



Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) Meeting

Friday, January 16, 2015 (9 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 Veronica Alicea-Galvan
Judge Bryan Chushcoff
Ms. Callie Dietz
Judge Janet Garrow
Mr. Anthony Gipe
Judge Kevin Korsmo (by phone)
Judge Michael Lambo
Ms. Paula Littlewood
Judge Sean O'Donnell
Justice Susan Owens
Judge Jeffrey Ramsdell
Judge Ann Schindler
Judge Laurel Siddoway (by phone)
Judge David Steiner

Guests Present:

Ms. Linda Baker
Justice Mary Fairhurst
Ms. Ruth Gordon
Judge Thomas Wynne

Public Present:

Mr. Tom Goldsmith
Dr. Page Carter

AOC Staff Present:

Mr. John Bell
Ms. Vonnie Diseth
Mr. David Elliott
Ms. Beth Flynn
Mr. Steve Henley
Mr. Dirk Marler
Ms. Mellani McAleenan
Mr. Ramsey Radwan

Judge Ringus called the meeting to order.

December 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Judge Alicea-Galvan moved and Judge Ramsdell seconded to approve the December 12, 2014 BJA meeting minutes. The motion carried.

GR 31.1 Forms

Mr. Bell stated that there were no revisions to the GR 31.1 forms between the December and January BJA meetings. These are the last of the forms and policies that will come to the BJA for approval. Training will begin soon. Judge Schindler, Judge O'Donnell and Judge Garrow will review the training materials along with minor changes to the rule and those will be brought to the BJA in the future.

It was moved by Judge Garrow and seconded by Judge Ramsdell to approve the following GR 31.1 forms: Memorandum of Understanding, Guidance on Chamber Records, and Exemptions. The motion carried.

Public Trust and Confidence Committee Appointment

Judge Alicea-Galvan asked that the BJA approve the appointment of Commissioner Paul Wohl to the BJA Public Trust and Confidence Committee.

It was moved by Judge Ramsdell and seconded by Judge Garrow to appoint Commissioner Paul Wohl to the BJA Public Trust and Confidence Committee. The motion carried.

Supreme Court Budget Report

Mr. Radwan reviewed the Supreme Court budget submittal. The budget information was included in the meeting materials. He stated that it is going to be a tough legislative session and information about the budget should start coming out at the end of February. Mr. Radwan believes there will be a budget reduction to assist in balancing the budget.

The Judicial Information System (JIS) budget requests were discussed. There is a request for 11 staff for the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Case Management System (CLJ-CMS). Some of the other JIS requests are maintenance requests along with internal and external equipment requests.

Page 4 of the budget materials contains requests from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

Pages 5 through 9 represent the rest of the judicial branch. The Supreme Court decided to allow the Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA) and the Office of Public Defense (OPD) budgets to pass through, after Supreme Court review and comment, because they have oversight boards.

JIS Governance

The BJA was reminded that they did not evaluate or rank the JIS budget requests because the Judicial Information System Committee (JISC) does not fall under the BJA. Last month when the BJA discussed supporting the Superior Court Case Management System (SC-CMS) project additional information was requested about the project and data exchanges.

Justice Fairhurst gave an overview of the history of the JISC. The JISC is a large, robust committee that oversees all of the information systems for the judicial branch and sets policy, priorities and approves the information technology projects that AOC must follow. The funding comes from the JIS Account which receives most of its money from assessments on traffic infractions. There is some discussion about changes in the infraction fees which could have an impact on the JIS funding.

Justice Fairhurst walked through the IT Governance Process and the information was included in the meeting materials.

The JISC is currently working on the Appellate Court Electronic Content Management System (ECMS), the SC-CMS project and the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Case Management System (CLJ-CMS) and the AOC is at capacity.

A variety of legislative provisos have been put on the JISC and the legislative priorities change, but the JISC is continuing to respond. The AOC is just trying to provide updated statewide systems and it is a continuous work in progress. For most of Washington's counties, the SC-CMS project will replace a vital system. Two large counties are able to use their own systems but their case information needs to be integrated into the SC-CMS.

The Appellate ECMS is close to go live and the requirements gathering for the CLJ-CMS project has begun. They can begin the request for proposals process as soon as the staff and funding become available.

Ms. Diseth stated that there are court user work groups for all of the projects to look at the business needs to determine how the system should be configured. There is a huge commitment of time and energy to doing this and all of the representatives who contribute their time and knowledge are appreciated.

Ms. Diseth said that the money in the budget for the Information Networking Hub (INH) funds the work for data exchanges. As courts migrate onto the new system, that data is sent back to SCOMIS through the INH so the courts not on the new system maintain a view of the statewide information from the courts on Odyssey. The funding also includes commercial, off-the-shelf (COTS) preparation money that is being used for work that must be done to integrate our existing JIS systems to work with the new systems (i.e. Odyssey).

Judge Wynne explained that data exchanges are very expensive and they take two partners.

If there are further questions, please contact Justice Fairhurst, Judge Wynne, Ms. Diseth or Ms. Dietz.

Justice Reinvestment Initiative

Mr. Marshall Clement, from the Council of State Governments Justice Center, works on issues ranging from mental health courts, other specialty courts, and juvenile justice issues. He works on justice reinvestment which is supported by the Department of Justice and Pew Charitable Trusts.

In June 2014 a Justice Reinvestment Task Force was created. The Task Force developed some high level findings and recommendations which were distributed at the meeting. The Task Force had a lot of data to work with and were able to match records and analyze them.

They initially looked at Washington's prison population which exceeds capacity. Felony sentences have decreased since 2000 but prison sentences have increased by nearly 30 percent.

Washington now ranks #1 in property crime. Washington's rate has been flat but other states have shrinking property crime. Burglary arrests have increased since 2004 driven by the increase in repeat burglary arrests. One-third of property crime offenders are new and 18% were released from prison within the last two years.

Washington State's Justice Reimbursement Policy Framework consists of the following:

1. Reduce property crime and support victims of property crime.
2. Hold people convicted of property offenses accountable with supervision and, if needed, treatment.
3. Reinvest to strengthen supervision policies and practices to reduce recidivism.

The estimated impact of implementing the policy framework on the prison population is a potential savings of approximately 900 beds.

Legislative Report

Ms. McAleenan stated that the Washington State Association of Counties provided copies of their 2015 Legislative Agenda, 2015 Fiscal Sustainability, and Why Counties Matter. They wanted to share the information with the BJA since they started doing so during a meeting with the BJA in 2014.

Ms. McAleenan provided the BJA with a list of bills that the BJA took action on. All of the BJA bills are in good shape. Judge David Svaren testified for the Skagit County judge bill.

The BJA was asked if they want to hold a legislative reception this year. In previous years, the BJA special account funded dinners regionally so judges and legislators could get to know each other. Last year Ms. McAleenan looked to find something that would be more cost-effective and might encourage more participation. Usually the legislative dinners had between 25 - 37 legislators and cost between \$6,000 - \$10,000. Last year, the legislative reception was \$2,500 and 15 legislators and nine legislative staff attended.

After discussion, the BJA decided to hold the legislative reception on Thursday, February 19 and move the February 20 meeting to Olympia.

Standing Committee Reports

Legislative Committee Report: Judge O'Donnell reported that the Legislative Committee had their first meeting of the 2015 legislative session. Ms. McAleenan provided a good outline for them and they gave her authority to sign in on a variety of bills.

Budget and Funding Committee: The Budget and Funding Committee will meet after the February BJA meeting.

Education Committee: The Education Committee provided a written report of their activities.

Policy and Planning Committee: The Policy and Planning Committee is in a state of transition and will be meeting later.

Suggested GR 35 Judicial Performance Evaluations

Some additional information regarding judicial performance evaluations was provided in the meeting materials and this will be on the February 20 meeting agenda.

The next BJA meeting is scheduled for February 20 in Olympia and the BJA legislative reception will be held in Olympia on February 19.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recap of Motions from the January 16, 2015 meeting

Motion Summary	Status
Approve the December 12, 2014 BJA meeting minutes	Passed
Approve the following GR 31.1 Forms: Memorandum of Understanding, Guidance on Chamber Records, and Exemptions	Passed
Appoint Commissioner Paul Wohl to the BJA Public Trust and Confidence Committee	Passed

Action Items from the January 16, 2015 meeting

Action Item	Status
<u>December 12, 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>BJA Public Trust and Confidence Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send appointment letter to Commissioner Paul Wohl 	Done
<u>GR 35</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add to February agenda 	Done