

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Thursday, April 15, 2021**

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

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. Chair Don Kaminar (AR) called the meeting to order at 12:22 PM EST on Thursday, April 15, 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 Mary Gable (MD) motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Laura Anastasio (CT). Motion carried.

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

5. Commissioner Rosemarie Kraeger (RI) motioned to approve the meeting minutes for March 18, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Gable. Motion carried.

**ITEM 6 – REPORTS**

6. **Chair** – Chair Kaminar commented on the Month of the Military Child and encouraged all states to participate. He asked for all EXCOM members to complete the Training Survey by April 26, 2021.
7. **Vice Chair** – Vice Chair Laura Anastasio (CT) reported the Ex-Officio group met on March 25, 2021. She reported they received an update from DOD Representative Chuck Clymer and discussed the Texas State Council legislation.

8. **Executive Director** – ED Imai updated the committee that the National Office will re-open in phases with modifications, but the dates have not been released. She noted the National Office staff works in the office on Wednesday. She gave a report on the meeting with Jermaine Sullivan with the U.S. Department of Education Military Affairs Team and noted they will meet quarterly. She briefed the National Guard and Reserve issue at the State Council meetings of Idaho and Florida.
9. ED Imai updated the committee on the Joining Forces Initiative meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>. The priorities for Joining Forces are military spouse employment, military child education, and health and well-being for members and their families.
10. Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow reported on a training for 6 installations in Florida as part of the Month of the Military Child. Commissioner Bob Buehn (FL) could not attend but taped a greeting for attendees. She reported she will conduct similar training for North Carolina later in April. She stated MCEC asked for a Compact 101 presentation at their National Conference which will be held virtually in July.
11. **Finance** – ED Imai reviewed the Fiscal Year 2021 Dues Report, 9 states' payments are outstanding. She noted the Fiscal Year 2022 invoices will be released on May 1, 2021. She reviewed the Balance Sheet and Vanguard Investment statement.
12. ED Imai updated the committee that Kentucky House Bill 8 was signed into law on March 23, 2021. She reported this includes the favorable reductions from 49% to 39% for employer retirement contributions by MIC3 into the Kentucky Retirement System. The Council of State Governments has further reduced MIC3's contribution to 10% as the two full-time employees are Tier 1 employees. This change is effective July 1.
13. **Communication and Outreach Committee** – ED Imai reminded members about the Successful Transitions video program and stated the National Office can assist if needed.
14. **Compliance** – Commissioner Daron Korte (MN) credited the quick action of ED Imai, Chair Kaminar, Ms. Dablow, Rick Masters, and an Arkansas attorney for their work in Arkansas to solve their legislative issue. Commissioner Korte reported Compliance will discuss the committee's role and best practices in tracking legislation.
15. Commissioner Korte noted Commissioner Alan Kerr (SD) is on administrative leave until June. He said the Assistant Superintendent will be invited to Compliance meetings but will not be able to vote.
16. Commissioner Korte said the Compliance Committee is working on expectations for commissioners on regarding sessions and attendance at the Annual Business Meeting.
17. **Rules** – Commissioner Gable stated she has nothing to report since they have not met since the last meeting. Their next meeting is April 20, 2021.
18. **Training** – Commissioner Singleton stated they have not had a meeting since the last EXCOM meeting. She referenced the Training Survey was sent out.
19. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Kraeger stated they met and reviewed documents regarding the leadership nomination process. She reported she asked ED Imai to look at the bylaws to see if there could be a slate of officers and do the election before ABM. The bylaws require the election

be held at a meeting of the commission where quorum is established. There was discussion about whether the election could be held with a voice vote.

20. **DoD Liaison** – ED Imai reported new web pages are being developed on the MIC3 site for school liaisons. Additionally, the military representative list is being updated. Once each of the services approves it, there can be a master list to work from.

## ITEM 7 – OLD BUSINESS

21. **2021 Annual Business Meeting** - ED Imai asked for a decision from EXCOM on the format of the ABM this year. She reviewed the results of the commissioner survey regarding the 2021 ABM. Ms. Dablow gave a report on the Little Rock Marriott and their COVID precautions. She reported we need to let the hotel know by April 26<sup>th</sup> if the contract will be cancelled. She reported there will be a \$7,065 penalty if the reservation is cancelled by April 26<sup>th</sup>.

22. Ms. Dablow reported on the costs of the ABM and the various options: in-person, virtual and hybrid. She said the hybrid option comes with significant costs due to hiring in AV company to run the meeting in Little Rock. ED Imai reported the budget for the 2021 ABM was increased due to COVID precautions. There was discussion whether space would allow for distancing if school liaisons attended, and Ms. Dablow said with an additional ballroom it would. ED Imai spent time discussing which sessions could be held virtually prior to ABM and which needed to be included in the program at ABM.

23. Commissioner Gable motioned for a ten-minute recess, seconded by Commissioner Brian Henry (MO).

24. There was discussion regarding the options regarding 2021 ABM. Commissioner Korte noted the lack of in-person connection is a concern, stating there are some members of his committee he has never met in person. Chair Kaminar expressed the consensus seemed to be an in-person meeting with a hybrid option, noting commissioners could send a proxy representative if necessary.

25. Commissioner Henry motioned to have an in-person 2021 ABM with a hybrid option for those not able to attend. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Korte. Motion carried.

26. ED Imai asked for feedback on having some of the content virtually prior to ABM, as well as how people feel about holding in person receptions at ABM. There was discussion about the receptions being optional. ED Imai noted a draft agenda of the ABM would be given at the next EXCOM meeting.

27. **Operations Audit, Review RFP** – ED Imai reported an RFP was sent to four companies and two submitted a proposal, Riggs Enterprise and MSL Public Accountants. She asked for members to review the proposals and make a recommendation on which company to secure, pending the Finance Committee's approval. Commissioner Gable asked if the Executive Committee has a recommendation. Ms. Dablow pointed out that Brian Riggs' proposal included a benchmark section where the organization will be compared to other similar organizations.

28. Commissioner Singleton motioned to accept the proposal from Brian Riggs of Riggs Enterprise, seconded by Commission Henry.

29. **General Counsel Statement on the Commission Purpose, Role, and Responsibilities** – Commissioners reviewed the Legal Memorandum document prepared by Rick Masters regarding the Purple Star Program.

30. Commissioner Gable motioned for the commission to accept the statement with the correction of a typo (change buy to by) in the next to last line. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kraeger. Motion carried.

#### ITEM 8 – NEW BUSINESS

31. **Arkansas SB 638** – Chair Kaminar and ED Imai explained a member of the legislature filed a bill that would take Arkansas out of the Compact. ED Imai reported she traveled to Arkansas and attended a series of meetings that resulted in the bill being amended. ED Imai stated the need to reinforce to Commissioners and stakeholders about Compact law.

32. Chair Kaminar expressed the need to have a system of keeping track of what is going on in state's legislatures to monitor situations such as these. He said it is time to address Utah being in violation of the Compact by changing it. Chair Kaminar said this is the proof why full-time employees in the National Office are necessary versus contract employees. Commissioner Henry suggested giving a summary of this to the entire commission as a training opportunity.

33. ED Imai noted there will be expenses from Legal Counsel Fred Knight in Arkansas that was not planned for the in the 2021 budget. Also, she asked CSG to provide a proposal of what it would cost if they tracked military education legislation and policy for MIC3.

#### ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

34. There was no Executive Session.

#### ITEM 10– OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

35. There was no additional business or announcements.

#### ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

36. With no further business to conduct, Chair Kaminar adjourned the meeting at 2:48 PM EST.