**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 18, 2022**

PRESENTLaura Anastasio Connecticut Commissioner Chair

Ernise Singleton Louisiana Commissioner Vice Chair

Brian Henry Missouri Commissioner Treasure & Finance

John “Don” Kaminar Arkansas Commissioner Past Chair

Steve Bullard Kentucky Commissioner Compliance

Chad Delbridge Wyoming Commissioner Comm & Outreach Mary Gable Maryland Commissioner Rules

Shelly Ramos Texas Commissioner Training

Dianna Ganote Military Representative, USDOD Ex-Officio

STAFF Cherise Imai Executive Director

Lindsey Dablow Training & Operations Assoc.

Stephanie Ramsey Communications Associate

GUEST(S) Stuart Michael General Counsel, MIC3

EXCUSED Chuck Clymer Military Representative, USDOD Ex-Officio

Lori Phipps Military Representative, USDOD Ex-Officio

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. Chair Laura Anastasio called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM ET on Thursday, August 18, 2022.

**ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL**

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

**ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

3. Commissioner Mary Gable (MD) motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner John” Don” Kaminar (AR). The motion carried.

4. Due to the length of the agenda and availability of General Counsel, Chair Anastasio deferred the Commission reports, time permitting, until the end of the meeting.

**ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

5. Commissioner Kaminarmotioned to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2022, meeting as presented, seconded by Commissioner Steve Bullard (KY). The motion carried.

**ITEM 5 – OLD BUSINESS**

6. **Rosemarie Kraeger (RI)** – Chair Anastasio reported the memoriam was received by Commissioner Kraeger.

7. **Rules Book Amendment Review** – Commissioner Gable reviewed the proposed amendments, substantive and technical, provided by the Rules Committee for the Commission consideration at the upcoming Annual Business Meeting (ABM).

8. Commissioner Kaminar motioned to approve the Rules Committee’s proposed rule amendments for Commission consideration at the ABM, seconded by Vice Chair Ernise Singleton (LA). The motion carried.

9. **Compliance: New Jersey FY2021 and FY2022 EOY Reports** – Commissioner Bullard reported New Jersey has not filed their end of year reports for fiscal year 2021 and 2022. Over the past year, both ED Imai and Commissioner Bullard communicated several times with the Commissioner by email and phone on the delinquency. The Committee was concerned as the state has not submitted their report for two years. Due to this, the Compliance Committee recommended the Executive Committee send a notice of default to the state on the delinquency.

**ITEM 6 – NEW BUSINESS**

10. **8/5/22 Legal Memorandum: Citation Correction to the Compact** – Mr. Stuart Michael, General Counsel, reviewed the memorandum which provides the current statute and recommended priority based on the number of military dependents in each state. Chair Anastasio noted the Tier Group #2 meeting was held yesterday and the remaining three groups will meet before month end. Facilitated by General Counsel, they will present the issue and memorandum; and respond to questions by members.

11. **U.S. Department of Defense (USDOD) Defense State Liaison Office (DSLO) Meeting and Marcus Beauregard: Technical Amendment and NGR Fix Proposal** – Chair Anastasio reviewed the proposed solution by the DSLO which asks the commission to consider removing the reference to the Active Duty from the statute and defining the term in the Compact Rules. The item will be presented to and discussed in the Tier Group meetings.

12. **Tier Group #2: Tennessee Commissioner Suggestion** – During yesterday’s Tier Group meeting regarding the Citation Correction discussion and the USDOD DSLO response to the Commission they could not provide funding to the Commission to fix the citation, Tennessee Commissioner Deanna McLaughlin suggested member states advocate their state congressional delegation for funding. Some members expressed concern as advocacy was prohibited by their employer, and the viability, such as timeframe and ability for member states, to accomplish this. For these reasons members declined to pursue this proposal further.

13. **National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA**) **Bloc Amendments Summary** – Chair Anastasio reviewed the amendments which “*directs the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Dept which oversees USCG to develop recommendations for the improvement of the Military Interstate Children’s Compact. Through DSLO, to develop recommendations to improve and fully implement MICCC; identify barriers to ability of parents to enroll in advance primary/secondary ed (without parent or child being physically present to do so; barriers for transfers with Special Ed needs gaining access to services within timeframes required by IDEA. The USDOD will determine the feasibility and advisability of: Tracking/reporting number of families who use advanced enrollment (in states that offer); States clarify that eligibility for advanced enrollment only requires written evidence of PCS order, no rental or mortgage agreement.*

14. It was agreed these amendments were made with a limited understanding of Compacts and their authority, as the directives were outside of the Compact scope. Chair Anastasio noted the last two amendments, which directs the “*Sec Def (to) Coordinate with MIC3 in developing letter or memo families can present to Ed agencies outlining MIC3 protections/provisions”* provided additional opportunities to collaborate and elevate the Compact to the Secretary of Defense leadership. She noted the last amendment, *to “identify any other improvements to MIC3”* would be possible if was within the scope of the Compact’s authority. ED Imai concluded the item by stating a report was due within 180 days, and she would connect with the DOD DSLO office to discuss further.

13. **Open Records Policy** – Commissioner Gable Motion reported the policy was drafted and approved by the Rules Committee in response to data and information inquiries received by headquarters. ED Imai stated if approved, the item would be placed on the ABM consent agenda. Vice Chair Singleton motioned to approve the *Open Records Policy*, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar. The motion carried.

14. **Executive Committee Retreat** – Chair Anastasio proposed the Committee convene a retreat to prepare for the upcoming year post-ABM to discuss the new strategic plan implementation and legislative initiatives for 2023. The Committee asked for a cost analysis based on several airline hub locales and Lexington, Kentucky for review at the next meeting. (OPEN ITEM)

15. **FY2022 Annual Audit** – Treasurer Brian Henry presented the final audit report from Blue & Co for review. He was pleased to report the organization’s finances are in order and there were no findings again this year. Commissioner Gable motioned to approve the *FY2022 Annual Audit report* as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Chad Delbridge (WY). The motion carried.

16. **Awards** – Communications Associate Stephanie Ramsey reported Mallory Gill from the Council of State Governments Accounting Division, was presented a Community Award, a certificate and MIC3 challenge coin, for her service and support. This award requires the Executive Director approval.

17. Ms. Ramsey presented candidates for Committee approval: 1) State Service Award: Joel Wilson, outgoing Idaho Commissioner; 2) Special Recognition Award: Nicole Russell, outgoing NMFA and Ex-officio Representative, and Marcus Beauregard, Director, USDOD DSLO. Vice Chair Singleton motioned to approve the awards as presented, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion carried.

**ITEM 7 – REPORTS**

18. **Chair** – no report

19. **Vice Chair** – no report

20. **Executive Director** – ED Imai stated headquarters is occupied with end-of-year administrative and program activities in preparation for the upcoming ABM. She noted she and Chair Anastasio will travel to Washington DC in September to attend the National Association of Impacted Schools conference and requested office calls with the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Coast Guard, and U.S. Department of Defense and Education. She also noted training requests are ongoing.

21. **Finance: FY2022** – With the conclusion of the audit, Treasurer Brian Henry reported FY2022 was closed. The final balance sheet, revenue and expenditure statements were provided for information.

22. **FY2023 Balances, Revenue and Expenses** – Treasurer Henry reported the total dues collected to date was $672,687. Currently, 25/51 members (42%) have paid $281,808 (42%), and the remaining balance was $390,879 (26 states). The deadline is June 30, 2023.

23. **Vanguard Investments** – Treasurer Henry reported the initial investment was $350,000. The current asset mix was stocks = 61.5%, bonds = 38.5%, and total value on 7/31/2022 = $520,122. He noted at end June, the balance was $489,792, and a net gain of $30,330 over last month. However, it was still a loss of $91,162.36 (15.6%) since December 2021 ($580.857).

24. Blue & Co Auditing Company – Treasurer Henry stated a member of the Finance Committee inquired on Blue & Co, their background, and if the Commission should change vendors. He said Blue was the auditor for CSG and 10 other affiliates, and familiar with CSG’s financial practices and processes. Blue is able to rely on testing and work from the CSG audit that crosses over on affiliate audits, which creates an efficiency for the actual work as well as providing lower fees.  He noted should MIC3 use a new firm it would require significate additional work from both MIC3 and CSG, and there was a cost savings since the same firm is used throughout. He said if MIC3 wishes to pursue a new firm, CSG can provide some support to seek other bids, however it would likely be more than Blue’s fees. In addition, if a new firm is used, there would be significantly more work as they will not have the knowledge of CSG’s practices. In addition, on former MIC3 Treasurer and Kansas Commissioner Craig Neuenswander’s direction, Mic3 obtained a three-year agreement for services at a rate of $6,300/year. The Committee will discuss if another agreement would be requested at their upcoming meeting.

25. **Communications and Outreach** – Commissioner Delbridge reported a quorum was not obtained at their July 13 meeting. They will convene again in September.

26. **Compliance** – Chair Bullard reported the Committee continues to follow up on end-of-reports from delinquent states, and status updates on state council meetings.

27. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Kaminar reported the Committee met on the Monday the 18th. They approved Election Guide for dissemination to the Commission in September. The Committee will reconvene in November to debrief the ABM electoral process.

28. **DOD Representative** – Ms. Dianna Ganote provided an update on the School Liaison program. They facilitated a panel at the summer Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) seminar, which was well-received and attended. They are preparing a year-long calendar of podcasts and will share the topics once it is finalized. She stated a study on DSLO initiatives will be conducted on the effectiveness of the program related to military child education initiatives. It will consist of a literary review, analysis of initiatives and issues, locale surveys and interviews.

**ITEM 8 – ADJOURNMENT**

29. Treasurer Henry motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Singleton. Chair Anastasio adjourned the meeting at 2:35 PM ET.