

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Midwest Regional Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2026

11:00 a.m. EDT

Via Zoom



Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Representative J. Rader (NE) 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. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner, Midwest Regional Representative
2. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner, Alternate Regional Representative
3. Chris Biehn (IN), Commissioner
4. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
5. Michael Tymkew (MI), Commissioner
6. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
7. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
8. Sara McCoy (OH), Commissioner
9. Charles Frieberg (SD), Commissioner

Additional State ICJ Personnel in Attendance:

1. April Simmons (IN)
2. Antwanita Brooks (IN)
3. Angel Jones (IL)
4. Holly Kassube (IL)
5. Rebecca Hillestead (MN)
6. Abbie Christian (NE)
7. Jennifer McFadden (WI)

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Curtis Hamstra (IA), Commissioner
2. Tomiko Frierson (IL), Commissioner
3. Megan Milner (KS), Commissioner
4. Fareeda Washington (KS), Designee
5. Lisa Bjergaard (ND), Commissioner

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
3. Joe Johnson, Technology Systems Manager
4. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Development Manager

5. Jenny Adkins, Director of Operations, Rules, and Compliance

Agenda

T. Hudrlik (MN) made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Minutes

C. Biehn (IN) made a motion to approve the minutes as amended from the meeting on February 24, 2026. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Unfinished Business

- Representative J. Rader Chair Rader (NE) shared that she accepted a new position, and she would be leaving the Commission.

New Business

Conduct Airline Refusal of Youth Boarding Survey

- Director Underwood shared that several states in the South Region have experienced issues on multiple occasions with airlines refusing to allow youth to board flights. A survey was developed to gather information and determine whether other states are encountering similar challenges.
- A survey was administered to assess how widespread challenges with airlines are and to identify how states are addressing them.

Annual Business Meeting [Registration](#) and [Nominations](#)

- Director Underwood announced that registration will be open June 1 – 30, 2026, for the 2026 Annual Business Meeting (ABM).
- This registration period will include nominations for chair, vice chair, treasurer, regional representatives, and Leadership and Rising Star Awards. Commissioners & Full-Time Designees are eligible to be nominated and/or to make a nomination.
 - The recipient of the Leadership award exhibits outstanding leadership skills and dedication to the Interstate Commission for Juveniles through extraordinary service.
 - The Rising Star Award recognizes a Commission member that has demonstrated special ability or leadership during their first 2 years.
- Director Underwood reported that the Training Committee has identified Gaelin Elmore as the 2026 ABM keynote speaker. She also shared that the ABM Training Session 1 will be a state council panel and Training Session 2 would cover home evaluation reports and mandatory relocation in transfer of supervision cases.

Reports

- J. Wald (ND) and Director Underwood provided a report on recent Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth activities.
- J. Wald (ND) provided a report on recent Training Committee activities.

- T. Hudrlik (MN) provided a report on recent Rules Committee activities.
- K. Torres (IA) provided a report on recent Information Technology Committee activities.
- K. Torres (IA) provided a report on recent Finance Committee activities.
- A. Simmons (IN) provided a report on recent Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee activities.
- Regional Representative J. Rader (NE) provided a report on recent Compliance Committee activities.
- Regional Representative J. Rader (NE) provided a report on recent Executive Committee activities.

Hot Topics from “ICJ Updates”

- Representative J. Rader (NE) shared that the Commission's Training Committee would present the upcoming *Wednesday Workshop* on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. EDT.
- Representative J. Rader (NE) shared that the [2025 State Council Report](#) was published.
- Director Underwood reminded members to submit in-state training reports regarding ICJ trainings conducted from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, using the [Training or Technical Assistance Report Form](#) available on the Commission’s website.
- Representative J. Rader (NE) shared that an ICJ Conversations in Film screening would be held on Friday, May 29, 2026, from 12:00-2:00 p.m. EDT.
 - May’s feature would be *Crimp Camp*, the story of a group of teen campers are inspired to join the fight for disability civil rights.

Next Steps

- Representative J. Rader (NE) asked members to email her any topics that need to be added to new business at future meetings.

Adjourn

T. Hudrlik (MN) made a motion to adjourn the Midwest region meeting. Representative Rader (NE) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 11:43 a.m. EDT.