

ICJ Compact  
Finance Committee Conference Call  
2/18/09

In Attendance:

- 1) Dennis Casarona (KS) Commissioner, Commission Treasurer
- 2) Paul Gibson (KY) Commissioner
- 3) Gloria Soja (MT) Designee
- 4) Susan Morris (OK), Commissioner
- 5) Beth Meng (LA) Commissioner
- 6) Lisa Bjergaard (ND) Commissioner, Committee Chair
- 7) Donna Bonner (TX), Commissioner, Commission Chair, Ex-Officio Member
- 8) Crady deGolian, CSG

- Lisa Bjergaard had a conflict and joined the call a little after it began.
- Dennis Casarona went ahead and led the call based on a conversation he had previously with Lisa Bjergaard and Donna Bonner.
  - Dennis pointed out that at this point the role of the finance committee is probably not as well defined as others. Despite that he thought there were at least three important issues the committee needed to consider.
    - First, the budget that was considered and ultimately adopted in Las Vegas will probably need to be tweaked. Dennis did not think the bottom line would change, but did think individual line items may have to be adjusted.
      - This is something the group will probably need to address and then take up with the executive committee.
    - Dennis also thought the allocation of dues might become an issue moving forward.
      - There was a great deal of discussion about this in Las Vegas and it might be something the committee should consider with the goal of establishing an effective method of explaining this to the entire commission.
      - Paul Gibson thought this would be an ongoing matter that we need to consider and tweak from time to time.
      - Dennis agreed. This is something that should be subject to periodic review. Real question is does this belong in the finance committee?
    - The final issue that Dennis thought the group should consider was the receipt of dues.
      - Dennis thought that it was essential that the committee establish some kind of method to review and track dues payments.
- Paul Gibson raised the question about the finance committee being involved in identifying potential grants opportunities.
  - Dennis Casarona thought this was an excellent suggestion and one that might become even more relevant once we get an executive director online.

- Neither Dennis nor Paul are aware of anything that would prevent the commission from pursuing additional sources of funding.
  - Paul also suggested there may be private foundation that the committee could tap into in order to fund special projects publicizing the compact.
    - Paul thought an effectiveness study of some sort could provide positive publicity that would benefit the commission.
- Dennis Casarona next asked if anybody present on the call has any issues or concerns for discussion.
  - Susan Morris asked where funding is coming from for this year.
    - CSG still has money from OJJDP grant that will carry through for the remainder of the year.
- Chair Lisa Bjergaard just joined in the call.
  - She reviewed the discussion she had with Dennis Casarona and Donna Bonner in advance of the first committee call, noting each of the three issues Dennis discussed above.
    - Reviewing and monitoring receipt of dues;
    - Taking the lead on budget matters; and
    - The current allocation of dues.
- Lisa Bjergaard would like to have some discussions with the accounting department at CSG about generating reports to better understand how funds are being allocated and spent.
  - She thought this information would be beneficial to the committee as it determines what direction to take moving forward.
- Susan Morris also raised the question about understanding and being involved in the auditing process.
  - Group thought this was a good suggestion.
- Dennis Casarona thought the committee may also need to establish a policy for collecting and allocating money collected as a result of sanctions and fees.
  - At this point Dennis is still unclear on who would even be responsible for collecting this money should a problem occur.
  - He did think the finance committee may have a role to play in these instances, though it is still undetermined what it might be.
    - Group did not think the committee would be responsible for collecting money, but that they may be involved in the oversight and allocation process.
  - Donna Bonner noted that the bylaws permit the treasurer to be bonded so that they may receive all types of commission funds.
    - Dennis may need to discuss this more with CSG staff.
- To conclude Lisa Bjergaard asked Donna Bonner how frequently the committee should meet.

- Donna noted there is no firm rule in place, but that the other committees are meeting at least once a month for the time being.
- Lisa asked the committee if another call in a month would work for everyone.
  - The committee thought once month was reasonable.
- Donna noted that most of the committees have established the next date during the call.
  - Group settled on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. EST.
    - Next meeting will be 3/24/09.