



Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

Executive Committee Meeting MINUTES

August 17, 2022 @ 12 p.m. ET
Video conference

Members in Attendance:

1. Jeremiah Stromberg (OR), Chair
2. Gary Roberge (CT), Treasurer
3. Chris Moore (GA), Information Technology Chair
4. Mary Kay Hudson (IN), Rules Committee Chair
5. Mac Pevey (WA), West Region Chair
6. Dale Crook (VT), East Region Chair
7. Joselyn López (WI), Training, Education and Public Relations Committee Chair
8. Sally Kreamer (IA), Midwest Region Chair
9. Julie Kempker (MO), South Region Chair
10. Suzanne Brooks (OH), DCA Liaison Committee Chair, Ex-Officio
11. John Gillis (NOVA), Ex-Officio

Members not in Attendance:

12. Hope Cooper (KS), Vice-Chair
13. Allen Godfrey (MN), Compliance Committee Chair

Guests:

1. Meghan Novisky, Univ. of Cincinnati
2. Timothy Edgemon, Univ. of Cincinnati
3. Andrew Krebs, Univ. of Cincinnati
4. Merinda Smith, Univ. of Cincinnati

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
6. Drake Greott, Web Development Manager

Call to Order

Chair J. Stromberg (OR) called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. ET; nine voting members were present; a quorum was established.

Agenda and Minutes

Commissioner G. Roberge (CT) moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner M. Pevey (WA) seconded. Motion approved.

Commissioner G. Roberge (CT) moved to approve the minutes from July 20, 2022, meeting as drafted. Commissioner J. Kempker (MO) seconded. Motion approved.

Discussion

Compact Study Group: Chair J. Stromberg (OR) welcomed the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute team of researchers who have been working on the Compact study. The entire Commission will receive a briefing in late September.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that the researchers had been looking at how the Compact has been meeting its goals and that they had released a draft report. There were still several things left to evaluate; however, the researchers offered to share some of their initial impressions and challenges.

Dr. T. Edgemon explained that this initial phase of research was intended to be very exploratory. First, there was an analysis of historical documents with an emphasis on the development of the ICOTS system. Next, there was a survey component sent out to all active supervision officers in the U.S., approximately 13,000. This survey generated a 26-27% response rate. Finally, there were conducted interviews of 23 supervision officers as well as 7 justice-involved individuals.

The report contains an analysis of the survey data. The remaining work includes some historical analysis as well as interview analysis.

Presentation of findings at the Annual Business Meeting will include a broad overview of the report to reflect the emphasis on the study and what has been learned from past research. Next, there will be a review of the history, the survey data, and the interviews.

Dr. A. Krebs noted that telephone interviews were conducted across 18 states to determine what they experienced as officers using ICOTS as well as how they navigate the transfer process in general.

Dr. M. Novisky interviewed seven justice-involved individuals across six states. Questions centered on their experience with the transfer process. There were challenges related to the accuracy of contact information for prospective interviewees. Communication appeared to be a significant issue noted both by supervising officers and justice-involved individuals.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that the report highlighted communication issues between states, particularly around issues involving retaking. Many states noted differences between in-state and out-of-state supervision. These differences centered on the length of time to resolve violations for in-state versus transferred justice-involved individuals.

Dr. A. Krebs provided further detail, stating that Compact processes created inherent delays. Officers appeared to have frustration around the added processes required for Compact supervision as well as the potential for communication issues.

Dr. T. Edgemon also noted that there was a significant proportion (75%) of respondents who felt confident and positive about the system. He added that interviewees offered feedback for improvement.

Chair J. Stromberg said that our primary focus at the ABM was to evaluate how the Compact met its goals and what goals the Compact should have for the next 20 years. This study was intended to be an integral part of that process.

Commissioner G. Roberge asked whether there would be other historical research and data to review regarding communication and information sharing. He also wondered whether there were more recent studies to cite or review.

Dr. T. Edgemon explained that the agency records went back to 2009 because it was the first year the ICOTS system was fully functional. There were no studies that looked into interstate transfers and the impact of compacts. As a result, the literature review consisted of more current theories on supervision in general.

Dr. A. Krebs stated that the officers felt the compact system was fine but that the ICOTS system had lagged. There was an acknowledgment that the lag had decreased over the life of the compact but that it remained an issue.

Chair J. Stromberg thanked the researchers and noted that the final work product would be forthcoming.

Reports

Compliance Committee report: Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the committee has not met since the last Executive Committee meeting.

DCA Liaison Committee report: DCA S. Brooks (OH) stated that the committee has not met. Next month, region chairs will be meeting with the national office and DCA Brooks to prepare for the ABM.

Finance Committee report: Commissioner G. Roberge (CT) provided an account update to the committee: current accounts - \$2.282 million in Vanguard, it is down nearly 6% from last July. \$1.5 million in the savings account. Most states have paid their dues and the national office is not anticipating any problems. The committee will meet in August.

The Treasurer has met with regions to talk about the dues increase proposal, including the West, South, and East regions. All meetings went well and were well-received by regional representatives.

Chair J. Stromberg noted that he was pleased with the responsiveness of the Commission and that the logic to increase annual dues was sound and difficult to refute.

Executive Director A. Lippert thanked Commissioner Roberge for his availability to discuss the issues with regions.

Technology Committee Report: Chair C. Moore (GA) stated that over the past 30 days there have been 143 help desk tickets, all of which were solved. Most of the tickets were related to the handling of junk offenders.

The RFP for migration of ICOTS was published on August 1. Of 17 companies directly contacted, four have expressed interest in the project. Appriss has assigned a dedicated project manager related to the transition.

Director A. Lippert stated that the RFP has been listed on the IJIS website as well as on a national repository for RFPs. In addition to the four noted by the Technology Committee chair, a fifth respondent came in on the date of the Executive Committee meeting.

The first phase of the project is to migrate away from Appriss. The second phase is to make improvements or rewrite/redesign the system. The vendors selected may not be the same for each phase. Many vendors responded that they were not interested in working in another vendor's code. It is therefore believed that there may be much more interest in the second phase versus this initial project. Questions related to the project may be received through August 19 and will be responded to by August 26. Deadlines for proposal submission have been set for September 7. There is an internal team as well as a team from SEARCH that will help to narrow responses based on proposals submitted.

Victims Representative J. Gillis asked if the RFP review would be an open meeting or closed.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the meeting would not be open to the general public but that she would converse with Mr. Gillis about his participation in the process.

Rules Committee Report: Commissioner M. Hudson (IN) stated that the committee has not met since June. The next meeting will take place in November. The group continues to work on issues before it and will begin work on rules proposals following the ABM.

Training Committee Report: Commissioner J. López (WI) stated that the committee has not met. The chair is preparing for the APPA presentation.

ABM Planning Workgroup Report: Executive Director A. Lippert stated that planning was in progress. Some clarity adjustments have been made to the Travel Policy. These changes are just clarifications and make no substantive changes to the language in the policy. The national office was monitoring COVID issues as well as Monkeypox issues from the State of New York. There were 139 registered attendees as interest in the in-person meeting is high.

East Region Report: Commissioner D. Crook (VT) stated that the region had a meeting on the same date as the Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner G. Roberge provided a briefing on the dues increase. The briefing was well-received and had positive comments from members. There were some retiring DCAs that received salutations and congratulations, including Margaret Thompson (PA) and Natalie Latulippe (CT).

Midwest Region Report: Commissioner S. Kreamer (IA) stated that the region meeting is scheduled for the following week.

South Region Report: Commissioner J. Kempker (MO) stated that the South Region met on July 28. There were no comments from the briefing presented by Treasurer G. Roberge. There are two rule proposal amendments originating from the South. The group intends to meet at the ABM to work out the proposals before sending them to the Rules Committee.

West Region Report: Commissioner M. Pevey (WA) stated that the West Region met on August 16 and heard from Treasurer G. Roberge. The region expressed support for the dues increase proposal.

Executive Director Report: Executive Director A. Lippert presented her report to the committee:

- The West Region has a new Commissioner – Taryn Link.
- The national office anticipates a new commissioner for Illinois.
- Idaho’s Commissioner Denton Darrington is retiring.
- The fiscal audit is complete, and the final report is in preparation by the auditors. ICOTS enhancements are to be capitalized per advice by the auditors due to the total exceeding \$100,000.
- The annual report is complete except for the addition of the auditor’s letter. In addition to the printed version, the national office put together an interactive version that is being finalized for posting on the Commission’s website.
- Next week, on August 25, , the documentary *The Road Home* will be premiered. Login information has been provided. Two documentary participants have been invited to attend the session at the ABM to answer questions.
- *Victim Advocate Report:* Victim Advocate J. Gillis (NOVA) wants to ensure that the victim component is considered in the transfer of the ICOTS system and in any subsequent rebuild.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjourn

Commissioner D. Crook (VT) moved to adjourn. Commissioner C. Moore (GA) seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m. ET.

Jeremiah Stromberg
Jeremiah Stromberg (Oct 19, 2022 07:42 PDT)

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Final Audit Report

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