



Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) Meeting

Friday, February 21, 2014 (10:45 a.m. – Noon)

AOC SeaTac Office, 18000 International Blvd., Suite 1106, SeaTac

MEETING MINUTES

BJA Members Present:

Chief Justice Barbara Madsen, Chair
Judge Kevin Ringus, Member Chair
Judge Vickie Churchill
Ms. Callie Dietz
Judge Stephen Dwyer
Judge Jill Johanson
Judge Linda Krese
Judge Michael Lambo
Judge Jeffrey Ramsdell
Judge Ann Schindler
Judge Charles Snyder
Judge Scott Sparks (by phone)
Judge David Svaren

Guests Present:

Mr. Michael Fenton
Ms. Sonya Kraski (by phone)
Dr. Steve Lerch
Mr. Paul Sherfey (by phone)
Judge Laurel Siddoway

AOC Staff Present:

Mr. David Elliott
Ms. Beth Flynn
Mr. Steve Henley
Ms. Shannon Hinchcliffe
Ms. Mara Machulsky
Mr. Dirk Marler
Ms. Mellani McAleenan
Mr. Ramsey Radwan

January 17 BJA Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Chief Justice Madsen and seconded by Judge Lambo to approve the January 17 BJA meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Trial Court Operations Funding Committee Appointments

It was moved by Judge Churchill and seconded by Judge Lambo to ratify the appointments to the Trial Court Operations Funding Committee. The motion carried.

2015-17 Budget Process

It was noted that the recent letter to budget stakeholders stated the deadline for submitting budget requests was March 11 and the timeline in the BJA meeting materials states the budget requests are due March 21. Mr. Radwan will check on the dates to verify the actual deadline and will contact the stakeholders if the deadline is actually March 21.

The only difference between the timeline in the meeting materials and the timeline from the January meeting materials is that Ramsey took out the dates of the BJA meetings.

It was moved by Judge Ramsdell and seconded by Judge Lambo to approve the timeline submitted. The motion carried.

February State Budget Forecast

Dr. Lerch gave a presentation regarding the state revenue forecast. The revenue forecast increased \$30 million for the 2013-15 biennium but that is only a one-tenth of one percent change from the November 2013 forecast. An \$82 million revenue increase was forecast for the 2015-17 biennium and that reflects the additional revenue from the passage of I-502. Nearly 80% of the I-502 excise tax is earmarked and none of that money shows up in the revenue estimates. Dr. Lerch responded to a question about the amount of I-502 revenue that stays local by stating that local sales taxes will remain local and B&O taxes in the 12-15 cities that have them will also stay local.

Dr. Lerch, in response to a question, stated that the vote by the Boeing machinists did not impact the revenue forecast because that contract begins in the future so there is no added revenue at this point in time.

Washington is doing a bit better economically than the U.S. economy. Employment in Washington State increased a little in February. It is a positive increase but it is still relatively small.

Sales taxes by themselves are not quite back to their pre-recession numbers and that is a result of consumers cutting back on expenses during the recession. Dr. Lerch responded to a question about the impact of online shopping on Washington State revenue by stating that online shopping does have a negative impact on Washington's revenue. Some online retailers charge Washington sales tax but some do not.

Legislative Report

Ms. McAleenan distributed an updated bill cut-off report. There are only 500 to 600 bills still alive with a couple of cut-offs remaining.

The Mason County Superior Court judge bill request passed out of the Senate unanimously. It was heard in the House Judiciary Committee yesterday. It should go to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Information Technology next. In terms of cut-offs, they have until next Wednesday to hear policy bills.

The Legislature is still talking about if there will be a supplemental budget. Ms. McAleenan thinks there will be one. They are finally talking about education and it seems to be largely devoted to how they will report to the Supreme Court regarding *McCleary*.

The District and Municipal Court Judges' Association bills have not made it through the legislative process but some Superior Court Judges' Association bills have.

The juvenile records bill was amended to alleviate the Administrative Office of the Courts' concerns about the bill's fiscal impact. The BJA took a position of watch on the bill if the fiscal concerns were alleviated and that has happened.

There being no future business the meeting was adjourned.

Recap of Motions from the February 21, 2014 meeting

Motion Summary	Status
Approve the January 17, 2014 BJA meeting minutes	Passed
Ratify the list of Trial Court Operations Funding Committee members	Passed
Approve the proposed 2015-2017 budget timeline	Passed

Action Items from the February 21, 2014 meeting

Action Item	Status
<u>January 17, 2014 BJA Meeting Minutes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post the minutes online• Send minutes to the Supreme Court for inclusion in the En Banc meeting materials	Done Done
<u>2015-17 Budget Process</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine submittal date and notify budget stakeholders of correct date• Move forward with the budget process	Done In progress