

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 25, 2022**

PRESENT	Brian Henry Bob Buehn Brian Halstead Debra Jackson Greg Lynch Craig Neuenswander J. Clarke Orzalli Douglas Ragland Kyle Fairbairn	Missouri Commissioner Florida Commissioner Nebraska Commissioner New York Commissioner Washington Commissioner Kansas Commissioner Massachusetts Commissioner Alabama Commissioner Military Impacted Schools Association	Committee Chair
EXCUSED	Tyler Backus Darcy Benway Rosemarie Kraeger	Maine Commissioner Illinois Commissioner Rhode Island Commissioner	
STAFF	Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow Stephanie Ramsey	Executive Director, MIC3 Training and Operations Associate, MIC3 Communications Associate, MIC3	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM ET by Committee Chair Brian Henry (MO). Roll call was taken by Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai. A quorum was established.

**ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

2. Commissioner Brian Halstead (NE) moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Douglas Ragland (AL). Motion carried.

**ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 26, 2022**

3. Commissioner Debra Jackson (NY) moved to approve the minutes from March 23, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Halstead. Motion carried.

**ITEM 4 – USDOD MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE BRIEF**

4. Mr. Chuck Clymer, US Department of Defense (USDOD) Military Representative (MILREP) to the Commission provided an update to the Committee. He said all services were planning on attending the upcoming Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in October. He noted he served for three years as the MILREP and a transition to a new liaison was forthcoming. He emphasized the importance of the role in supporting the transition of military kids and families; and work of the Commission. The services have realigned several leads in states based on service mission changes within those states. The USDOD has changed their reports and data that was previously available is no longer available or more difficult to obtain. For example, data is no longer available by installation, and must be pulled by zip code.

5. Mr. Clymer reported the USDOD has worked over the past year and a half to work collaboratively with Dianna Ganote within the Military Family and Community Policy (MFCP) to work across services to inform military families about the Compact. Focus areas: includes three areas: installation commanders; parents; and the educators. Initiatives include: newcomer briefs at each installation; web-based information on the school liaison program and on the MIC3 through [Military One Source](#) and the installation pages. Regarding the educators, the school liaisons built the information to make the schools and districts aware of the Compact. While all services retain their own initiatives, across the DOD, there has been more collaboration to work together to share information.
6. Commissioner Clarke Orzalli (ME) asked how Coast Guard (CG), NOAA and USPHS families are informed about the Compact. Mr. Clymer said the Navy has an agreement with the CG and NOAA to assist their families – which includes issues that arise when they move. In addition, he works closely with the CG liaison on cases; and all three liaisons attend their meetings; and information is shared across the senior executive service (SES) levels. Commissioner Orzalli said in Maine, he includes the two CG representatives on their state council and in conversations, however he was pleased to hear the senior level was engaged in discussions and planning.
7. Mr. Kyle Fairbairn, Executive Director, Military Impacted Schools Association, said the biggest concern he has heard from schools, is that parents are still not aware of the Compact – especially as the move duty stations. Mr. Clymer said having worked with military families over the past 20 years, that they are exposed to a large amount of information, and although it is available to them and have access, it's a constant challenge to help them retain the information. The MIC3 and school liaison information are included on orders, which also include locale specific information. In sum, it will be constantly challenging, and we need to continue to share information to remind families these resources exist to support them. Members thanked Mr. Clymer for the work and efforts by himself and the USDOD to support the Compact.

#### ITEM 5 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM) REPORT

8. ED Imai reported the Executive Committee met earlier this month. The Training Committee continues to develop new videos and the new learning Management System. as well as new videos to support training on the Compact. Compliance continues to monitor the activities by states. She reminded members state council meetings, and the end-of-year report is due by June 30<sup>th</sup>. She added the year end reports would be compiled in a booklet for dissemination. The Leadership Nomination recently met and approved the election documents which will be released on June 1. The Rules Committee was reviewing Rulebook and are expecting a couple of rule proposals. Lastly an award for a Florida State Council member, as well as Delaware's Susan Haberstroh was approved. Commissioner Haberstroh is an inaugural member and has served 13 years.

#### ITEM 6 – REPORTS

9. **FY2022 Outstanding Dues** – Chair Henry reported total dues for Fiscal Year 2022 was \$652,317; 49 of 51 members (96%) have paid \$578,109 (89%). Outstanding states are California and Illinois, and staff continues to follow up with both states. The deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.
10. **FY2022 Balance, Revenue and Expenses, Vanguard Investment** – Chair Henry noted as of May 20, the fund balance is 1,778,481.79. He reviewed Revenue and Expenses and noted expenses are expected for the 4th quarter to date. He noted the following would be higher than projected at year end: Consultant Fees for Strategic Planning, Legislative Reports, and General Counsel. General Counsel expenses are projected at \$20K this year. In addition, Legal Fees, if litigation was pursued with a current case, it will likely exceed the \$3K budget.

Finally, he reviewed the Vanguard Investment report, and stated overall, we are favorable financially, although the balance has decreased.

11. **FY2023 Dues** – Chair Henry reported the total amount is \$672,687. To date, 3 out of 51 members (6%) have paid \$8,898 (1.4%) – Arkansas, Connecticut, and Montana. The remaining Balance was \$663,789. Invoices were sent earlier this month and the deadline is June 30, 2023.

## ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

12. **RECENT CASES** – Chair Henry updated the Committee on two cases brought to the Executive Committee which required legal advisement and engagement. The first was regarding extracurricular and baseball tryouts which was investigated by General Counsel. In sum, baseball tryouts were held over 3 days. The student and parent claimed the day 2 and 3 days were not provided to the student, therefore he missed the dates and was eliminated. The schedule was on a google doc that was only accessible by the coach to the players and parents. Although there were no caps to the number of members, the military student was the only one eliminated. Because there weren't enough members for the team, 8<sup>th</sup> graders tried out and made the team. It was agreed the school did not handle the parent communication well, however it was not clear if the student was provided the practice information, as he was getting information from his classmates.

13. The second was a high school level world history course taken by a student in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in North Carolina. It was counted by the overseas USDOD school. When the student moved to the current state, the district said they would not count the course, even as an elective. The course is at the same time as orchestra, and the family selected this particular school for the music program. In January, the national office and general counsel met with the Commissioner and district. The state department was asked to weigh in on the issue, and they declined to provide guidance as “education is a local issue”. They referenced the district appeals process. The parent filed an appeal with the district which was denied after a 60-day review (mid-May). The parent was advised by the Commissioner and state department to file an appeal to the Department. There is a 60-day response time. The parent contacted the national office for assistance. Upon review of the case, time sensitive nature, and concern for the student, the EXCOM approved a default letter be sent to the district. In summary, these two cases will result in legal expenses that will exceed the 3K line item in the budget. We wanted to ensure the Committee was informed.

14. Members appreciated the update and noted for the record the Committee may consider increasing the line items in future budget proposals.

## ITEM 8 – OLD BUSINESS

15. **Strategic Plan Item: Contracting USDOD to raise awareness of the Compact** – The committee agreed with the update provided by Mr. Clymer, we would continue to work closely with the USDOD on their initiatives to educate on the Compact.

16. **State Fiscal Support Memorandum** – ED Imai reported the memorandum would be released to the Commission. An update would be provided at the next meeting.

17. **2022 Annual Business Meeting** – ED Imai reported EXCOM determined the ABM would be held in person this year, they continue to monitor external factors that may impact the event. She added registration would be released in July and reminded members to note the October 18-20<sup>th</sup> date on their calendars.

## ITEM 9 – ITEMS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

18. **USDOD Defense State Liaison Office (DSLO) and the Purple Star Program** – Commissioner Lynch reported legislation for the Purple Star program was introduced in the Washing Legislature this past year, and language included the MIC3 Washington State Council would oversee the program. He expressed concern that the Purple Star program was outside of the statute and rules of the Commission, therefore, to mandate in the proposed bill that the state council lead an external initiative with no funding was unreasonable. He also felt that if this approach was being utilized, the Commission should be looped in and informed so Commissioners may be informed. Mr. Clymer said he was aware that this has been a challenge in other states; and there has been concern that the initiative would be in conflict with Commission duties. He would share this feedback with the DSLO office and his senior leaders; and Chair Henry said he would bring the concern to the Executive Committee.

19. Members agreed the Commission is a quasi-governmental agency whose focus is on implementing the Compact – rules and statute. While they recognized the Purple Star program as supporting military students, it was outside of the Compact's scope - therefore, the program is a state focused issue.

## ITEM 10 – OTHER BUSINESS

20. **New Strategic Plan: Member Sessions** – ED Imai encouraged members to attend and participate in the sessions scheduled for May 30 and June 1 at 2:00PM ET. The purpose was to obtain member feedback on the draft plan.

21. Next meeting: Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM ET.

## ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

22. With no further business to conduct, Commission Jackson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Buehn seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chair Henry adjourned the meeting at 12:03 PM ET.