



DMCJA Board of Governors Meeting
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024
12:30 PM – 3:30 PM
VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Judge Jeffrey Smith, Chair
Judge Anita Crawford-Willis
Commissioner Patrick Eason
Judge Michelle Gehlsen
Judge Angelle Gerl
Judge Jessica Giner
Judge Jeffrey D. Goodwin
Judge Carolyn M. Jewett
Judge Rick Leo
Judge Catherine McDowall
Judge Lloyd Oaks
Judge Whitney Rivera
Judge Karl Williams
Judge Mary Logan, BJA Representative
Judge Rebecca Robertson, BJA Representative

Members Absent:

Judge Michael Frans
Judge Tam Bui, BJA Representative
Judge John H. Hart, BJA Representative

Guests:

Judge Kristin Ferrera, SCJA Representative
Judge Fred Gillings, Therapeutic Courts Committee Co-Chair
Judge Rhonda Laumann, Conference Committee Co-Chair
Judge Kevin Ringus, Legislative Committee Co-Chair
Judge Karama Hawkins
Frankie Peters, DMCMA Liaison
Meagan Terlep-Boxley, MPA Liaison

AOC Staff:

Stephanie Oyler, Primary DMCJA Staff
Tracy Dugas, DMCJA Staff
Brenden Higashi, PhD., DMCJA Policy Analyst
Natasha Johnson, Senior Legal Analyst
Alex MacBain, Senior Court Program Analyst

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Jeffrey Smith, District and Municipal Court Judges' Association (DMCJA) President, noted a quorum was present and called the DMCJA Board of Governors (Board) meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

PRESENTATION

- A. The Board discussed the documentary film [Who We Are: A Chronical of Racism in America](#), which Judge Smith had previously requested that members view prior to the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Minutes

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were previously distributed to the members. Judge Smith asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the minutes. Judge Jewett noted that a correction needed to be made under Special Fund Report, which should say "Tracy Dugas reported that about 50 members have paid special fund dues utilizing the only online payment portal." With this change, the minutes were approved by consensus.

B. Treasurer Report for January 2024

Treasurer Judge Jeffrey Goodwin provided the Treasurers Report and briefly reported on the transition to Umpqua Bank. The DMCJA accounts with Washington Federal and Bank of America are now closed. Judge Goodwin also noted that he is keeping a close eye on expenses and that the pro tem budget line is

already overbudget. The Reserves Committee will meet in March to discuss a proposed budget for 2024-2025, which will be approved by the Board at the May Retreat.

C. Special Fund Report for January 2024

Special Fund Custodian Judge Anita Crawford-Willis reported that special fund dues continue to come in.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA)

SCJA President-Elect Kristin Ferrera gave a brief report.

B. District and Municipal Court Management Association (DMCMA)

DMCMA President-Elect Frankie Peters reported that the next CLJ Summit, with leadership from DMCJA, DMCMA, and MPA, will be held on March 22. Frankie noted that DMCMA would be happy to review and assess legislative bills if DMCJA would like assistance.

C. Misdemeanant Probation Association (MPA)

Representative Meagan Terlep-Boxley reported that registration for the MPA annual conference, which will be held from April 29 to May 1 in Vancouver, opened this week. Meagan reminded that MPA meets quarterly, and their current big project is working on changes to ARLJ 11 which is the rule for how misdemeanor probation operations. Meagan reported that MPA is also looking to have their training academy move from the Criminal Justice Training Commission, which would require a legislative change.

D. Washington State Association for Justice (WSAJ)

Representative Mark O'Halloran was not present and did not submit a report.

E. Washington State Bar Association (WSBA)

Representative Dan Clark was not present and did not submit a report.

F. Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

State Court Administrator Dawn Marie Rubio was not present and did not submit a report.

G. Board for Judicial Administration (BJA)

Representative Robertson had no report. Representative Logan reported on behalf of BJA Budget and Funding that the judicial budget package is being received favorably because we have stayed within the parameters of what a supplemental budget should be. The supplemental education funding proposals from DMCJA and SCJA are also being well-received. The Committee does not know yet what the process will be for decision packages for the coming biennium, but more information should be available soon.

H. Judicial Information System (JIS)

AOC Senior Court Program Analyst Alex MacBain reported that it has been a busy few weeks for the CLJ-CMS project. The Project Team will be reaching out to certain courts regarding the early adapter implementation phase, which will begin this fall. More information about the project and the Integration Platform is available in the meeting packet.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Bylaws Committee

Judge Kristian Hedine was not present and did not submit a report but Natasha Johnson, committee staff, reported that proposed language was recently sent to the Reserves and Conference Planning Committees for their approval prior to presentation to the Board.

B. Diversity Committee

Judge Willie Gregory was not present and did not submit a report. Judge Williams reported that Diversity Committee is working on an education session for Spring Program. They will also be proposing a choice session with Oppression Monopoly for the Fall Conference.

C. DOL Liaison Committee

Judge Angelle Gerl reported that DOL Liaison Committee met in January. The Relicensing Subcommittee is still working on a relicensing template. Judge Gerl noted that Carla Weaver has informed the committee that not all courts are complying with the changes from (2021) SB 5226 regarding inability to pay, and the committee is working on a solution for how to address the issue.

D. Education Committee

Judge John H. Hart was not present and did not submit a report.

E. Judicial Assistance Services Program (JASP)

Judge Mary Logan reported that the Anger to Authenticity course is now up and running, and they are working to get CJE credits for the course. Dr. Kanther-Raz is working with the SCJA Wellness Committee, and Judge Logan is currently formulating an idea regarding "Take 10" for self-care.

F. Legislative Committee

Judge Kevin Ringus reported that there are several bills the Executive Legislative Committee is currently watching. DMCJA's bill regarding incompetency terms is still alive but will need to be pulled from the House Rules Committee by next Tuesday, February 13. The committee is working with the bill sponsor, Rep. Thai, on an amendment to change the language from "mental health disorder" to "mental health condition." WAPA has also now requested a change to the "inability to proceed" language. Judge Ringus also reported that the DMCJA Legislative Day, held on January 31, was a success with about 30 judges attending the event in Olympia to meet with over 70 legislators. Melissa Johnson, the DMCJA lobbyist, sends a report to full DMCJA membership every week that should help to inform about what is going on with session. Melissa's contract with DMCJA will expire on May 31 this year so the Board may need to discuss a new contract prior to the Board Retreat in May where it will be approved.

G. Public Outreach Committee

Judge Michelle K. Gehlsen reported that the Public Outreach Committee hasn't met since her last update. The committee continues to work on supporting Law Day events throughout the state, and they will begin planning for the next You've Been Served event, which is held in September, at their May meeting. In addition, they are looking at starting another toolkit to assist judges who would like to participate in community events.

H. Rules Committee

Judge Catherine McDowall reported that the Rules Committee will be discussing the rules that have been proposed for comment, but they have already provided feedback on many of them because they were given an opportunity to comment through the BJA Remote Proceedings Workgroup.

I. Therapeutic Courts Committee

Judge Fred Gillings reported that the Therapeutic Courts Committee met earlier this month. They received updates on the relicensing project from Judge Howson and on Legislative Day from Judge Finkle. They informally surveyed the committee about who will be attending the All Rise conference in May, and more than half of the committee will be attending.

ACTION

A.

DISCUSSION

A.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Washington State Association of Youth Courts In-Person Conference March 2, 2024
- B. [2024 State of the Judiciary Report](#)

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Attendee Information Sharing
- B. The next DMCJA Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 8, 2024 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.