

JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE

October 23, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
AOC Office, SeaTac, WA

Minutes

Members Present:

Justice Mary Fairhurst, Chair
Chief Robert Berg
Ms. Cathy Grindle
Mr. Jeff Hall
Judge James Heller
Mr. William Holmes
Mr. N. F. Jackson
Mr. Rich Johnson
Judge Steven Rosen
Judge Michael Trickey
Ms. Siri Woods (by phone)
Judge Thomas J. Wynne

Guests Present:

Mr. Shayne Boyd
Mr. Brian Rowe

Staff Present:

Mr. William Cosgwell
Mr. Doug Ford
Ms. Vicky Marin
Mr. Chris Ruhl
Ms. Pam Payne
Mr. Gregg Richmond
Mr. Ramsey Radwan
Ms. Kathy Wyer

Members Absent:

Judge C. Kenneth Grosse, Vice Chair
Mr. Marc Lampson
Ms. Yolande Williams
Mr. Steward Menefee

Call to Order

Justice Fairhurst called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and introductions were made.

August 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the August 14, 2009 meeting minutes, the motion carried.

Operational Plan Status Report – (Formerly Key Activity Status)

Mr. Richmond reported that we have signed a master vendor contract with Sierra Systems to assist with executing the IT Operational Plan through the end of the 2009-2011 bienniums. Work has already started with five planned work orders approved by the JISC earlier this year. Work has begun on the following initiatives; Organizational Change Management, IT Governance, Project Management Office, Project Portfolio Management, Enterprise Architecture Management.

The Vehicle Related Violations project is progressing well and we are currently working with the City of Everett to test the exchange and to ensure the application will scale to meet the expected needs of the Courts in the future. We are continuing the work on e-Ticketing to ensure the continuing stability and to provide enhancements to the application to support expanded use and additional functionality for prosecutors as well. The maintenance team has four legislative changes remaining out of a total of twenty-three bills that passed which required changes to the JIS system.

Budget Status Report

Mr. Radwan reported on allocations and expenditures to date as we have started work on contracts and projects. Equipment replacement money as allocated by legislature in the 2009 session has been added to the report for the purpose of tracking as project money. 10.1 million is

allocated, 3 million is for equipment replacement leaving about 7.1 for project money currently, excluding any supplemental requests.

The amount of the previously approved 2010 AOC/ISD supplemental, \$5,340,000, was amended to reflect the anticipated rate at which new staff can be hired. The revised amount is \$3,797,000. All other budgetary assumptions remain the same.

IT Request Backlog Lists

Mr. Jeff Hall addressed the purpose of this exercise was to gain understanding about specific backlog of requests as submitted by the court community. We wanted to have a list that was validated by court users as to whether or not a request is still valid. We believed this would give us a more manageable list to work on when we get to the governance process. As we understand what the backlog really is, it became clear that sending it out to the user community was not going to be productive.

There is a big distinction between incident requests and real change requests or known bugs. Mr. Bill Cogswell will take over from here. We are talking about two different types of events that happen in the maintenance world, the first one is an incident – something is broken and should be fixed right away. These should be a short life span before completion. The second ones are, change requests or enhancement or known errors in the system. These would take longer to complete. We currently have about 250 valid change requests that are ready for governance to look at and decide if they can be completed. We have about 600 known errors that still need to have validation.

What is different? We now have a process in place not only to address the historical backlog but also any new request. This process will allow us to classify incoming requests correctly. This will help in the future to get them to the right governance so they can be addressed. The expectation from having this process, requests will decline over time as they are closed out, due to either the work being done, or the request is obsolete or because the governance has prioritized them and the work has been completed.

JIS Transformation Plan

Mr. Jeff Hall, Mr. Shayne Boyd from Sierra Systems, and Mr. Gregg Richmond reported to the committee on the progress of the JIS Transformation Plan.

JusticeNet

JusticeNet would provide infrastructure and connectivity to enable justice-related entities—courts, law enforcement agencies, clerks, prosecutors, public defenders, civil legal aid, law libraries, and others—to enhance access to justice, increase public safety, promote better communications, expand capacity for real-time video communications, and better integrate judicial and administrative systems both functionally and geographically.

Some of the potential benefits from a statewide, high-speed JusticeNet could include:

- Conducting bail, pretrial, traffic, and other hearings via streaming video
- Connecting courthouse-based support systems with court users without users having to come to the courthouse
- Providing on-demand access for the public to effective public legal education

Unanimous motion carried as indicated that JISC endorse the development of the JusticeNet.

Tolling of 520 Bridge – not on agenda

Mr. Jeff Hall reported Washington State legislature is looking at tolling as a new way of funding significant transportation projects. Tacoma Narrows Bridge was just completed then next one coming up is the 520 bridge. Tolling on 520 as they are proposing would not have toll booths, commuter would either have a Good2Go pass or a photo of your license plate would be taken upon crossing and it can be paid online. The other option would be receiving notice via mail.

The impact on King County is significant. We don't believe the parking module will allow the processing the number of tickets. There are things they will need to do that we do not provide functionality for now, such as online payments, time payments, they will also have significant scheduling and hearing issues for those who want to contest their ticket.

This is coming down the road, there will be legislation introduced this session. The big question coming to JISC – what are we going to do to solve this problem? Tolling operations could start as early as November 2010, as opposed to June 2011, significant difference. Due to the time constraints, we will likely need to discuss and reach some decision at the December 4 JISC meeting.

JISC Rule 2 Amendment

At the June 26th JISC meeting, a representative of the Misdemeanant Corrections Association requested that the JISC add a member from that association. There is no requirement in current JISC rules that there be a member representing probation departments. The association has members representing probation departments organized under both courts of limited jurisdiction and the local executive branch.

A motion was made to request that the Washington Supreme Court amend JISC Rule 2 to add a member to the JISC from the courts of limited jurisdiction representing the Misdemeanant Corrections Association, and to designate that one of the existing members from the superior courts represent the Washington Juvenile Court Administrators' Association.

The motion passed. 8 voted yes, 3 voted no, 1 abstention.

Case Records Search Tool on Public WA Courts Website

In response to the numerous complaints, a decision was made at AOC to remove a column of information until AOC could receive some guidance from JISC committee. This column simply listed the case type: "criminal, civil, or infraction." This column had generated the several complaints as it provided information that could easily be misinterpreted. The case could be "murder" or "walking a dog without a leash" and the caption simply said "criminal."

However, the most complaints have been from individuals who were charged with a crime, but where no conviction resulted because of a dismissal or not guilty verdict – in short, unproven allegations.

Currently, AOC's website does not display the dismissal. It simply lists the name of the defendant, court, case number, violation date. There is no indication what the results of the case were, leaving the reader to assume that the charge was justified and the defendant guilty of the crime.

The suggestion is to have this topic as an agenda item at the December 4 meeting, and to determine what information is revealed by using this tool.

Committee Reports

Mr. Rich Johnson reported on data exchange project. Manny Najarro will be taking over as project manager for the DMSC. The DMSC decided to make a name change from SCOMIS exchange to Superior Court Data Exchange. The reason for that was when we started putting things together; they didn't always go as planned. Our focus began with Pierce County and the duplicate data entry and issues associated with that. We have expanded the scope of that effort through lessons learned from VRV; the limited focus we had was not going to meet the needs of the users and would have been a failure. We had to broaden our vision on that to say, this is really Superior Court data and any Superior Court out there that needs data, we need to go back to our fundamental premise, which is, data only gets entered once and it doesn't matter what system it gets entered into, if we want to use that data, we want to leverage the effort to share that data entry with other systems we have.

The good news is, that we are going to get more at the end of this project than a limited focus of SCOMIS exchanging data one way or meeting some needs in a particular jurisdiction.

We have committed to a broad outreach to the superior courts in general to try to identify what systems are out there. We know there are imaging applications; we know there are calendaring systems, so we are going to work with the known, while we fill in the blanks. The bottom line is if we deal with what we know, we are going to get 75-80% of the Superior Court data needs met on a state wide basis.

We're pushing forward with how do we redefine our contracts, and we continue to move forward with redefining how the Superior Court exchange will be structured and how it will be delivered.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be December 4, 2009, at the AOC SeaTac facility; from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.