

Counseling Compact 2024 Annual Business Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2024

The meeting was held in person at the Westin La Paloma Resort in the Murphey Room and virtually via Zoom.

Delegates Present:

Latofia Parker, Alabama – Virtual attendee
Justin Moore, Arkansas
Nate Brown, Colorado – Virtual attendee
Alison Warren, Delaware – Virtual attendee
Ashleigh Irving, Florida
Tommy Black, Georgia – Virtual attendee
Kimble Richardson, Indiana – Virtual attendee
Amy Mooney, Iowa – Virtual attendee
Laura Shaughnessy, Kansas
Andrea Brooks, Kentucky
Jamie Doming, Louisiana
LeeAnn Mordecai, Mississippi
Gloria Lindsey, Missouri
Susan Meyerle, Nebraska
Denauvo Robinson, North Carolina
Jenna Johnson, North Dakota – Virtual attendee
Brian Carnahan, Ohio – Virtual attendee
Johnie Fredman, Oklahoma
Kim Speakman, Tennessee
Larry Marx, Utah – Virtual attendee
Jamie Hoyle, Virginia
Lana Crawford, Washington
Tony Onorato, West Virginia
Kelly Buckingham, Wyoming – Virtual attendee

Delegates Absent:

Kim Shaffer, Maine
Lindsey Courtney, New Hampshire

States with no delegate appointed:

Connecticut
Montana

States with future delegates attending (nonvoting):

Laura Layman, Vermont

Executive Committee Ex-Officio Members Present:

Lynn Linde

Beverly Smith

Matt Grayson

Kylie Dotson-Blake

Executive Director Present:

Greg Searls

Legal Counsel Present:

Nahale Kalfas

CSG Staff Present:

Isabel Eliassen

Carl Sims

Members of the public were also present both in person and virtually.

Welcome/Call to Order

- J. Doming called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. ET.
- I. Eliassen reminded the meeting attendees that public comment should be held until the end, all those speaking should be on a microphone and identify themselves before speaking, hands should be kept raised during voting until staff tells you to lower them, the Annual Business Meeting Booklet being reviewed in person is the same as the one that was found online so everyone is reviewing the same document, each state represented by their delegate receives one vote, the meeting is being recorded, the slides used during presentations will be made available to all delegates, and that Legal Counsel Nahale Kalfas will serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Roll Call

- I. Eliassen called the roll by state. Attendance was as listed above. A quorum was established with 24 of 27 voting members present. Votes would need a majority of fourteen votes to pass.

Adoption of the Agenda

- J. Doming called for a motion to adopt the agenda.
- **Motion:** D. Robinson moved that the commission adopt the agenda. K. Speakman seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

Adoption of Minutes

- J. Doming called for a motion to adopt the minutes.
- **Motion:** K. Speakman moved that the commission adopt the minutes. A. Irving seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, 0 opposed, and 7 abstained due to absence at the meeting where the minutes were taken. The motion passed.

Introduction to Executive Director

- J. Doming provided the bio of Greg Searls and introduced him as the Executive Director of the Compact Commission.
- G. Searls provided remarks and thanked the Commission for choosing him for the position.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee Report

- J. Doming provided the Executive Committee report. She highlighted the number of meetings that the committee has participated in and thanked the committee for their efforts.
- The committee's focus since the last meeting has been the hiring and onboarding of the executive director.
- The next focus will be working to get a vendor under contract and working towards getting the database and website functioning to issue privileges.

Finance Committee Report

- K. Speakman walked the Commission through the draft budget.
- K. Richardson asked if the data system would include only information on those on the commission or from all participants in states. C. Sims answered that compact data systems typically would include all licensees who qualify.
- **Motion:** B. Carnahan moved that the commission adopt the minutes. D. Robinson seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained due to absence at the meeting where the minutes were taken. The motion passed.

Rules Committee Report

- J. Doming called on N. Brown to discuss the proposed draft rules.

Compact Training

- I. Eliassen provided training to the commission on compacts in general as well as the Counseling Compact. Topics covered included:
 - The primary uses of a compact
 - The different uses of compacts and how they are used throughout the United States
 - What the use of an Occupational Licensure Compact is
 - The current list of occupations involved in compacts and the various models used
 - Benefits of a compact
 - How a compact is developed
 - What the counseling compact is and how it works

Legal Training

- N. Kalfas, Legal Counsel for the commission provided training on compacts including:
 - What a compact is
 - What authority is granted through a compact
 - The structure of compacts
 - The duties of those who serve as delegates to a compact
 - Differences between Universal Licensure and Compacts

A break was taken from 10:48 a.m. until 11:05 a.m.

Review of Comments and Rule Hearing on the Proposed Rules

- N. Brown introduced the Rule on the Data Set Reporting Requirements.
- N. Brown noted that most of the Rule is data already being collected by the Boards and that the ability to use an NPI number or Social Security Number compacts from the Compact Legislation.
- N. Brown noted that no public comment was received before the meeting nor was the requirement met to hold a public hearing on the proposed Rule.
- **Motion:** L. Shaughnessy moved that the commission adopt the rule. A. Irving seconded the motion. All present voted in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained. The motion passed.

Election Process for Vice-Chair, Treasurer and one Member-at-Large and Committee Updates

- I. Eliassen provided an overview of the election process for the three positions including the dates for nominations opening on January 10, nominations closing on January 23, that ballots will be issued on February 12, balloting will close on February 22, and the announcement of the winners will follow.
- I. Eliassen also reminded the commission that due to by-law changes, those who serve on the Executive Committee cannot serve in a voting capacity on other committees. The other committees will be seeking new members following the election and the commission will also be establishing the election and compliance committee.
- L. Mordecai asked if a replacement delegate from the same state would automatically take over the Executive Committee appointment. N. Kalfas explained that the replacement would not receive the spot on the Executive Committee as the replacement had not been elected to the Executive Committee by the commission.

Database and Website

- C. Sims highlighted the benefits of the Joint Compact Commission (JCC) working together to find a vendor based on the similar needs of the compacts. He also provided an update on where the JCC was in the RFP and contract process for creating the database and website for the commission to use. The JCC will be meeting on January 19th to consider the RFPs received.

New Business

- N. Kalfas reminded the Delegates of the requirements in the compact language for posting Compact Information on their state website homepage.

Delegate Questions and Public Comment

- A. Brooks clarified that JCC meeting would be on January 18 and not the 19th as previously announced in the meeting.
- N. Kalfas responded to an online question from K. Richardson that asked if all states needed to use the same name for licensure under the compact. N. Kalfas clarified that the definition section of the language addressed that issue so that there is not one specific title that needs to be used for licensure in all compact states.
- Rachel from Alaska asked about the compact's impact on insurance reimbursement rates. N. Kalfas explained that it is not in the purview of the compact to address the issue as the responsibility of the compact is public protection.
- A. Irving asked if there had been any consideration as to how the compact would receive applications for the privilege to practice and how they would be processed. N. Kalfas explained that the JCC would work with the chosen vendor to establish the process. The commission does not have the ability to vet a person for licensure. The vetting process remains with the home state. The hope is the system developed will enable the online process with minimal human involvement.
- K. Richardson asked if the Compact Logo could be made available to all states to use on their website with the required notice. N. Kalfas said that it could be provided for use to the Member States by reaching out to Director Searls

Meeting Closure

- Seeing no further questions and determining all the agenda items had been considered, J. Doming declared the meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m. ET.