

**Interstate Commission for Juveniles
Executive Committee Conference Call
2/26/2009**

In Attendance:

- 1) Donna Bonner (TX) Commissioner – Chair
- 2) Dennis Casarona (KS) Commissioner – Treasurer
- 3) Jean Hall (FL) Commissioner – Training, Education, and PR Committee Chair
- 4) Ray Wahl (UT) Commissioner – IT Committee Chair
- 5) Gary Hartman (WY) Commissioner – Rules Committee Chair
- 6) Judy Miller (AR) Designee – Southern Region Representative
- 7) Dale Dodd (NM) Commissioner – Western Region Representative
- 8) Rick Masters -- CSG
- 9) Keith Scott -- CSG
- 10) Amy Vandervort-Clark – CSG
- 11) Crady deGolian – CSG
- 12) John Mountjoy – CSG

Absent:

- 1) Larry Callicut (ID) Commissioner – Vice-Chair
- 2) Lisa Bjergaard (ND) Commissioner – Midwestern Regional Representative
- 3) Terry Clark (PA) Designee – Eastern Regional Representative

Roll Call – Keith Scott, CSG

- Keith Scott called the roll. Seven committee members were present ensuring a quorum.

Approval of Agenda – Donna Bonner, Chair

- Donna Bonner made a motion to have the agenda that was circulated by Keith Scott approved.
 - Dale Dodd seconded this motion and the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes – Donna Bonner, Chair

- Chair Bonner moved to have the minutes from the previous call adopted.
 - Judy Miller noted two minor typos.
 - The first change was at the top of page 2. Judy noted that it should read “a list of non-member states.”
 - The second change was on page 3 under the bullet about the Connections Newsletter. Judy noted “semi-annual” should be hyphenated.
 - Nobody else noticed anything from the minutes from the previous call.
 - Donna requested the minutes be approved with Judy’s changes.
 - Dennis Casarona seconded and the minutes from the last call were approved.

Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

Executive Committee – Donna Bonner, Chair

- Chair Bonner noted that the committee chairs were approved during the last call.
 - Each committee has met for the first time with the exception of the compliance committee.
 - Mike Ruedisale will let Donna know by the first of next week if he will be able to serve as the committee chair.
- Donna also notified the committee that she has been working with Rick Masters and the CSG staff to get the remaining designees' status resolved.
 - At the moment there are only four designees in question.
- Donna has also been working with CSG staff to get the web page fully operational.
- She also mentioned the National Juvenile Justice Conference's annual meeting is approaching. Others on the executive committee did not think it was appropriate for the commission to send a representative at this point, but maybe appropriate to attend in the future.
 - May also want to consider having that group serve in an ex-officio capacity moving forward.
- ICPC has been in touch with Donna about presenting at their annual meeting in April in San Antonio.
 - Discussions are preliminary at this point, but she wanted to at least bring it to the group's attention.
 - Judy Miller asked Donna how close they are to getting the new ICPC written.
 - From the information that Donna has received, it seems that it may be a long way off. They have had a couple of rewrites even after it was passed in several states.
 - Rick Masters also noted that the group is struggling because they don't have the resources or funding that we did.
 - Ray Wahl let the group know that Robyn Williams from UT was involved in the drafting process and told Ray a little about the process. He noted that there were several issues of confusion.
 - It was noted that the Commission may need to work with ICPC moving forward to ensure that the two compacts are working in tandem.
 - There was especially some concern about which youth should go through ICPC.
 - Donna suggested this is something that the rules committee may need to consider.
 - With that in mind, Rick Masters suggested Ray Wahl make a formal motion to send this issue to the rules committee.
 - Ray made the motion and Dale Dodd seconded.
 - Judy Miller added that the group does not need to focus solely on children in facilities, but also needs to consider dual jurisdiction youth. The commission needs to ensure we determine which avenue is most appropriate on an individual basis and do what is in the best interest of the child.

- Rick suggested the original motion be amended to allow the rules committee to determine which track is most appropriate.
 - Ray and Dale both agreed to this amendment and the motion carried.

Finance Committee – Dennis Casarona, Treasurer, Finance Committee Member

- Lisa Bjergaard was at the North Dakota state capitol and unable to participate on the call so Dennis Casarona gave the report.
- He notified everyone that the Finance Committee met on 2/18/2009 with the goal of determining its role.
 - The committee hit on three primary issues during the first call.
 - The first was the budget for FY 2010. While the bottom line is solid, Dennis stated individual line items may need to be adjusted. The committee would take the lead and make adjustments as needed before submitting to the executive committee for review and approval.
 - The Finance Committee should be involved in the monitoring and collection of dues.
 - The final issue the committee discussed was the periodic review of dues allocation. The group agreed that establishing some kind of standard review process was essential.
 - Dennis also added Paul Gibson made a suggestion that the Finance Committee be involved in the search for additional funding opportunities, such as grants, that could provide financial resources to the commission moving forward.
 - This committee will meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 11:00 am ET.

Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee – Jean Hall, Chair

- Jean Hall notified everyone that the Training, Education, and PR Committee met on 2/5/2009 and established sub-committees to work on the various issues.
 - One sub-group will work to develop a seal for the new compact.
 - Jean stated that the group wanted to work on a bench book, using the Adult Compact's bench book as a model. However, Rick Masters informed them that the book was copyrighted. In addition, much of the information could not be adapted to the juvenile compact as the information was focused only on that compact. That project has been put on hold pending funding.
 - The Adult compact uses something similar.
 - Another sub-committee will be developing training tools for compact commissioners and field staff.
 - Jean also added that the group would also like to develop some online training tools to reduce costs.
 - Another sub-committee will work on PR materials.
 - Ray Wahl asked if it would be possible to receive permission from ICAOS to utilize different parts of their bench book, even though it is copyrighted

- Rick Masters noted that this was possible to some extent, but that some of the material such as case citations and rules will be specific to the juvenile compact.
- Jean noted that this committee will meet on the first Thursday of every month from 3-4 pm ET.

Rules Committee – Gary Hartman, Chair

- Gary Hartman notified the group that the rules committee has already held two teleconferences and has set a goal of having the committee's work finished by July. Gary stated that doing so would allow the committee's work to be circulated to the entire commission for review in advance of the next annual meeting.
 - On the first call held on 2/6/2009, the group decided to meet every two weeks to work through the existing AJCA rules as a full committee.
 - During the second meeting on 2/11/09, the original plan was reworked and the committee broke into sub-committees. Each sub-committee was tasked with working through a sub-section of the existing rules. The sub-committee would then bring their work back to the full rules committee for review, discussion, and approval.
 - The entire group will come back together on March 11th to discuss the work of the various sub-committees.
 - Dale Dodd raised a question about who would be discussing and establishing forms for the commission. Gary let him know that the rules committee will be addressing this issue, but that they will probably defer it until later in the process.
 - The group meets every other Wednesday. On 3/11/09, all of the sub-committees will meet again.

Compliance Committee

- Chair Bonner noted there is no compliance committee report at this time (see above for additional details).

IT Committees -- Ray Wahl, Chair

- Ray Wahl notified the group that the committee held an organizational meeting on 2/17/2009.
 - The first task the committee will try and tackle is the development of the Commission's Website.
- The committee will also take the lead on the development of the tracking and data collection system.
 - At this point there is no money in the budget for either project, so it will likely be some time before either is developed.
- The group is developing a survey for the states to complete regarding their data systems.
- The group will begin researching grants available for planning and development.
- The group meets every third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm MT.

Regional Reports – Regional Representatives

Eastern Region – Terry Clark

- Terry Clark was not present on the call so no report for the Eastern Region was given.

Midwestern Region – Lisa Bjergaard

- Lisa Bjergaard was not present on the call so no report for the Midwestern Region was given.

Southern Region – Judy Miller

- Judy Miller had several items to report from the Southern Region.
 - First, she is still working on being appointed Arkansas' official designee.
 - Judy also notified the committee that she recently received a call from a State Representative in Mississippi who was looking for information about the compact.
 - She referred him to his compact office and Keith Scott with CSG, but Keith had not heard from him yet.
 - Judy has not spoken with any of the other states at this point.

Western Region -- Dale Dodd

- Dale Dodd sent out an e-mail to all non-member states in his region letting them know he was the regional representative and if they had any question they could contact him.
 - He did recently have a question from HI about how transfers will be handled once there is only one state remaining in the old compact. Dale answered the question and also notified Rick Masters about the inquiry.
 - Dale did note that HI has introduced the compact into the legislature for consideration.
 - Rick stated that he provided HI with written testimony at their request. He has heard positive comments about the committee hearing in HI, though he remains unsure if there is time to get the legislation passed before the session ends.
 - No other states in the West have introduced that Dale is aware of.

Legal Counsel Report – Rick Masters, CSG

- At this point, Donna Bonner suggested the committee allow Rick Masters to provide his report so he can get off the call as quickly as possible to meet another obligation.
- Rick noted that he corrected the section of the MOU discussed during the last call to reflect the fact that the commission is a governmental entity with separate tax status.
 - There are, however, some other issues with the documents surrounding the MOU that are slowing down the process.
 - Keith Scott noted that there are several standard CSG documents that Rick has not had an opportunity to review yet.
 - These documents will be sent to Rick for review and then circulated to the entire commission for approval.
 - With that in mind, Keith suggested we defer this discussion until Rick has had an opportunity to review everything.
 - Rick concurred and suggested we defer this discussion to the next executive committee meeting.

- He also added that there is no need for a motion. This can simply be placed under old business during the next call.
- Rick also discussed the role of Ex-Officio members on the Commission.
 - He notified the committee that there are several different organizations we might consider adding as ex-officio members.
 - While many of these groups were invited to the meeting in Las Vegas, Rick felt it would be appropriate to send another letter inviting them to serve under the newly formed Commission's signature.
 - The group might also invite Rep. Damron to serve as the legislative representative.
 - Rick asked Chair Bonner to issue letters to each prospective ex-officio member inviting them to accept the status as an ex-officio member of the commission and to appoint a representative. Chair Bonner agreed to do so.
- Rick also discussed designee status going forward as it pertains to the four remaining states.
 - Rick suggested working through the Governor's office in each state to try and get each of the four squared away as quickly as possible.
- The final matter Rick brought to the attention of the committee was the issue of proxies, which became an issue on several committee calls recently. The compact does not mention the use of proxies, only designees.
 - Rick noted that proxies were welcome to listen in and participate in the discussion
 - The only real issue was that the proxy could not vote.
 - Keith Scott suggested we make this announcement at the beginning of each call where we have reason to know that proxies are present on the call.
- Ray Wahl asked if ex-officio members were allowed to vote.
 - Rick noted that they are not, though they can participate fully in all commission discussions.
- Rick left the call at this point.

CSG/NCIC Report – Keith Scott, CSG

- Keith Scott gave the CSG/NCIC report.
 - Executive Director hiring process.
 - Keith recently circulated two job descriptions to the group designed to serve as a starting point for the search process.
 - Keith suggested that a search team be established and let them take the responsibility for modifying and selecting the search template.
 - The search team can also establish how the position will be advertised.
 - Donna Bonner requested this issue be deferred until new business.
 - Dues Invoice.
 - CSG will send the invoice out for the first time in the middle of March and then a second identical notice toward the end of May.

- Ray Wahl asked for clarification regarding the second notice. If a state has already paid or is in the process of paying, would that state receive a second notice?
 - Keith assured the group that CSG already has a system in place to address his concern.
 - Judy Miller requested that the actual invoice go directly to her.
 - Dale Dodd raised a concern about ensuring that the address is correct for remittance of payment.
 - Jean Hall asked if a state could pay with credit card. Keith noted this was fine.
 - Donna Bonner asked if there was a motion to approve the invoice procedure Keith outlined.
 - Ray Wahl made the motion.
 - Jean Hall seconded and the motion carried.
- Amy Vandervort-Clark with CSG updated the group on non-compacting states.
 - Alaska introduced this week.
 - Mississippi has passed a version in both houses, and CSG is optimistic about it moving forward.
 - Oregon, which is not in session this year, has a working group session scheduled for today.
 - Ray Wahl asked about Massachusetts.
 - Amy noted that there is no word yet. The bill that was in play last session is now dead because MA does not carry legislation over.
 - CSG is trying to get in touch with Sen. McGee's office to see if he is going to carry the bill again.
- Ray Wahl asked if the committee could take a few minutes to discuss the document Keith sent out yesterday about when dues will be due for the new compacting states.
 - Ray suggested we consider prorating the dues. Keith thought this was a possibility, though it may need to be considered by the Finance Committee.
 - Dennis Casarona agreed with the suggestion of prorating. He thought it might provide an additional incentive for non-member states during tough economic times.
 - Dennis added that he would be happy to take this to the Finance Committee for discussion and a recommendation.
 - Group agreed prorating may provide a selling point to legislatures.
 - Donna Bonner suggested the subject be referred to the Finance Committee for a recommendation by the next Executive Committee meeting.

Old Business – Donna Bonner, Chair

- Chair Bonner notified the committee that if Mike Ruedisale does not accept the compliance committee chair she would like to appoint Summer Foxworth.
- Donna would also like to appoint Larry Callicut and Dennis Casarona to serve on the executive director search committee. They would represent the West and Midwest Regions.

- She would also like to eventually appoint Judy Miller and Terry Clark once they get their designee status resolved. They would represent the South and East Regions.
 - Donna motioned to appoint Larry and Dennis – Ray Wahl seconded and the motion carried.
 - Donna also motioned that in the event that Terry and Judy’s status gets resolved, they also be appointed to the committee. Jean Hall seconded and the motion passed.

New Business – Donna Bonner, Chair

- Under new business, Chair Bonner noted that the next meeting will be March the 26th at 10:00 AM CST (same time as today’s call).
- The other issue under new business pertains to Indiana Parole.
 - Starting April 1, the Indiana Department of Corrections will no longer be providing parole services to their juveniles or those referred through ICJ.
 - Ron Leffler and Donna have been in contact. Ron will keep Donna in the loop moving forward.
 - If ICJ parolees are not accepted by Indiana ICJ – Probation, it will likely become an issue for mediation.
 - Donna noted that Indiana is an old compacting state, which adds another wrinkle.
 - Dale Dodd suggested a letter from the Commission and AJCA reminding Indiana of their obligations under the old compact.
 - Donna thought this was a great idea, but wanted to get something in writing to ensure she fully understands what exactly is happening.
- Donna noted that she has also had some discussions about when the next annual meeting will be.
 - She will continue discussions with CSG and bring some suggestions regarding timing and locations to the group at the next call.
- Donna asked if there was any other new business.
 - Hearing none, the call was adjourned.