

**APPROVED MINUTES
JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE**

April 6, 2001

Members Present:

Justice Bobbe Bridge, Chair
Judge C. Kenneth Grosse, Vice Chair
Judge Thomas J. Wynne
Judge James R. Heller
Judge Clifford L. Stilz
Ms. Mary McQueen
Mr. Michael Planet
Ms. Virginia Kirk
Ms. Siri Woods
Mr. C. Mel Jewell

Staff Present:

Dr. Tom Clarke
Mr. Brian Backus
Ms. Kathy Kuriyama
Ms. Jennifer Peters

Guests Present:

Mr. Laird Hail, Seattle Municipal Court
Mr. Dennis Hausman, DIS
(2) media persons

Members Absent:

Judge Dale B. Ramerman
Judge Vance Peterson
Ms. Cathleen M. Grindle
Mr. Gary Riesen
Chief Mike Vandiver
Mr. David Ponzoha

CALL TO ORDER

Justice Bridge called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The minutes of February 23, 2001 were approved as written.

UPDATES

BUDGET

Ms. McQueen confirmed the Senate version of the budget request as amended. They gave no new monies for JIS (\$8 million short of the request). An amendment for a JIS Fee increase of \$2 will bring us \$5 million and \$3 million new money from PSEA account. We still need \$3 million, although we won't have to cancel too many projects.

LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS

Justice Bridge reported that the BJA Executive/Legislative Committee meeting will be held on Monday at 5:00 p.m. and they will be deciding on what to do about the House Budget proposal. She feels that we should stay on course and ask for the \$7.9 Million. She received an e-mail from Victor Moore and he thought that Senator Helen Sommers is being protective of Pensions, so she won't favor that request. However, Justice Bridge thinks we should go with what the Senate is proposing and ask for \$2 Million more. She and Victor will discuss it more on Monday with the BJA.

BJA is looking at long term funding. The maintenance budget is being pushed into the JIS budget. At the JISC Retreat in July, a workgroup will be put together to approach long term funding issues. Judicial education money has been cut by over 40 percent.

Chief Justice Alexander even feels like we need to take a strong position on requesting a JIS User Fee increase of \$2. It would be an increase to the JIS Fee base.

DEFERRED TRAFFIC REVENUE LOSSES/IMPACT

Mr. Backus reported that he needs to take a look at revenues to see if courts are compliant. By the Retreat, he should be up to date on the numbers. Judge Grosse added that this issue could be folded into the funding discussion. Judge Stiliz added that courts have not been paying their share of the deferred traffic fee.

NCSC 7TH ANNUAL COURT TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

Dr. Clarke informed the group that CTC7 Scholarship information is available on the NCSC site. He also handed out information regarding eligibility requirements and the application. This would be an alternate source of funding if JIS can't pay for someone's attendance.

COLLABORATION TOOL UPDATE

Mr. Backus reported that when groups use listservs, documents don't always come up when opening the e-mails. Listservs are also problematic because of the response to the whole group. We won't be discontinuing the listservs; however, we are looking into using other tools for document management between big groups via electronic mail. Judge Grosse reminded Mr. Backus that the exchange of large attachments have memory limitations, so when checking out other tools, to make sure it works with the state system. Mr. Backus responded that there is a lot of software out there and they will be looking at functional products (document management). He will make a recommendation on one and do a pilot project to make sure it fits our needs.

TECHNOLOGY BILL OF RIGHTS

Mr. Backus reported that the Access to Justice Board established a committee to draft a possible court rule to ensure that current and future technology both increases opportunities and eliminates barriers to access to and effective utilization of the justice system. It will be a two-year working project, which will include stakeholdering an initial draft to all interested persons and groups for comment before presenting to the Supreme Court for adoption. JIS is the key player and will have most the input on how it looks, what goes in it, etc. Mr. Backus will have Mr. Horowitz come to the next meeting to explain more of the details.

Ms. McQueen stated that the Bar Association bought a license for a company to provide Pro Se forms for a fee. Dr. Clarke responded that an Access to Justice-sponsored group, CLEAR, could make money by charging translation fees for forms and help for Pro Ses. This conflicts with our Pro Se Project. There are some policy issues that will need to be worked out. Judge Grosse commented that it should be free. How do you make free, free? Everything seems to have a fee. There are some self-help centers in the courts now, and they pay facilitators to help out Pro Ses.

ELECTRONIC FILING STANDARDS UPDATE

Dr. Clarke reported that a working group has been established and met on March 30, 2001. California was the group's model for our effort in Washington. The standards allow a vendor to compete with the state. The working group began its review of the draft recommended standards. A number of substantive comments were made. The

group is halfway through the proposed standards. There are two more to review at the next meeting, which is scheduled for April 20 at 9 a.m. in Rm. 1718 of One Union Square.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

RMAC

Ms. Woods reported that the Committee is working on court reporter notes and finding alternative means of communicating by agreement. This should allow elimination of documents in files and eliminate duplicates and possibly be rid of temporary orders.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Planet reported that this would be his last JISC meeting, as he is leaving the state of Washington to take a job in Ventura County, California. N.F. Jackson will be replacing him on the Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next JIS Committee meeting will be the Retreat – July 12 and 13, 2001, *1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.* at Best Western Wesley Inn, Gig Harbor, WA.

The next JIS Data Dissemination Subcommittee meeting will be on May 25, 2001, *9:00 a.m. to Noon*, at Two Union Square, Room 1606, Seattle, WA.

The next JIS Advisory Committee meeting will be on June 21, 2001, *9:00 a.m. to Noon*, at Two Union Square, Room 1606, Seattle, WA.