



## **Counseling Compact Executive Committee Meeting**

February 4, 2026, 1:00 p.m. ET

### **Committee Members Present**

Kim Speakman, Chair  
Dr. Denauvo Robinson  
Brian Carnahan  
Tony Onorato

### **Committee Members Absent**

Tobi Zavala  
Carol Staben Burroughs

### **Ex-Officio Committee Members Present**

Dr. Lynn Linde, ACA  
Dr. Kylie Dotson-Blake, NBCC,  
Matt Grayson, AASCB

### **Ex-Officio Committee Members Absent**

Shannon Thompson, AMHCA

### **Legal Counsel Present**

Nahale Kalfas

### **CSG and InspiringApps Staff Present**

Brad Weber  
Stacy Griffin  
Isabel Eliassen

### **CAMS Staff Present**

Greg Searls  
Michelle Lynch

### **Members of the Public Were Present**

### **Welcome & Call to Order**

- Chair Speakman called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. ET.

### **Roll Call**

- Director Searls conducted the roll call. Absences were as listed above. A quorum was established with 4 of 6 voting members present.

### **Review and Adoption of the Agenda**

- Chair Speakman reviewed the agenda and asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Chair Speakman called for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.
- **Motion:** Dr. Robinson made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. T. Onorato seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Review and Adoption of Minutes**

- Chair Speakman invited members to share any edits to the January Executive meeting minutes. Hearing none, Chair Speakman called for a motion to adopt the minutes for the December meeting.
- **Motion:** T. Onorato made the motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Ex-Officio Updates**

- **NBCC (Dr. Dotson-Blake)** Many partners were present at the Bridging the Gap Symposium and the Law and Ethics Conference. The coalition also met and began preparing a response to the Department of Education's proposed rule on professional degree recognition. Some template documents were sent out for communicating with counselors, counselor educators, and students as well
- **ACA (Dr. Linde):** A CEO will be coming on board, hopefully soon, but no announcement has been made. The focus has been on their annual conference in April. At the AASCB conference, Dr. Linde will be reviewing changes to the Code of Ethics. The document will be open for comments in March.
- **AASCB (M. Grayson):** The focus has been on the AASCB conference and board meeting being held in a few weeks.
- **AMHCA (S. Thompson):** Not present

### **CompactConnect/ Go Live Update- I. Eliassen**

- The updated search feature is complete and has been working for a couple of weeks now.
- Upcoming features that will be ready in the next couple of weeks:
  - Military audit
  - Automatic notifications when the Home State changes
  - Automatic notification as the expiration date approaches
- Brad Weber (InspiringApps) and Isabel Eliassen (CSG) will be in person at the annual business meeting to do presentation and demo of CompactConnect
- Officially over 500 privileges issued, now at 537. Working to launch another two states in the next couple of months.

## **Trademark and Licensing Updates**

- Legal Counsel Kalfas continues to work with CSG's legal to create the Member Service Agreement and a separate Governance Board document.

## **Finance Committee Updates and Review FY 2027 Budget\***

- Treasurer Carnahan reported that the Finance Committee met in January and reviewed the financial statements, and all items were as expected. Finance Committee member Dr. Meyerle requested a better distinction between the retained revenue from the Commission's administrative fees versus the privilege fees that will be forwarded to the states.
- Treasurer Carnahan mentioned the FY budget 2027 was reviewed at the last Finance Committee meeting and is now on today's agenda for review.
- The committee began reviewing the FY 2027 during these discussions, so the agenda items were combined.
- Committee members expressed concern that the budget was aspirational. Treasurer Carnahan and Director Searls explained that some budget items would only be realized if income is also on target to support them.
- Ex-Officio members Dr. Linde (ACA) and Dr. Dotson-Blake (NBCC) reaffirmed their organizations' ongoing support. Dr. Linde noted that clearer information about anticipated funding needs would help their boards plan annual contributions, as the current aspirational budget makes that difficult to assess.
- The committee discussed exploring options for holding revenue in interest-bearing accounts.
- **Motion:** Treasurer Carnahan made the motion to approve the FY 2027 Budget. Chair Speakman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Appointments**

- Director Searls shared that the Elections Committee is newly seated and currently has two members. The committee discussed leadership roles and requested the appointment of Dr. Lisa Connors as Chair and Dr. Coyt as Vice Chair of the Elections Committee.
- **Motion:** T. Onorato moved to approve the appointments of Dr. Lisa Connors as Elections Committee Chair and Dr. Coyt as Vice Chair. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Needs & Outreach**

- Director Searls shared the current committee needs. Chair Speakman encouraged the committee to recruit committee members at the annual business meeting.

## **Annual Reports**

- The Committee reviewed the Financial report for the FY 2025 annual report. The draft of the FY 2025 annual report was not available to the committee members

prior to the meeting, but they decided to vote to approve both since all reports in the Annual Report have been reviewed by the Executive Committee.

- **Motion:** Treasurer Carnahan made the motion to approve the Annual Report and the Financial Report. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Rule on Consistent Credentialing**

- Director Searls shared and reviewed the proposed Rule on Consistent Credentialing.
- The committee discussed whether there was a simpler credential format, but ultimately determined there was not.
- No substantive changes to the rule were made during the discussion.
- **Motion:** Dr. Robinson moved to approve the rule for public comment. Treasurer Carnahan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Rule on Conversion of a Privilege to a Home State License Review\***

- Director Searls presented and explained the proposed rule. The committee discussed how the process would work in practice and what would happen if the counselor fails to update their home state. Legal Counsel Kalfas explained that the CCC's role would be limited to conducting audits and referring any identified bad actors back to the state for enforcement.
- Concerns were raised that the rule doesn't address what happens with the former Home State license following the conversion of a Privilege to Practice to the new Home State. Upon discussion, the committee decided it was best to issue the rule for public comment. No substantive changes were made to the rule during this discussion.
- **Motion:** T. Onorato moved to approve the rule for issue the rule for public comment. Treasurer Carnahan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Executive Director Update**

- Director Searls reminded the committee members to submit their new Code of Conduct for 2026.

#### **Questions and Comments**

- Chair Speakman invited questions and comments from those in attendance. No questions or comments were raised by committee members or the public.

#### **Adjourn**

- Hearing no further questions and having completed all the agenda items, Chair Speakman declared the meeting adjourned.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m. ET