



MILITARY INTERSTATE  
CHILDREN'S COMPACT  
COMMISSION

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

FISCAL YEAR 2019

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**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2018**

PRESENT	Bob Buehn, USN (ret) Dr. Debra Jackson Brian Halstead Alan Kerr Greg Lynch Craig Neuenswander RADM Clarke Orzalli, USN (ret) BG(R) Hal Stearns Davis Whitfield Kyle Fairbairn Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow Richard Pryor	Florida Commissioner New York Commissioner Nebraska Commissioner South Dakota Commissioner Washington Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Designee Massachusetts Commissioner Montana Commissioner Natl Federation of High School Associations Military Impacted Schools Association Executive Director (ED) Training and Operations Associate Communications Associate	Chair          Ex-Officio Ex-Officio Secretary
ABSENT	COL(R) Chris Cmiel Pam Deering	West Virginia Commissioner Oklahoma Commissioner	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:09 AM EDT by Bob Buehn, Florida Commissioner and Finance Committee Chair. Executive Director Cherise Imai conducted the roll call.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. Commissioner Greg Lynch (WA) moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Craig Neuenswander (KS). Motion passes. Commissioner Greg Lynch (WA) moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 20, 2018. Motion passes.

**ITEM 3 – REPORTS**

3. FY2018 – Chair Buehn reported on the end of year finances FY2018, which closed under about \$80,000 under budget. The Vanguard long and short-term investments performed well and earned approximately \$30,000.

4. Audit – ED Imai reported the annual audit was completed by *Blue and Co.* ahead of the targeted date of September 1. She added that the auditor requested more data and analysis in comparison to the previous two years. As this is the first year of the investment program, the auditor recommended Commission adopt and new *Investment Policy* and provided a template. The committee asked the national office to examine other affiliates on their policies as well. Other than this recommendation, the organization is in excellent financial standing. Commissioner Brian Halstead (NE) motioned to adopt the audit report, seconded by Commissioner Neuenswander.

5. FY2019 – Chair Buehn reported the total expenditures for July was \$40,114.10. Thirty-six (71%) states have paid their annual dues for a total of \$582,246 ,and fifteen states are outstanding. ED Imai anticipated that a majority of members will have paid their dues by the 2018 Annual Business Meeting.

6. Dues Formula Increase Rules Change Proposal – ED Imai stated the proposal has been released to the Commission.

#### ITEM 4 – NEW BUSINESS

7. Vanguard Investment for FY2019 – As reported earlier, the Commission's initial investment performed well this past year. ED Imai recommended the Committee evaluate over the next year whether they would increase or hold at the current the amount.

8. Establishment of an MIC3 Foundation – Chair Buehn reintroduced the idea based on Committee discussion at the 2017 Annual Business Meeting in Rhode Island. He highlighted discussion points for consideration:

- Purpose of the foundation
- Identify parameters and goals (threshold and tolerances)
- National office/personnel considerations - with additional responsibilities or duties
- Financial impact – overhead costs and 501c3 filing
- if this was ED Imai reminded the Committee that the dues analysis we reviewed was based on FY2019, and any changes to the dues structure (if passed at the 2018 Annual Business Meeting) would not take effect until FY2020.

9. Kentucky Employee Retirement System (KERS) – ED Imai updated the Committee on the ongoing KERS issue based on the memo provided by Jason Moseley, Deputy Director of the Council of State Governments (CSG). The memo stated that during the 2018 Regular Session, the Kentucky General Assembly filed Senate Bill 1 (“SB 1”) which would change pension system funding so that it is no longer a percentage of each employer's payroll but rather calculates a definitive unfunded liability, apportions it to each participating employer paid over 30 years, and then calculates the current cost of each employee's benefit, currently around 7%. SB 1 failed to pass out of the Senate due to objections raised by teachers over parts of SB 1 which would alter the Kentucky Teachers Retirement System.

10. On the 57<sup>th</sup> day of the 60-day session, the contents of SB 1 were revived as a committee substitute to Senate Bill 151 (“SB 151”), and it quickly passed both chambers. In the interim, a separate bill, House Bill 265, was passed during the 2018 Regular Session that held CSG's, along with another 113 organizations', employer contribution rate at 49.47% for fiscal year 2019. The employer contribution rate for other state agencies was increased to 83.43%.

11. The Kentucky Retirement System has expressed an openness to holding that employer contribution rate at 49.47% while they continue to work on solutions for groups like CSG that participate in the retirement system but do not receive their budgets from a state appropriation. CSG is monitoring the status of SB 151 and waiting for a ruling from the Kentucky Supreme Court that will decide what, if any, impact SB 151 will have. At the same time, CSG is continuing conversations with the Kentucky Retirement System and elected officials about proposals that would allow for an exit from the Kentucky Retirement System or create a modified contribution process that relieves the financial strain caused by the current employer contribution rate.

12. Proposed FY2020 Budget – ED Imai reviewed the proposed matrix based on an analysis of FY2017 and FY2018 expenditures. Commissioner Lynch (WA) motioned to approve the proposal, seconded by Commissioner Hal Stearns (MT). Motion passes.

13. FY2018 Goals and Action Plan Ideas – Chair Buehn reported the Executive Committee would be developing the Commission's second 3-year Strategic Plan in April 2019. He asked members to reflect on the past years accomplishments and ponder ideas and priorities that could be proposed next Spring.

#### ITEM 5 – OTHER BUSINESS

14. Public Notice – State Council Meetings – ED Imai reported that a second rule change proposal was drafted last month by the Compliance Committee. The proposal would require member states to hold a State Council meeting, at minimum, once per year. The Compliance Committee reviewed meeting frequency data and several states have not met within the past two years. The proposed language and legal rationale will be released to the Commission once approved by the Rules and Executive Committees.

15. 2018 Annual Business Meeting – Training and Operations Associate, Lindsey Dablow, reminded members to register and book their hotel room.

16. Due to the National Office – Communications Associate Richard Pryor reminded members to submit their Code of Conduct form and State End of the Year report as required by the *MIC3 State Coordination Policy* if they had not already done so.

**ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to conduct, Chair Buehn adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherise Imai  
Secretary/Executive Director

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

PRESENT	CAPT Bob Buehn, USN (ret) Dr. Debra Jackson Craig Neuenswander RADM Clarke Orzalli, USN (ret) BG(R) Hal Stearns Lindsey Dablow Richard Pryor	Florida Commissioner New York Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Designee Massachusetts Commissioner Montana Commissioner Training and Operations Associate Communications Associate	Chair      Secretary
EXCUSED	Alan Kerr Greg Lynch Cherise Imai	South Dakota Commissioner Washington Commissioner Executive Director	
ABSENT	COL(R) Chris Cmiel Brian Halstead	West Virginia Commissioner Nebraska Commissioner	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:01 AM EDT by Bob Buehn, Florida Commissioner and Finance Committee Chair. Communications Associate Richard Pryor conducted the roll call.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. Commissioner Pam Deering (OK) moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hal Stearns (MT). Motion carried. Commissioner Debra Jackson (NY) moved to approve the meeting minutes from August 28, 2018, seconded by Commissioner Stearns. Motion carried.

**ITEM 3 – REPORTS**

3. FY2019 – Chair Buehn reported no significant changes to the FY19 report since the previous meeting. Associate Pryor updated the committee on the FY19 dues, 43 states have now paid. Commissioner Stearns (MT) asked that the dues spreadsheet for the ABM reflect the fact Massachusetts had paid their FY19 dues. Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow acknowledged it would.

4. FY2020 – Associate Pryor briefed the committee on the changes to the dues figures if the increase of \$1.15 per military child was approved. Commissioner Jackson (NY) mentioned she had received questions on where the student count comes from and that it may be worth providing that information as background information at the ABM for attendees that may not be aware.

Associate Pryor then briefed on the revised FY2020 budget, the increase to the benefits, and the ABM expenses. A motion was made to approve the revised FY2020 budget by Commissioner Deering (OK), seconded by Commissioner Neuenswander (KS). Motion carried.

**ITEM 4 – OLD BUSINESS**

5. Kentucky Employee Retirement System (KERS) – Associate Pryor updated the committee on KERS. Pryor informed the Committee that the Kentucky Supreme Court held a hearing but there is no

date on when a decision will be made. CSG has, however reduced the indirect cost from 8.1% to 5% as of Sep. 1.

#### ITEM 4 – NEW BUSINESS

6. Healthcare Benefit Increase – Associate Pryor updated the committee on the employee healthcare benefits increase. CSG negotiated a rate increase of 15%. CSG were able to secure a rate hold (no premium increase) on all other benefits (dental, vision, life, disability).

7. MIC3 Budget Cost Analysis – Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow briefed the committee on the cost analysis she had prepared. The analysis was completed due to the ongoing KERS issue and the budget implications this may have as well as looking at rent increases. Associate Dablow gave a very detailed brief on two scenarios; scenario one if MIC3 leaves and shared office space with another affiliate but kept the services of CSG. Scenario two if MIC3 were to split completely.

Commissioner Neuenswander (KS) asked if CSG were aware that MIC3 were looking at these options. Associate Dablow informed him they were aware and were cognizant of this going on with all affiliates. He also asked if there would be any impact on other areas, such as transportation, outside expenses etc. Associate Dablow informed the committee that Executive Director Imai had done some research in this area and she could speak on this better but that this had been researched with other affiliates that had already split from CSG.

Chair Buehn asked the committee to approve a letter of intent so the national office could officially approach both properties. Commissioner Jackson (NY) motioned to approve the letter of intent. Commissioner Stearns (MT) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### ITEM 5 – STRATEGIC PLAN

8. ABM Finance Report – Chair Buehn asked for comment on the finance report that had been prepared for the ABM. No comments were offered.

**ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to conduct, Chair Buehn adjourned the meeting at 11:31 AM EDT.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherise Imai  
Secretary/Executive Director

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018**

PRESENT	<p>Greg Lynch Pam Deering Brian Halstead Dr. Debra Jackson Curtis Jenkins for CAPT Bob Buehn, USN (ret) Robert Mellace for COL(R) Chris Cmiel Craig Neuenswander RADM Clarke Orzalli, USN (ret) BG(R) Hal Stearns Cherise Imai</p>	<p>Washington Commissioner Oklahoma Commissioner Nebraska Commissioner New York Commissioner Florida Commissioner/Chair West Virginia Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Designee Massachusetts Commissioner Montana Commissioner Executive Director/Secretary</p>
EXCUSED	<p>CAPT Bob Buehn, USN (ret) Lindsey Dablow Richard Pryor</p>	<p>Florida Commissioner/Chair Training and Operations Associate Communications Associate</p>
ABSENT	<p>Alan Kerr</p>	<p>South Dakota Commissioner</p>

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM EDT by Greg Lynch, Washington Commissioner. He reported that due to unforeseen personal circumstances, Committee Chair and Florida Commissioner, Bob Buehn was unable to attend the Annual Business Meeting.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. Commissioner Pam Deering (OK) moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hal Stearns (MT). Motion carried. Commissioner Debra Jackson (NY) moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 25, 2018, seconded by Commissioner Stearns. Motion carried.

**ITEM 3 – REPORTS**

3. Vanguard Investment Report – Commissioner Lynch reported as of September 30, the income is a little over \$6,008.99, and balance is \$397,855.59. He spoke to the need for the Committee to examine the investment data and next steps – keeping the revenue in the fund or withdrawal.

**ITEM 4 – OLD BUSINESS**

4. Office/Rent Letter of Intent – Executive Director (ED) Imai stated a letter was sent to the two property owners for the Custer and Corporate Drive locations under consideration for rental to clarify terms of agreement and rent cost. The Executive Director of the second Council of State Governments (CSG) affiliate, the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (APCA), will be discussing the rental with his Board of Directors in November, and we are pending responses. **(OPEN ITEM)**

5. MIC3 Foundation – The Committee discussed pros and cons of creating a separate foundation of the organization. Overall cost, time, and effort were taken into consideration, as well as the political aspect, the financial overhead, and the ability of members to garner resources. After deliberation, the Committee determined it was not feasible to continue this pursuit, however they could revisit the topic in the future if necessary.



6. Dues Formula Rule Proposal – Members shared concern expressed by some Commissioners to them about the dues increase proposal, and clarification may be required in the General Session on: why an increase was needed, that Commissioners were not provided enough time to address it within their states, and where the data on military students comes from. Commissioner Lynch and ED Imai stated they were ready to respond and provide the data needed to address any questions that may arise.

#### **ITEM 4 – NEW BUSINESS**

7. New Investment Policy – Commissioner Lynch reminded the Committee the Auditor had recommended development of this policy. The policy should include a process and strategy benchmarks. ED Imai reviewed 3 policies for consideration from: 1) Blue and Co (Auditor); CSG; and the National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD) with the Committee. She recommended that the Committee table this for the January meeting for discussion, however she felt a hybrid of the three should be considered. She asked members to review the drafts and inform the national office if there were particular areas that were important to include. **(OPEN ITEM)**

#### **ITEM 5 – STRATEGIC PLAN**

8. Commissioner Lynch stated the Commission is in the final year of the three-year strategic plan, and the Executive Committee will be working on the new plan in April. He asked members for feedback on fiscal priorities and/or initiatives the Committee should address in the next cycle. He added that this would be discussed more thoroughly at the next meeting.

**ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to conduct, Commissioner Lynch adjourned the meeting at 11:54 AM EDT.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherise Imai  
Secretary/Executive Director

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019**

PRESENT	Bob Buehn Dr. Debra Jackson Greg Lynch Craig Neuenswander Clarke Orzalli Jason Moseley  Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow Richard Pryor	Florida Commissioner/Chair New York Commissioner Washington Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Designee Massachusetts Commissioner Deputy Director and General Counsel, Counsel of State Governments (CSG) Executive Director/Secretary Training and Operations Associate Communications Associate
ABSENT	Brian Halstead Blaine Hedges Alan Kerr Hal Stearns	Nebraska Commissioner Kentucky Commissioner South Dakota Commissioner Montana Commissioner

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM EST by Bob Buehn, Florida Commissioner, Treasurer and Finance Chair. Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai conducted the roll call.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. The day's agenda and meeting minutes from October 18, 2018, were approved as presented.

**ITEM 3 – REPORTS**

3. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – Chair Buehn reported the EXCOM held a retreat in late November in Little Rock, Arkansas. National Chair Don Kaminar focused on team building with the appointment of two new Committee Chairs. Chair Buehn said the April Spring Retreat is focused on developing the next Strategic Plan.

4. **FY19 Dues, Budget and Expenses, Investments** – ED Imai reported Texas and Alabama are outstanding on dues. A third notice was sent this month. Current expenditures are on target with mid-year projections. The bank fees are higher due to the Annual Business Meeting registration fees paid by credit card. Investments are slightly below projection, which is in line with the current economy.

5. **FY20 Approved Budget and Dues** – ED Imai said the Dues Increase for \$1.15 per student is effective FY20. Invoices would be emailed in May-April to state points of contact and Commissioners. The Approved Budget was provided for the record and the fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

**ITEM 4 – OLD BUSINESS**

6. **Kentucky Retirement System** – Mr. Jason Moseley, Deputy Director of the Council of State Governments, referenced the memo dated December 18. During the 2018 legislative session, there were two bills were passed that addressed: 1) overhaul pension reform, and 2) providing a 49% hold harmless for 114 agencies (like CSG). Mr. Moseley said while the overhaul bill was passed, it was immediately challenged by the Attorney General, which escalated up to the Kentucky Supreme Court

(KSC). In December, the KSC determined unanimously determined it violated the constitutional requirement of 3 hearings, which nullified the bill. The second bill on a hold harmless for quasi-governmental agencies was upheld.

7. New language has not been introduced regarding the pension overall although discussion on addressing quasi-governmental agencies has commenced. The Assembly is aware and acknowledged that agencies like CSG (public libraries, mental health providers, county health departments and organizations) are not able to withstand the current or the higher proposed 83% employer contribution rate. They have discussed holding at the current rate, with the understanding of the \$133M unfunded liability this creates. He noted CSG is paying more into the system, from which we receive benefits, and other solutions and scenarios are under consideration. CSG is meeting with officials to introduce a CSG specific bill that includes an exit option for CSG affiliates. Mr. Moseley said confirmation of proposed language would be available within the next several weeks, and the session ends mid-March. He reconfirmed June 30 is the rate-hold expiration and emphasized CSG is not a singular voice in this effort and many organizations will be negatively impacted without a resolution. (OPEN ITEM)

8. **Custer Drive Rental** – ED Imai stated current rent at CSG for MIC3 offices is \$21K per month, while the Custer Drive locale is \$9K. She spoke with Mr. Moseley on the proposed rental cost for Custer Drive and if CSG would consider matching the rate. (OPEN ITEM)

9. **Indirect Cost** – She reminded the Committee of CSG's reduced Indirect Rate Cost of 8% to 5%, which was effective September 1, 2018. The terms of the reduction are applicable while the KERS issue is being addressed and no specified end date is noted on the CSG memo. Concerned about annual budgeting, the Committee asked ED Imai to approach CSG on multi-year terms on Indirect Cost for sound fiscal management. (OPEN ITEM)

10. **New Investment Policy** – The Committee felt the 'why' and justification was not clear on why we are keeping this investment profile and state the need to tie it to some potential risk. For clarity, the Committee requested EXCOM provide clear criteria and goals to draft the investment policy. Finally, state what is the strategy (how much, what do we want to achieve? Chair Buehn said he would bring this to the EXCOM for discussion at their February meeting. (OPEN ITEM)

#### ITEM 4 – NEW BUSINESS

11. **Vice Chair** – Chair Buehn asked members interested to contact him. (OPEN ITEM)

#### ITEM 5 – STRATEGIC PLAN

8. Commissioner Lynch stated the Commission is in the final year of the three-year strategic plan, and the Executive Committee will be working on the new plan in April. He asked members for feedback on fiscal priorities and/or initiatives the Committee should address in the next cycle.

**ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to conduct, Chair Buehn adjourned the meeting at 11:59 AM EST.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherise Imai  
Secretary/Executive Director

Approved May 26, 2019

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2019**

PRESENT	Bob Buehn Brian Halstead Blaine Hedges Dr. Debra Jackson Greg Lynch Craig Neuenswander Clarke Orzalli Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow Richard Pryor	Florida Commissioner/Chair Nebraska Commissioner Kentucky Commissioner New York Commissioner Washington Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Designee Massachusetts Commissioner Executive Director/Secretary Training and Operations Associate Communications Associate
ABSENT	Hal Stearns	Montana Commissioner

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:02 AM EST by Bob Buehn, Florida Commissioner, Treasurer and Finance Chair. Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai conducted the roll call.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. The day's agenda and meeting minutes from January 22, 2019, were approved as presented.

**ITEM 3 – REPORTS**

3. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – Chair Buehn reported the EXCOM held a retreat in late November in Little Rock, Arkansas. National Chair Don Kaminar focused on team building with the appointment of two new Committee Chairs. Chair Buehn said the April Spring Retreat is focused on developing the next Strategic Plan.

4. **FY19 Dues, Budget and Expenses, Investments** – ED Imai conformed receipt of Alabama's dues which A third notice was sent this month. Current expenditures are on target with mid-year projections. The bank fees are higher due to the Annual Business Meeting registration fees paid by credit card. Investments are slightly below projection, which is in line with the current economy.

5. **FY20 Approved Budget and Dues** – ED Imai said the Dues Increase for \$1.15 per student is effective FY20. Invoices would be emailed in May-April to state points of contact and Commissioners. The Approved Budget was provided for the record and the fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

**ITEM 4 – OLD BUSINESS**

6. **Kentucky Retirement System** – Mr. Jason Moseley, Deputy Director of the Council of State Governments, referenced the memo dated December 18. During the 2018 legislative session, there were two bills were passed that addressed: 1) overhaul pension reform, and 2) providing a 49% hold harmless for 114 agencies (like CSG). Mr. Moseley said while the overhaul bill was passed, it was immediately challenged by the Attorney General, which escalated up to the Kentucky Supreme Court (KSC). In December, the KSC determined unanimously determined it violated the constitutional requirement of 3 hearings, which nullified the bill. The second bill on a hold harmless for quasi-governmental agencies was upheld.

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9. **Indirect Cost** – She reminded the Committee of CSG's reduced Indirect Rate Cost of 8% to 5%, which was effective September 1, 2018. The terms of the reduction are applicable while the KERS issue is being addressed and no specified end date is noted on the CSG memo. Concerned about annual budgeting, the Committee asked ED Imai to approach CSG on multi-year terms on Indirect Cost for sound fiscal management. (OPEN ITEM)

10. **New Investment Policy** – The Committee felt the 'why' and justification was not clear on why we are keeping this investment profile and state the need to tie it to some potential risk. For clarity, the Committee requested EXCOM provide clear criteria and goals to draft the investment policy. Finally, state what is the strategy (how much, what do we want to achieve? Chair Buehn said he would bring this to the EXCOM for discussion at their February meeting. (OPEN ITEM)

#### ITEM 4 – NEW BUSINESS

11. **Vice Chair** – Chair Buehn asked members interested to contact him. (OPEN ITEM)

#### ITEM 5 – STRATEGIC PLAN

8. Commissioner Buehn stated the Commission is in the final year of the three-year strategic plan, and the Executive Committee will be working on the new plan in April. He asked members for feedback on fiscal priorities and/or initiatives the Committee should address in the next cycle. (OPEN ITEM)

**ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to conduct, Chair Buehn adjourned the meeting at 11:59 AM EST.

Respectfully submitted by,



Cherise Imai  
Secretary/Executive Director