

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2026

11:00 a.m. EDT

Via Zoom



Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Finance Committee Chair C. Copeland (TN), called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. EDT.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner, Chair
2. Dale Dodd (NM), Commissioner, Treasurer
3. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
4. Amy Welch (KY), Commissioner

Additional State ICJ Personnel in Attendance:

1. Rhonda Turner (FL)
2. Abbye Tyler (MD)
3. Shyra Bland (NJ)
4. Mason Harrington (SC)

Guests in Attendance:

1. Howard Wykes (AZ), Designee, Commissioner Chair

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Joe Johnson, Technology Systems Manager
3. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
4. Jenny Adkins, Director of Operations, Rules, and Compliance

K. Torres (IA) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

K. Torres (IA) made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 18, 2026, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Chair Report

- Chair C. Copeland (TN) provided updates from the Executive Committee meeting, including the decision for the Finance Committee to explore cost containment strategies including potential registration fees for non-members to attend annual business meetings.
- She reported that approximately 50% of state dues had been collected for fiscal year (FY) 2027.
- Chair C. Copeland (TN) also reported that committee chairs and regional representatives will provide summaries rather than reading their reports at the annual business meetings.

Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business

Cost Containment Strategies

- Director Underwood presented a cost containment memo to the Finance Committee, outlining significant efforts taken over the years to manage expenses. Significant cost-containment strategies included operational restructuring, reducing fixed overhead, changing service providers, managing technology costs, and strategic reprioritization
- She stated that changes in inflation and meeting costs are primary drivers of budget growth.
- The growth of the Commission's budget has essentially aligned with inflation. From FY24 to FY28, the updated recommended budget reflects growth of approximately 13.3%, compared with estimated cumulative inflation of 13.4%.

Recommend Updated Budget for FY 2027 and FY 2028

- Director Underwood presented proposed changes, including a reduction of \$8,265 in the FY27 budget and an increase of \$23,810 in the recommended FY28 budget.
- Key adjustments included reducing the UNITY budget by \$70,000 due to alignment of the UNITY enhancement schedule with that of the rule amendment schedule; adjusting payroll expenses to reflect updated job descriptions and increased health insurance costs; and pulling back the consultant budget by \$10,000 each year to offset other costs.
- **A. Welch (KY) made a motion to approve the updated budget for the Fiscal Year 2027. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **K. Torres (IA) made a motion to approve the updated budget recommendation for Fiscal Year 2028. The motion passed unanimously.**

Next Steps

- Commission Chair H. Wykes (AZ) thanked committee members for their work reviewing budgets and implementing cost-saving measures, encouraging them to continue next year.

Adjourn

K. Torres (IA) made a motion to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting. Chair Copeland (TN) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 11:33 a.m. EDT.