MIC3 MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 21-22, 2026
Origin Hotel in Lexington, KY

PRESENT	Daron Korte	Minnesota Commissioner	Chair
	Mary Gable	Maryland Commissioner	Vice Chair
	Greg Lynch	Washington Commissioner	Treasure & Finance
	Ernise Singleton	Louisiana Commissioner	Leadership
	Steve Bullard	Kentucky Commissioner	Compliance
	Chad Delbridge	Wyoming Commissioner	Comm. & Outreach
	Kim Priester	South Carolina Commissioner	Training
	Ben Rasmussen	Utah Commissioner	Rules
	Dianna Ganote	US Department of War	Ex-officio
STAFF	Lindsey Dablow	Interim Executive Director	
	Allie Thomas	Operations Coordinator	
	Trevin Stevens	Communications Associate	
	Darren Embry	General Counsel	
	Samantha Nance	General Counsel	

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

1. Commission Chair Daron Korte (MN) called the meeting to order at 8:09 AM ET on Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

2. Roll call was conducted by Interim Executive Director Lindsey Dablow. A quorum was established.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. **Commissioner Steve Bullard (KY) motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commission Treasurer Greg Lynch (WA). The motion carried.**

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. **Commissioner Ben Rasmussen (UT) motioned to approve the minutes from March 19, 2026, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Ernise Singleton (LA). The motion carried.**

ITEM 5 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

5. **Commissioner Singleton motioned to enter executive session, seconded by Treasurer Lynch. The motion carried, and the Committee entered executive session at 8:19 AM ET.**

6. **The Committee exited the executive session at 8:37 AM ET.**

ITEM 6 – ICEBREAKER AND PURPLE UP! ACTIVITY

7. Communications Associate Trevin Stevens conducted an icebreaker activity and provided information on the Purple Up! activities that the committee would participate in throughout the retreat.

ITEM 7 – REPORTS

8. **Executive Director –** Ms. Dablow provided reports on the citation correction, National Office training and activities, legislative tracking, and the Council of State Governments (CSG) Memo on Personnel Expense Allocation updates. She notified the committee that the commissioners from Illinois and Nebraska would be resigning from their positions and proposed awards based on policy *1-2015 Awards* for each outgoing commissioner for committee approval.

9. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to approve the awards for the Illinois and Nebraska commissioners, seconded by Commissioner Chad Delbridge (WY). The motion carried.**

10. **General Counsel** – General Counsel Samantha Nance reported on the memo regarding proposed legislation from the American Legislative Exchange Council, open records requests received in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, and rules amendment proposals. Ms. Nance reviewed the proposed amendments to policy *2-2022 Open Records Requests* and detailed the recommended language regarding state-specific records.

11. **Commissioner Rasmussen motioned to approve the amendments to Policy *2-2022 Open Records Requests*, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. Commissioner Rasmussen motioned for a technical amendment to further modify the policy, seconded by Vice Chair Gable. The motion carried as amended.**

12. **Ex-officio –** Vice Chair Mary Gable (MD) reported that the ex-officio representatives met in March, where they discussed their 2026 initiatives and opportunities for further engagement with the Commission. The ex-officio organizations were surveyed to gauge their support for a memorandum of understanding and the level of engagement they were seeking.

13. **Communications and Outreach –** Communications and Outreach Committee Chair, Commissioner Delbridge provided an overview of the Communications Plan, outlining the upcoming Commission newsletters, Chair Messages, and webinars. Operations Coordinator Allie Thomas reviewed the Website and Social Media Analytics for FY2026, along with the Collaterals Historical Data, highlighting trends and increases in engagement. Commissioner Delbridge provided an overview of the state activities and proclamations the National Office received for the Month of the Military Child. Mr. Stevens introduced proposed revisions to the Resources page of mic3.net, showcasing new drop-down menus and the relocation of specific features. The approved changes were to be enacted contingent on the Communications & Outreach Committee approval in May.

14. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to approve the proposed revisions to MIC3.net, seconded by Vice Chair Gable. The motion carried.**

15. **Compliance –** Compliance Committee Chair, Commissioner Bullard reported that New Jersey submitted an End-of-Year Report to complete the FY2025 compliance items. He reviewed the updated State Compliance and Coordination Infographic that outlines current compliance submissions for FY2026, along with the Race to the Finish infographic that highlights compliance progress by Tier Group.

16. Ms. Dablow introduced a report pulled from the Zoho customer relationship management software that listed the date of receipt for Compliance items, including Code of Conduct, Conflict of

Interest, End-of-Year Report, State Council Meeting materials, and state dues. She stated that the National Office would utilize Zoho's reporting features for Commission reporting purposes beginning in FY2027.

17. Commissioner Bullard reviewed the updated script and slides for the revised SEC 8.101 Coordination Between States and Commission webinar. He noted that he would be recording the webinar in coordination with the National Office. Department of War Representative Dianna Ganote asked if a line could be added for commissioners to contact their Military Representatives and Subject Matter Experts (SME). The members agreed that the requested information could be added to the slides and script.

18. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to approve the slides and script for the SEC 8.101 Coordination Between States and Commission as amended, seconded by Vice Chair Gable. The motion carried.**

19. **Training –** Training Committee Chair, Commissioner Kim Priester (SC) provided a report on the Training Committee meeting in March, including edited documents and recommendations for the Mentor/Mentee Program and the recommendation to utilize graphics from the 2025 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) for the Training section of the Annual Report. The members agreed to insert the selected Training Committee graphics from the ABM into the Annual Report.

20. Commissioner Priester provided an overview of the revisions made to the MIC3 Mentor Mentee Program Timeline and the New Commissioner Tips documents. Ms. Ganote requested that the links in the attached document be updated and include information regarding Military Representatives.

21. **Commissioner Priester motioned to approve the MIC3 Mentor Mentee Training Program Timeline and New Commissioner Tips as amended, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion carried.**

22. Commissioner Priester reviewed updates to the Duties and Responsibilities of a State Commissioner and State Council webinar script and slides. She would record the new webinar in coordination with the National Office. Ms. Ganote asked if information could be added that explained the roles of the Military Representatives and SMEs. The members agreed that the requested information could be added to the slides and script.

23. **Commissioner Priester motioned to approve the script and slides for the updated Duties and Responsibilities of a State Commissioner and State Council webinar as amended, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion carried.**

24. **Rules –** Rules Committee Chair, Commissioner Rasmussen yielded the floor to Mr. Stevens, who provided an overview of the Case and Inquiry Report and explained the differences between the Zoho and Excel formats. Ms. Ganote encouraged state commissioners to follow the Case Resolution Process by contacting School Liaisons first and redirecting inquiring parents before initiating contact with the National Office. Ms. Dablow clarified that it was a best practice for the National Office to refer cases and inquiries to the School Liaisons to be resolved at the school or local level when possible.

25. Commissioner Rasmussen reported on a proposed Rule amendment to *SEC 4.103 Transfers During Senior Year* that was submitted by the Virginia Commissioner regarding equivalent diplomas. The proposed amendment was up for a 30-day Commission comment period, with one comment received from the state of New York. Ms. Nance provided an overview of the proposed changes. The members discussed the amended language and the case between Virginia and Florida that prompted

the proposed amendment. The Rules Committee would review the proposed amendment and Commission comments once the 30-day period closed in May.

26. Mr. Stevens provided an overview of the six open records requests the National Office received in FY2026 and the cost for fulfilling each request. The amendments to policy *2-2022 Open Records Requests* originated from the receipt of three separate requests for state-specific records that were submitted by Sunlight Access, a third-party requesting service.

27. **Finance –** Ms. Dablow provided an overview of the FY2026 Dues, Budget, and Vanguard Investments, highlighting the five-year fiscal plan and dues increase process. Vice Chair Gable asked how the population data was gathered by the DoW. Ms. Ganote explained the data collection process and how the number of military dependents was calculated for each state and branch of service. Ms. Dablow reviewed the FY2028 Proposed Dues with the 4% increase that would raise the dues from $1.78 to $1.85 per military dependent. She noted where certain calculations were above or below the original projections due to the overall decline in the number of dependents.

28. **Commissioner Singleton motioned to approve the FY2028 Proposed Dues, seconded by Commissioner Delbridge. The motion carried.**

29. **Department of War (DoW) –** Ms. Ganote provided a report on the Defense-State Liaison Office priorities for 2026, the hiring of a new Department of War Education Activity (DOWEA) Director and Academic Officer, and a DoWEA grant program for renovations to public schools located on military installations. She noted that DOD Instruction 1342.29 would be updated to include expansion on the role of the Military Representative and School Liaison Program, with guidance on establishing a council. The FY2026 National Defense Authorization Act would be updated to include education-related resources for service members and their families as they transition between assignments. The Joint Service School Liaison training was postponed until November or December, with more information forthcoming. Ms. Ganote concluded her report by stating that the homeschool support report was in progress, with seventeen or eighteen resulting items for the DoW to tackle over the next few years, with some initiatives already in progress.

ITEM 8 – OLD BUSINESS

30. **Council of State Governments Memorandum of Agreement –** Ms. Dablow reviewed the CSG Memorandum of Agreement that was introduced by CSG General Counsel Jacob Walbourn at the EXCOM meeting in March. No further comments or discussion were proposed.

31. **Commissioner Lynch motioned to approve the CSG Memorandum of Agreement, seconded by Vice Chair Gable. The motion carried.**

ITEM 9 – NEW BUSINESS

32. **Vice Chair Appointment Guide –** Ms. Dablow introduced a draft of the Vice Chair Appointment Guide that was outlined in the first goal of the Strategic Plan. The members discussed the potential vice chair responsibilities and whether a person could serve as a vice chair on multiple committees. Technical edits were provided for the guide's verbiage. The EXCOM would review the final copy for approval in May.

33. **Fiscal Budgeting Process –** Treasurer Lynch gave a presentation on the five-year budget plan, including suggestions for increased stakeholder involvement, enhanced communication and feedback, and contracting for specific needs.

34. **Tier Group Facilitator Role Expansion –** Ms. Dablow provided an overview of the Tier Groups and general meeting content. The members discussed the role of the facilitator and what information the Commission wanted to obtain from the Tier Groups.

35. **Tier Group Spring Meeting –** Ms. Dablow introduced a draft of the Tier Group Spring Meeting Agenda, noting the recommendations for discussion topics based on current Commission events and proposed rule amendments. The members agreed on the discussion topics with technical amendments to the agenda. The agenda would be reviewed with the Tier Group Facilitators prior to the summer meetings.

36. Ms. Dablow noted the vacancy of the Tier Group Three Facilitator that was previously held by Commissioner Rasmussen. Commissioner Rasmussen provided recommendations to fill the position, and Chair Korte selected a commissioner whom he would request to be the facilitator.

37. **Zoho Commissioner Reporting –** Mr. Stevens reviewed the Zoho compliance data and the Case and Inquiry Report, reiterating the FY2027 shift to using Zoho to create reports in place of manually tracking the data in Excel.

38. **Quorum Legislative Tracking –** Ms. Dablow provided an overview of the Legislative Tracking Map on Quorum, stating the National Office was diligently including the information in the Chair Message and monitoring relevant bills for the states. No feedback was received regarding the usage of the database.

Chair Korte recessed the meeting at 3:13 PM ET.

Chair Korte called the meeting to order on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 8:00 AM ET.

ITEM 9 – NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

39. **Commissioner Role and Responsibilities Guidance for Appointing Authorities –** Ms. Dablow reviewed the third goal of the Strategic Plan, which included providing sufficient information to select well-qualified commissioners to the appointing authority. The members discussed current practices for filling vacancies and the onboarding process, and reviewed the Commissioner Job description draft that was provided by Educational Management Solutions following their organization analysis and review at the 2024 ABM.

40. Treasurer Lynch recommended using the term "uniform-connected" in place of "military" for consistency in all documents. Ms. Ganote suggested correcting the appointment process for the Military Representative and adding a requirement in the onboarding process for new commissioners to contact their Military Representative or state SME to initiate communications. The National Office would provide the first round of edits for the EXCOM to review in May.

41. **State Programming Guidance –** Ms. Dablow reviewed edits to the Good, Better, Best Practices document that were provided by the Compliance Committee. Commissioner Bullard noted that the Compliance Committee members were uncertain about the Good, Better, Best labels but did not propose alternative titles. He recommended titling it "Best Practices." Vice Chair Gable suggested the title "Highlighting State Best Practices," emphasizing that there was no competition between the states. The National Office would compile specific questions to ask the standing committees and Tier

Groups to see where they aligned and gather recommendations, then the document would be restructured and released for further feedback.

42. **MIC3 Ex-officio Evaluation Process –** Ms. Dablow reported that the Finance Committee had referred this topic to the EXCOM for discussion following its review of policy *2-2023 Ex-officio Organization Application Process*. The Finance Committee wanted to ensure that the Commission had the resources to maintain the current ex-officio organizations before potentially adding more. The members discussed evaluating the benefits and costs of being an ex-officio partner, looking into how similar compacts utilize their ex-officio organizations, outlining expectations and engagement, and addressing the difference in organizations that ask to join the Commission vs the ones that the Commission asks to join. Ms. Dablow would gather information from CSG on their process for the EXCOM to review, and then the Communications & Outreach Committee would provide further feedback and suggestions on the Ex-officio Organization Application Process.

43. **Commission Student Representative –** Ms. Dablow introduced the Arkansas Student Advisory Council document, noting that the goal to "empower student voices" listed in the Strategic Plan was not defined. The members discussed the best ways to include and engage with students during Commission meetings. Chair Korte suggested creating a council of military teens, and Ms. Ganote recommended pairing student representatives with advisors such as School Liaisons. Commissioner Delbridge suggested participation from Purple Star Schools, which are required to have student leadership as part of their program. The members agreed further research and discussion were needed before determining a way forward. The EXCOM will continue to work on this strategic item.

44. **End-of-Year Reporting: Standing Committee Recommendations –** Mr. Stevens provided an overview of the questions that were presented to the standing committees regarding the End-of-Year Report and the recommendations that were received. The EXCOM recommended sending the standing committee suggestions back to the Compliance Committee for their feedback and to establish why the data would be collected and used.

45. **2026 ABM –** Mr. Stevens provided an overview of the cost analysis for the 2026 ABM, noting increases in the room rate at the JW Marriott, Audio-Visual costs, and catering due to inflation. The members discussed the differences in breakout room costs and food minimums at the National Collegiate Athletics Association. The members agreed to utilize the breakout rooms over two meeting days.

46. The members discussed ABM registration fees and the current fee structure, including the benefits and reasoning for early and late categories. The discussion on raising or maintaining the fee structure was tabled until May.

47. The members agreed to use a digital Docket Book at the 2026 ABM.

48. Mr. Stevens presented theme suggestions for the ABM. The members agreed by acclamation to accept the theme "Supporting Educational Success for Children of Uniformed Service Members."

49. Ms. Dablow presented a draft agenda for the ABM, noting discussion topics and recommendations for guest speakers and panels for the EXCOM and state host to consider.

50. **2027 ABM –** Mr. Stevens provided an overview of the 2027 ABM Site Selection and Cost Analysis, outlining the differences between Boise, Idaho, and Little Rock or Bentonville, Arkansas. He noted that Boise was unable to meet the Commission's accommodation requirements and detailed the

cost differences between Little Rock and Bentonville. The members indicated the need for further discussion and research on locations that were centrally located or easily accessible hubs for 2028.

51. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to select Bentonville, Arkansas, as the site for the 2027 ABM, seconded by Vice Chair Gable. The motion carried.**

ITEM 10 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

52. No other business or announcements were provided for discussion.

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

53. Chair Korte thanked the members for attending and voiced appreciation for their hard work and leadership on the EXCOM.

54. With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM ET on Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

Submitted respectfully by,
Lindsey Dablow
Secretary