



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Indiana Commission on the Social Status of Black Males**  
**Government Center South**  
**Conference Room 5**  
**302 W. Washington Street**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**  
**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

**Call to Order:** A meeting of the Indiana Commission for the Social Status of Black Males (ICSSBM) was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, in person at the Government South Building Conference Room 5, and virtually via WebEx. The meeting was called to order at 10:46am.

**Roll call - Commissioners in attendance:** Commissioner Kenneth Allen (Speaker Huston), Commissioner Damein Jones (Proxy FSSA), Commissioner (Chair) Kari Jones (Proxy Div. of Mental Health and Addiction), and Commissioner Richard Okello (Proxy ICRC).

**Via Conference Phone:** Commissioner Larry Ervin (Proxy Dept. of Health), Commissioner Elijah Neal (Senator Bray), Commissioner Kesha Rich (Proxy IDOA), (Vice Chair) Commissioner Dave Rozzell (Senator Bray), Commissioner David Stewart (Proxy to Lt. Governor), and Commissioner Lamar Sykes (Speaker Huston).

Chair Jones stated that a quorum was not established.

**Commissioners absent:** Commissioner Vaneta Becker (Senator), Commissioner William Durham (Proxy Dept. of Education), Commissioner Shanel Poole (Speaker Huston), Commissioner Dwayne Sawyer (Senator Bray), Commissioner Vernon Smith (State Representative), and Commissioner Greg Taylor (Senator), and Commissioner Tori Williams (Proxy Dept. of Corrections).

**Others in attendance:** N/A

**Chair's Report:** A quorum was not established for the January 2024, Commission meeting and no official business was discussed. Chair Jones informed everyone regarding the Commission's purpose and five-areas of focus. Since there was not a quorum, the commission members in attendance used the time available to discuss the Strength,

Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis framework to evaluate ICSSBM's competitive position and to develop our strategic plan. *The discussed SWOT analysis is included in the meeting minutes as Attachment A.*

**Unfinished Business:** Chair Jones provided an update on items that Commission members had questions on regarding the Per Diem process, Commission members that are allowed to vote, and the status of the annual report.

**New Business:** Chair Jones informed the Commission members on the 2024 meeting schedule.

**Announcement for the Good of the Order:** Chair Jones introduced Minkah Becktemba, Multiple Pathways to Recovery LLC grant recipient to Commission members. Mr. Becktemba provided a brief overview of his program and stated that he wanted to participate in ICSSBM events. He also mentioned that he would talk to legislators on the Commission's behalf regarding the need for additional funding. Director Giles informed Mr. Becktemba that the Commission can share his program information on the Commission's Facebook page.

The ICSSBM Commission meeting concluded at 12:32pm.