

Counseling Compact Rules Committee Meeting

February 22, 2023, 12:00 p.m. ET

Committee Members Present

Dr. Andrea Brooks, Interim Chair
Nate Brown
Mary Drotleff
LeeAnn Mordecai
Dr. Denauvo Robinson
Dr. Gary Goodnough
Tony Onorato

Committee Members Absent

Kris Chiles
Kim Shaffer

Executive Committee Members Present

Greg Searls
Dr. Lynn Linde
Dr. Kylie Dotson-Blake

Legal Counsel Present

Nahale Kalfas

CSG Staff Present

Isabel Eliassen
Carl Sims

157 members of the public were also present.

Welcome & Call to Order

- A. Brooks called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

- I. Eliassen called the roll. Kris Chiles and Kim Shaffer were absent.

Review and Adoption of the Agenda

- A. Brooks reviewed the agenda and asked if changes were needed. Hearing none, she called for a motion to adopt the agenda.
- **Motion:** M. Drotleff motioned to adopt the agenda. D. Robinson seconded the motion. All committee members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Review Role of Rules Committee

- N. Kalfas explained that the role of the rules committee was to suggest rules to the compact commission to provide guidance on the implementation and interpretation of the compact.
- N. Kalfas reminded committee members they are in attendance as part of their state duties. They should keep in mind the different roles they occupy and bring up any concerns about conflicts of interest so they can discuss with the legal counsel and recuse themselves from discussion and/or voting if necessary.
- N. Kalfas overviewed rulemaking process. The executive committee and full commission would both review and vote on the proposed rules, and there would also be a 30-day public comment period. Compacts must be specifically authorized to make a rule on an issue, which is a very narrow scope.

Discussion and Vote on Chair Nominations

- A. Brooks explained that as an executive committee member, she was only filling the chair role in a temporary capacity (due to compact bylaws aimed to prevent undue influence of executive committee members).
- The committee would vote on a nominee to recommend to the executive committee, who would vote to appoint that person as permanent chair.
- The committee did not receive any nominations prior to the meeting, so A. Brooks called for nominations from the floor. N. Brown nominated himself for the role. No other nominations were received.
- A. Brooks called for a motion to recommend Nate's appointment as Rules Committee Chair to the Executive Committee.
- D. Robinson made the above motion. M. Drotleff seconded the motion. N. Brown abstained from voting; all others voted in favor and the motion carried.

Discussion of Rule on Definitions

- A. Brooks stated that the group would now discuss the draft of the rule on definitions.
- T. Onorato asked about receiving meeting materials in advance. A. Brooks said this would happen for future meetings. I. Eliassen said that advance notice and materials would be provided to delegates and on the compact website, especially for meetings where voting could occur.
- N. Kalfas said that the terms to be defined in the Rule on Definitions are words in other definitions or in the compact but which are not defined themselves. The committee needs to provide clarity so states can all implement and administer the compact uniformly.
- N. Kalfas provided an overview of the definitions and the questions about the terms or reasons why each of these definitions were asked to be included.
- T. Onorato asked if the committee should try to ensure that the definitions were consistent with state definitions. N. Kalfas answered that the committee can and should. However, because some states will inherently contradict each other on these issues, it is important to remember that the compact is state law as well.

- M. Drotleff asked if the committee will add other rules. N. Kalfas answered that the terms here are the most critical to define and the committee would continue with other rules in the future. A. Brooks added that the group can bring revisions of rules to next meeting to discuss.
- N. Kalfas stated that the group could also discuss data system requirements at the next meeting. A. Brooks added that the group may need to add definitions for the items required in the data system, including what is considered a qualifying exam. I. Eliassen confirmed that the commissioners would all receive the survey about state board data systems.

Questions and Comments

- A. Brooks asked if there were further questions from delegates. Hearing none, she opened the floor to comments from the public, indicating that the committee could respond to comments on the rules the committee discussed in the meeting. Comments on other topics could be taken into consideration at future meetings.
- The committee received comments on the following topics: professional counselor identity, a timeline for the work of the committee, allowing longer meetings for public comment, how to submit feedback to the committee, variation in licensing practices between states, and potential additional definitions. The comments were recorded for future reference.
- I. Eliassen confirmed that the members of the public could use the contact form on the website to get in touch with questions. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the meetings page of the website.

Adjourn

- Hearing no further questions, A. Brooks called for a motion to adjourn.
- **Motion:** N. Brown motioned to adjourn. G. Goodnough seconded the motion. All committee members present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m. ET.