Call to Order/Opening Comments: Robert Oakes

The meeting was called to order by Robert Oakes at 10:05 am. Mr. Oakes welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that he had been promoted and will not be able to continue to serve as the South Region Chair. In January, Alabama will also appoint a new Commissioner. He thanked everyone for their help and support.

Roll Call: Robert Oakes

A role call was taken and all Commissioners were present with the exception of Maryland, Mississippi and Missouri. All states were represented and a quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes (September 7, 2006):

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Gary Tullock and seconded by Robert Guy. The motion passed and the minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Members in Attendance:

Change Amanda Burton to Amanda Burt (KY)
Change Laura Cole to Lora Cole and add Jackie Brunson-Cage (MS)

Texas: Next week, Commissioner Winckler will be holding a meeting/training on the compact for Judges in Harris County, Texas.

Elections/Slate of Officers:

Robert Oakes asked if any Commissioners were interested in running for an office and welcomed any comments. The following Commissioners expressed an interest:

Milt Gilliam – Chair; Genie Powers - Vice-Chair; and Ann Clarke - Treasurer.

Each of the above Commissioners provided brief comments and asked for support.

Kathie Winckler inquired about the election process. David Guntharp explained the process and stated that the region will discuss nominations as a group. Robert Oakes will take the recommended slate to the regional representative meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Ms. Winckler suggested that in the future, once a slate is presented, allow Commissioners to ask questions from the floor to those who are running for office. This issue will need to be referred to the Executive Committee.
Region Chair:

Robert Oakes will resign as the South Region Chair and step down effective Monday, October 9, 2006. The new Region Chair will need to attend the Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2006.

Gary Tullock was nominated by David Guntharp and seconded by Genie Powers. Mr. Tullock spoke about challenges still ahead and how we must continue to work together. He thanked fellow commissioners for their support.

Nominations were closed and Gary Tullock was elected South Region Chair effective October 9, 2006. It was noted that this is a mid year replacement and elections for new regional representatives will be held next year at the annual meeting scheduled for September, 2007.

State Updates:

Alabama:

- Robert Oakes has been promoted to Assistant Director and will continue as Commissioner until January, 2007. Rich Pierce, Compact Administrator was introduced.
- Due to the Ohio complaint, they are receiving more cooperation with their judges.

Arkansas:

- David Guntharp introduced staff attending the annual meeting: Linda Strong, Deputy Compact Administrator; David Eberhart, Staff Attorney; and Ann Gedding, Deputy Director of Administrative Services.
- Mr. Guntharp shared one example of how working together and communicating can resolve issues. Arkansas has a transitional house that borders Oklahoma. The Oklahoma judges sent approximately 60 offenders out of state to this program without the knowledge of the compact offices. Staff makes mistakes but the goal is safety and placing offenders under supervision and controlling their movements. By using the “Spirit of Cooperation,” the two Interstate Compact Offices were able to work together and transitioned the offenders out of the Arkansas program over a period of several months. The Oklahoma staff has contacted their judges about inappropriate placement of offenders.

District of Columbia:

- Paul Quander introduced Jody Tracey, Deputy Compact Administrator.
- DC has been using WebEx training and it is working well for staff.

Florida:

- Beth Atchison introduced Karen Tucker, Correctional Programs Administrator. Clarence Rudloff has retired and a new Deputy Compact Administrator will be announced soon.
- Florida has completed statewide training for all field staff and is attempting to get on the judges calendar.
Georgia:

- Joe Kuebler introduced David Morrison from Georgia Parole Interstate and the new Deputy Compact Administrator for Georgia Probation, Kimberly Jones.
- Georgia Probation Interstate is going through some reorganization.

Kentucky:

- Lelia VanHoose introduced her Deputy Compact Administrators: Amanda Burt and Angela Tolley. Ms. VanHoose is extremely happy that both were able to attend the annual meeting and training. She has five staff members in Interstate Compact and is very pleased with their work.
- The ACA audit has been completed and was favorable. They will be recognized for accreditation.
- Kentucky has a new offender management system that they are pleased with.

Louisiana:

- Genie Powers introduced Gregg Smith, Deputy Compact Administrator. They have a small office and have lost positions due to budget issues. However, the workload has increased approximately 70% due to Hurricane Katrina.
- Ms. Powers thanked everyone for the assistance over the past year with Katrina evacuees and getting offenders under supervision. Special thanks to Texas for all of their help.
- Currently, there is no jail space in New Orleans, so the Department of Corrections is holding offenders from New Orleans and Jefferson Parrish. Everyone’s patience and assistance is appreciated. Things are getting better in Louisiana.
- Ms. Powers was able to get the Compact on the agenda for the judge’s conference and she is pushing to get on the agenda for the Defense Attorney’s Conference.
- The Interstate Compact office has a new case management information system.

Maryland:

- Melanie Brock, Deputy Compact Administrator stated that Commissioner Judith Sachwald will not be arriving until later today.
- Ms. Brock spoke about the extensive training being conducted in Maryland. This fall, training will be conducted for judges and other agencies. They have had several agencies contact the Interstate Compact Office requesting training.

Mississippi:

- Lora Cole is attending on behalf of Commissioner Christopher Epps. Ms. Cole introduced Richie Spears, Compact Administrator and Jackie Brunson-Cage, Deputy Compact Administrator.
- Mississippi held a State Council meeting on September 28, 2006.
- One of the biggest issues in Mississippi is training. They need to conduct more training and will also attempt to train case managers in their institutions.
Missouri:

- Wanda LaCour, Deputy Compact administrator is attending for Commissioner Dana Thompson.
- Missouri held a State Council meeting using WebEx and is also continuing to use WebEx for her statewide training. Ms. LaCour encourages everyone to try WebEx since she has found it to be very beneficial.

North Carolina:

- Robert Guy introduced Anne Precythe, Deputy Compact Administrator. The Interstate Compact office has been re-organized, added six positions, and now has a staff of eleven.
- Last week, a state council meeting was held and there was 100% participation.
- North Carolina has been conducting extensive training. Next week, the District Court Judges conference will be held. Also, statewide training with all Community Corrections Managers has been completed. The next target area will be the treatment facilities in North Carolina. Training will be conducted to help educate them.
- The new Sex Offender bill will go into effect on January 1, 2007. This new legislation will have a major impact on Community Corrections and Interstate Compact.

Oklahoma:

- Milt Gilliam introduced Frank Mesarick, Deputy Compact Administrator.
- Oklahoma has passed sex offender legislation that allows for lifetime GPS monitoring. This pass session, legislation was passed limiting sex offender’s home placements to 2,000 feet from a school, day care center or park. In Oklahoma City, a check revealed that sex offenders can legally live in 13% of the city and only in 6% of the city of Tulsa.
- A State Council meeting was held last week. Because of this new sex offender legislation, the Legislative Representative on the state council is concerned that these new requirements are causing sex offenders to relocate to rural areas or abscond from supervision.

South Carolina:

- Ann Clarke introduced Victoria Jakes, Deputy Compact Administrator. Ms. Clarke is pleased that the Commission brought the Deputy Compact Administrators to the annual meeting so that they can have face to face communication. They are the backbone of the Interstate Compact.
- South Carolina enjoys a positive relationship with the South Region. They have had some staff increase and reorganization of the office which has helped immensely.
- Effective July, 2006, South Carolina passed new legislation with mandatory sex offender registration and GPS for life.

Tennessee:

- Gary Tullock introduced Bobby Halliburton, Deputy Compact Administrator. They have been working together for a long time. The Interstate Compact Office has three staff members who do an incredible job and work hard.
- The biggest issue Tennessee is experience is judges taking advantage of the Compact and creating headaches. Tennessee is taking personnel action against officers who are
violating and totally ignoring the compact rules. They are encouraging staff to follow the rules and working hard to get them to do the right thing.

- There have been new appointments to the State Council. Don Blackburn attended the meeting and provided training.

**Texas:**

- Kathie Winckler introduced Regina Grimes, Director of the Interstate Compact Office and Deputy Compact Administrator who supervises the Interstate Compact Office and Ethel White, Deputy Compact Administrator for parole since 2000. Ms. Winckler stated that she was pleased to have the Deputy Compact Administrators at the training and that communication among us is the key to getting things done.
- It has been a tough year for Texas. A complaint was lodged against Texas by Ohio and forwarded to the Compliance Committee. Ms. Winckler worked with the Compliance Committee for resolution of the complaint. Texas is fully in agreement with the resolution. She feels that the job of the Compliance Committee was fair, professional and pleased with the efforts to conclude this matter. Part of the agreement is that Texas will conduct more training. Texas stands behind their commitment to the Compliance Committee.
- Ms. Winckler attended the Criminal Court Judges Conference last week in Houston, Texas and discussed the Interstate Compact. Also, attending was the Attorney General’s Office to reiterate liability.
- Ms. Winckler will be looking at WebEx as a possibility to utilize for future training.

**Virginia:**

- James Camache introduced Walt Pulliam, Deputy Compact Administrator and Jim Sisk, Office Manager.
- The Sex Offender legislation changes in code and budget allowed for increased resources.
- Virginia is working on an automated case management system that will interface with the NACIS system.
- Mr. Camache is also working with Commissioner Sachwald and the university to conduct training, seminars, etc. with students to develop ACA of Correctional Excellence. They are attempting to model it like Sam Houston University.
- They have conducted WebEx training in the past and it is going extremely well.

**West Virginia:**

- Henry Lowery stated that he has completed training for field and institution officers. He has scheduled county probation officers training for November, 2006.

**Feedback from DCA Conference:**

Gregg Smith stated that the DCA Issue Points handout included all of the issues from each Region. Most of the issues raised by the South Region were on the list. The main issue throughout each region was allowing offenders to be in the receiving state without permission or reporting instructions.

Milt Gilliam facilitated the South Region and spoke about the positive process in the region meeting. He was pleased to see how the Deputy Compact Administrators interacted. Everyone
stepped up and worked together. We need to get back to the “Spirit of the Compact” where we would call each other and work things out.

Robert Oakes spoke about the nation-wide non-compliance issues. The Compliance Committee deals with the big issues but it is the small issues that will set us back. We need to put logic back in the system.

In August, Pat Tuthill and Don Blackburn attended a workshop in Orlando, Florida and spoke about the Compact. In January, 2007, there is a Sex Offender National Policy Forum that she hopes to be involved with. Victim groups are looking at sex offenders and the Compact and this will have a significant impact.

Kathie Winckler asked what the probable cause hearing issue was about. Several responded stating that some states need more information on conducting hearings on other state offenders, officers need specific guidelines, and some states want standardized forms and additional training. Rules Committee has been looking at this rule and will be bringing change to this rule at the business meeting on Wednesday.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Henry Lowery and seconded by David Guntharp. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.