



Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

Midwest Region Meeting MINUTES

September 22, 2021 – 2:00 pm ET
Video Conference

Members in Attendance:

1. Russell Marlan (MI), Chair
2. Sally Kreamer (IA)
3. Mary Kay Hudson (IN)
4. Hope Cooper (KS)
5. Allen Godfrey (MN)
6. Sally Reinhardt-Stewart (NE)
7. Amy Vorachek (ND)
8. Katrina Ransom (OH)
9. Bradley Lewandowski (SD)
10. Joselyn López (WI)

Members not in attendance:

1. Rebecca Walton (IL)

Guests:

1. Heather Bell (IA)
2. Simona Hammond (IA)
3. Christina Nottingham (IL)
4. Holly Kassube (IL)
5. Joan Coons (IL)
6. Molly Dearing (IL)
7. Sydney McClendon (IL)
8. Angie Hensley-Langrel (IN)
9. April Simmons (IN)
10. Ian Doyle (IN)
11. Joel Gruber (IN)
12. Nita Wright (IN) Nita Wright
13. Matthew Billinger (KS)
14. Daryn Cobb (MI)
15. Amanda Kohlbeck (MN)
16. Fawn Wilson (MN)
17. Jessica Raptis (MN)
18. Patrick Smith (MN)
19. Rebecca Hillestead (MN)
20. Tracy Hudrlik (MN)
21. Alyssa Miller (ND)
22. Sylvia Larson (ND)
23. Blair Hofeldt (NE)

24. Jacey Rader (NE)
25. Susan Barnard (NE)
26. Daniel S. Smith (OH)
27. Kristen Golden (OH)
28. Suzanne Brooks (OH)
29. Cheryl Frost (SD)
30. Chuck Frieberg (SD)
31. Sarah Ball (SD)
32. Brenna Puestow (WI)

Staff:

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director
2. Allen Eskridge, Policy and Operations Director
3. Barno Saturday, Logistics and Administrative Coordinator
4. Mindy Spring, Administrative and Training Coordinator
5. Xavier Donnelly, ICOTS Project Manager

Call to Order

Chair R. Marlan (MI) called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm ET. Ten out of eleven voting members were present, a quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Commissioner A. Vorachek (ND) moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner A. Godfrey (MN) seconded. Agenda approved.

Commissioner M. Hudson (IN) moved to approve the minutes from July 22, 2021 meeting as drafted. Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) seconded. Minutes approved.

Discussion

Review rule and ICOTS enhancement proposals for Commission's consideration at the 2021 Annual Business Meeting. Chair R. Marlan (MI) stated that the national office provided a training on the proposed ICOTS and Rules amendments yesterday. He asked if the region members had any comments about the proposals.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that at the training, she led the breakout room discussion on the proposal to amend Rule 1.101 Definition of Resident. She did not receive any questions directly related to the amendment.

Commissioner M. Hudson (IN), Rules Committee chair, led the breakout room discussion on warrant proposal package. Some participants expressed concerns with ability to comply, including COVID related reductions in courts' efficiency. She reiterated that the proposed amendments increased the warrant timeframes compared to the current rules. She continues to inform states that the Commission would work with them on the training and compliance levels.

Commissioner A. Godfrey (MN) participated in the same breakout session. He noted many states, including Minnesota, would have challenges implementing the proposed package, however, it was important to remember that it was the commissioners' responsibility to influence various

stakeholders to comply with the Compact rules. He thanked the Rules Committee for the well-crafted rules and addressing states' concerns.

DCA T. Hudrlik (MN) attended the breakout session on warrant tracking ICOTS enhancement. She asked about ways to remove a warrant notification in ICOTS when an offender with a new felony conviction is incarcerated and the sending state does not issue the warrant. The national office was looking into the issue.

States' COVID-19 Update: Chair R. Marlan (MI) asked states to share updates on how their state is currently handling the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that Michigan's supervision population declined by 21%. The agency was dealing with employees' vaccination and testing requirements. Their courts had large backlogs. Most notably their biggest issue is the high transportation costs to transport offenders.

Commissioner S. Kreamer (IA) stated that Iowa had similar problems with offender transportation. Over 70% of their incarcerated population was vaccinated.

Commissioner A. Godfrey (MN) stated that Minnesota has had a 13% supervision decline in the last year. Their agency was operating full staff and continued to supervise cases. MN government employees are required to provide proof of vaccination or be tested weekly.

Commissioner J. Lopez (WI) noted that Wisconsin had similar COVID related vaccine and testing requirements as Minnesota. No requirements were imposed on the supervised population causing concerns among staff. The agency was also experiencing problems with the high cost of offender transportation services.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the East Region expressed similar problems associated with offender transportation services. In addition, the states reported difficulties filling staff vacancies. They had no executive orders in place impacting Compact operations. The South Region reported issues with jail space and travel restrictions for state employees.

FY 2023 Dues Assessment changes based on 2020 census and offender numbers: Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the dues assessment formula in use since 2002 was outlined in the Rule 2.103: $((State\ Population/US\ Population) + (State\ Offender\ Transfers/Total\ US\ Offender\ Transfers))/2$. In 2002, calculations relied on population data from the US Census Bureau and the US Department of Commerce. In addition, the Commission incorporated a population estimate for compact offenders. At that time, there were additional estimates and adjustments for territory data due to incomplete information. As applied, the formula produced results for all states that were subsequently divided into five tiers.

In 2008, the Executive Committee added an additional tier for the US Virgin Islands per an ad hoc finance committee finding. This tiering distribution continued uninterrupted with an adjustment in dues calculation based on population figures from the 2010 decennial Census through FY 2022's assessment.

The 2020 decennial Census provided an opportunity to update state populations and evaluate any resulting change in individual as well as Commission-wide funding totals. Based on this data, the following individual state tier changes:

- Idaho increases from Tier 2 to Tier 3;
- Tennessee increases from Tier 3 to Tier 4;
- Michigan decreases from Tier 4 to Tier 3; and,
- Florida increases from Tier 5 to Tier 6.

One Midwest Region state, Michigan, was affected by census changes.

Under the proposed FY 2023 dues scenario using the newest decennial Census figures, total revenue increases slightly more than one percent.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that the region members could find the detailed census changes and budget information in the 2021 ABM Docket book.

The region members did not have any comments on this matter.

Old Business/New Business

Region chair election: Chair R. Marlan (MI) asked for any nominations from the floor for region chair.

Chair R. Marlan (MI) nominated Commissioner S. Kreamer (IA) for Midwest Region Chair. Commissioner J. Lopez (WI) seconded. Commissioner S. Kreamer accepted the nomination. Motion passed.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that Chair Marlan would serve as the Midwest Region Chair until the end of this Annual Business Meeting. She invited Commissioner S. Kreamer to attend the next week's ABM Executive Committee meeting as a guest.

Commissioner J. Lopez (WI) stated that last month, Wisconsin passed Act #53 requiring the majority of offenders who transfer to the State of Wisconsin to provide a DNA sample.

Adjourn

Commissioner H. Cooper (KS) moved to adjourn. Commissioner S. Kreamer (IA) seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm ET.