

# INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES



## 2020 Annual Business Meeting Midwest Region Minutes

October 20, 2020

SpotMe/Zoom

3:02 p.m. ET

---

### **Commissioners in Attendance:**

1. Charles Frieberg (SD), Representative
2. Tomiko Frierson (IL), Commissioner
3. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
4. Jeff Cowger (KS), Commissioner
5. Roy Yaple (MI), Commissioner
6. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
7. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner
8. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
9. Nate Lawson (OH), Commissioner
10. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner
11. Mary Kay Hudson (IN), Commissioner

### **Compact Office Staff in Attendance:**

1. Holly Kassube (IL)
2. Nita Wright (IN)
3. April Simmons (IN)
4. Matt Billinger (KS)
5. Rebecca Hillestead (MN)
6. Kathy Christenson (SD)
7. Joy Swantz (WI)
8. Andrew Janning (OH)
9. Liz Wilson (KS)
10. Patrick Smith (MN)
11. Melissa Smith (IL)
12. Abbie Christian (NE)
13. Cheryl Frost (SD)
14. Michael Nutt (MI)
15. Michael Tymkew (MI)
16. Turran Blazier (IN)

### **ICJ Staff in Attendance:**

Joe Johnson, Systems Project Manager

### **Call to Order**

Representative C. Frieberg (SD) called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. ET.

### **Roll Call**

Representative C. Frieberg (SD) called the roll using SpotMe and a quorum was established.

## Agenda

N. Lawson (OH) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.  
J. Rader (NE) seconded. The motion carried.

## Minutes

J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the minutes from April 9, 2020.  
M.K. Hudson (IN) seconded. The motion carried.

## Discussion

- **Executive Committee Update**
  - Representative C. Frieberg (SD) provided the following updates from the Executive Committee meetings.
    - The Leadership Exchange Series has launched. Participation has been excellent and the series is off to a great start.
    - The Commission's Fiscal Year 2020 ICJ Audit was presented and approved. No concerns were noted nor recommendations made.
    - A UNITY update was provided and the Commission looks forward to its release.
    - The updated *ICJ Policy 02-2017: Sanctioning Guidelines* was approved as recommended by the Compliance Committee with input from all regions.
    - The Fiscal Year 2020 *ICJ Annual Report*, was approved and distributed to members. The electronic version is available on the website.
  
- **State Updates/Concerns**
  - **Indiana**
    - M.K. Hudson (IN) reported that she is proud of the way Indiana is handling all their work and juvenile supervision in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **South Dakota**
    - C. Frieberg (SD) echoed that South Dakota was also proud of the way their state is handling matters in the wake of COVID-19.
  - **Minnesota**
    - T. Hudrlik (MN) reported all Minnesota central office personnel are permanently working remotely. Rebecca Hillestead is doing a great job with the UNITY learners and their engagement.
  - **Wisconsin**
    - J. Swantz (WI) reported that Wisconsin has 512 users in the new UNITY system and 65 % have completed their first session.

## Old Business

There was no old business.

## New Business

- Developing Guidelines for When to End Suspension of Enforcement of ICJ Rules due to COVID-19
  - Representative Frieberg reviewed Rule 2-108: Emergency Suspension of Enforcement to facilitate discussion. In particular, paragraph 3 which states "Any suspension of enforcement of Commission rules

shall cease 30 calendar days after the termination of the national/state declaration(s) of emergency, unless preemptively concluded by majority vote of the Executive Committee.”

- Representative Frieberg noted that the Executive Committee has requested input from regions regarding what criteria should be used to determine whether to take preemptive action to conclude the suspension of enforcement. He indicated that the following proposals put forth by Executive Committee members:
    - When less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  (or  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of states have state of emergency in place, or
    - When 35 states have ended restrictions on face-to-face contact with juveniles/families.
  - M.K. Hudson (IN) responded that adopting a quantitative or qualitative approach will be difficult given the in-state and intra-state challenges present by the COVID-19 pandemic. She suggested that review standards be developed.
  - T. Hudrlik (MN) suggested consideration of what state authorities have established in state restrictions. She further suggested consideration of why and how restrictions were placed.
  - R. Yaple (MI) indicated that considerations seem premature due to states being in compliance with the rules. He expressed concern that the state of emergency may be increasing with a second wave of the virus. He asked what ICJ Rules should be considered and whether ICJ would adopt a position in relation to vaccinations. He noted the importance of the roles of the Court and parents in decisions regarding juveniles moving across states lines.
  - J. Rader (NE) noted that the Executive Committee appreciates how region meetings provide a good forum for discussion of important decisions, such as this one.
  - J. Wald (ND) pointed out that parents sometimes move across states lines with or without their juvenile, putting the burden of placement on the state. She expressed concern that winter weather will put a hold on “curb-side” reviews, and expressed appreciation for how people and states are being creative give the constraints.
  - M.K. Hudson (IN) remarked on the importance of remaining diligent in efforts to implement the compact and transparency, as it is important to demonstrate that the Commission is taking the subject seriously and it is consistently under review.
- Officer Nominations
    - Representative Frieberg reviewed the nominations and voting processes, then opened the floor for nominations for the 2021 ICJ Officer positions:
      - Commission Chair
        - Jeff Cowger (KS) nominated Jacey Rader (NE) for Chair and she accepted.
        - No other candidates were nominated.
        - Representative Frieberg declared Jacey Rader (NE) as the nominee for Chair from the Midwest Region by acclamation.

- Commission Vice Chair
  - J. Rader (NE) nominated Jedd Pelander (WA) for Vice Chair and he accepted.
  - Tomiko Frierson (IL) nominated Tracy Hudrlik (MN) for Vice Chair and she declined the nomination.
  - No other candidates were nominated.
  - Representative Frieberg declared Jedd Pelander (WA) was nominated for Vice Chair from the Midwest Region by acclamation.
- Commission Treasurer
  - J. Rader (NE) nominated Nate Lawson (OH) for Treasurer.
  - No other candidates were nominated.
  - Representative Frieberg declared Nate Lawson (OH) was nominated for Treasurer from the Midwest Region by acclamation.
- Midwest Region Representative Election
  - Charles Frieberg (SD), current region representative, recused himself and M.K. Hudson (IN) acted as moderator.
    - Jeff Cowger (KS) nominated Charles Frieberg (SD) for another 2-year term as the Midwest Region Representative and he accepted.
    - No other candidates were nominated.
    - M.K. Hudson declared Charles Frieberg (SD) was elected as the Midwest Region Representative for 2021-2022 by acclamation.

### **Adjourn**

**Representative Charles Frieberg (SD) adjourned the meeting at 4:22 p.m. ET by acclamation.**