EXCOM meeting. He reported on the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Forms which have all been collected with the exception of two states, he added staff continues to follow-up with each commissioner. Commissioner Korte reported the state of Texas has found a sponsor in their state senate for their proposed legislation to establish a state council in alignment with other compact states. He reminded the committee that Texas' Education Agency functions as the state council under their current statute.

14. **Rules** – Commissioner Mary Gable (MD) said the committee has not met since the last meeting. She thanked ED Imai for attending the Maryland State Council to discuss the National Guard and examples of Compact cases.

15. **Training** – Commissioner Singleton said the Training Committee met and discussed the commissioner mentoring program for newly appointed commissioners. They desire to expand training across the states as well as online to get the word out about the Compact.

16. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Rosemarie Kraeger (RI) stated the committee will meet later this month.

17. **DoD Liaison** – Mr. Chuck Clymer briefed on the DoD PNR Quality of Life Initiative which includes the top 10 priorities for the DoD. One priority is the Purple Star Program, another is Virtual School Enrollment. Commissioner Kraeger commented she was caught off guard by the proposals brought forth in the Rhode Island legislature and inquired about the lack of communication. Mr. Clymer apologized for the lack of communication about the DoD process. He will give feedback that more communication needs to be given to the state commissioners so they can be informed regarding legislation in the states. ED Imai suggested a monthly or quarterly from Mr. Clymer and Mr. Bill Hampton from the DoD State Liaison Office periodically to the Commission would be helpful. Mr. Clymer said he would follow-up with Mr. Hampton on this proposal.

18. Mr. Clymer gave an update that Texas legislation regarding their State Council is moving forward. He added that MIC3 is waiting on a memo from the Mississippi governor regarding appointment of their commissioner and if the Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard is replaced, they will become the commissioner otherwise the Navy will pick-up the position.

## ITEM 7 – OLD BUSINESS

19. **April EXCOM Meeting** – The schedule for the April EXCOM retreat was discussed, a two day meeting versus a three day meeting. The consensus was a two-day meeting with three hour sessions each day. The retreat will be held on April 14-15 from 12:00-3:00 PM EST. Chair Kaminar asked members to adjust their calendars for these dates.

20. **Commissioner Recognition Program** – Ms. Pendleton gave an update on the commissioner pin quotes collected for the Commissioner Recognition Program. ED Imai recommended the shield shaped 1” pin from Pin Depot for the most cost-effective option.

17. Commissioner Singleton moved to adopt the design from Pin Depot for the Commissioner Recognition Program. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Anastasio. Motion carried.

17. **Tier Groups** – ED Imai confirmed that Commissioner Keith Owen (CO) has agreed to lead Tier Group 1. Tier Group 2 by Commissioner Steven Bullard (KY), Tier Group 3 by Commissioner Tim McMurtrey (ID), and Tier Group 4 by Commissioner Cindy Hunt (OR).

21. **Talking Points for Commissioners to Address Purple Star Program Advocacy/Requests** – ED Imai thanked everyone for their feedback and ask for input on whether the “Views Expressed by Compact Commissioners and Some State Council Members” section should be removed as was suggested by some commissioners. Vice Chair Anastasio and Commissioner Korte gave feedback that they feel it should be removed, the committee agreed. Additionally, the committee agreed to add the disclaimer regarding the MIC3 logo.

22. **General Counsel Statement on the Commission Purpose, Role, and Responsibilities** - ED Imai referenced the statement prepared by Rick Masters, General Counsel regarding the purpose, role, and responsibilities of the Commission. Chair Kaminar asked if the commissioners would read it and forward any questions to ED Imai.

23. **Rhode Island Concerns** – Commissioner Kraeger said her concerns were discussed during the report from Mr. Clymer. Vice Chair Anastasio said she was contacted by Chris Arnold regarding the military initiatives list and she directed him to Connecticut’s Chief of Staff. The bill went through the Department of Veterans Affairs and went through legislation. She expressed concern that they do not have staffing to do the work presented. Commissioner Gable stated she met with Christopher Arnold and said her office doesn’t support particular legislation; they comment on it. She stated Maryland is not staffed to adopt the Purple Star Program.

## ITEM 8 – NEW BUSINESS

24. **The DoD Concern Regarding Intrastate Transfers** – This item was postponed to the EXCOM retreat.

25. **2021 Annual Business Meeting** – Ms. Dablow referenced the State Review: COVID-19 Travel and Vaccination Recommendations document she prepared as of February 28, 2021. The Marriott in Little Rock, Arkansas is at 60% capacity currently and they projected they would be at full capacity in the fall. Ms. Dablow reported 22 states have restrictions on their own residents when they come back from travel which include things such as negative tests, quarantines, etc.

26. Three different options for the 2021 ABM are an in-person ABM, a hybrid ABM with some in person and some virtual, or a completely virtual ABM. She said the cost to hold the meeting in-person, hybrid, or virtually is roughly the same cost and more information will be presented in April.

27. **Letters to US Secretary of Defense and US Secretary of Education** – The Nation Office sent to welcome letters to the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Education introducing MIC3. ED Imai will have more updates with partnerships in the future.

#### **ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

28. Commissioner Kraeger motioned for the committee to move into Executive Session, it was seconded by Commissioner Gable. Motion carried.

29. Commissioner Kraeger motioned to move back into General Session, it was seconded by Commissioner Gable. Motion carried.

#### **ITEM 10 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

30. Commissioner Gable motioned to change the Administrative Assistant position from a temporary part-time position to a permanent part-time position. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kraeger. Motion carried.

#### **ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT**

31. Commissioner Kraeger motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Henry. With no further business to conduct, Chair Kaminar adjourned the meeting at 2:10 PM EST.