

COT MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSION ON TECHNOLOGY

Friday, November 20, 2015

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT
Administrative Office of the Courts
1501 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

CONFERENCE ROOM 119

Conference Number: 602-452-3288

Meeting ID: 2035#

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Pelander, *Chair*
Michael Baumstark
Kent Batty*
Raymond Billotte
Michael Brown
James Conlogue*
Bennett Evan Cooper
Christopher Hale
Michael Jeanes
Gary Krcmarik
John Lucas
Michael Miller*
John Rezzo
Tivo Romero*
Roxanne Song Ong
Virlynn Tinnell*

GUESTS

Alexis Allen, *Tempe Muni Court*
Carla Boatner, *Chandler Muni Court*
Tom Carroll, *Phoenix Muni Court*
Julie Dybas, *Scottsdale Muni Court*
Jennifer Gilbertson, *TAC*
Susan Holliefield, *Gilbert Muni Court*
Randy Kennedy, *TAC*
Van Le, *Gilbert Muni Court*
MaryAnne Majestic, *Tempe Muni Court*
Cary Meister, *TAC*
Joe Olcavage, *Scottsdale Muni Court*
Debi Schafer, *Tempe Muni Court*
Ryan Scott, *Courthouse News Svc*
Don Taylor, *Phoenix Muni Court*
Michael Traynor, *Chandler Muni Court*
Adam Walterson, *Gilbert Muni Court*

MEMBERS ABSENT

Paul J. Faith

AOC STAFF

Stewart Bruner, *ITD*
Eric Ciminski, *CSD*
Karl Heckart, *ITD/TAC*
Denise Lundin, *CSD*
Jim Price, *ITD*
Renny Rapier, *ITD*
Marcus Reinkensmeyer, *CSD*
Jason Shumberger, *ITD*
Amy Wood, *CSD*

* indicates appeared by telephone

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WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Hon. John Pelander, Chair

Vice Chief Justice John Pelander, Chair, called the Commission on Technology (COT) meeting to order just after 10:00 a.m. He called the roll of members at the table and on the phone. Staff confirmed that a quorum existed.

Justice Pelander informed members of meeting dates for next year and summarized discussions from the recent court leadership conference held in Flagstaff. He pointed out that civil justice reforms being contemplated by a newly forming committee will have a major indirect impact on technology in the courts.

The chair then called members' attention to the minutes from the September 11, 2015 meeting.

MOTION

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2015 Commission on Technology meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

TECH 15-19

E-COURT SERVICES UPDATE

Mr. Marcus Reinkensmeyer

Mr. Marcus Reinkensmeyer, AOC Court Services Director, focused his update on the changing business processes of courts resulting from implementation of the coming eCourt products. He reviewed a detailed graphic depicting the e-filing workflow as well as various interrelated technology components and the functions they provide, pointing out the different vendors and different software products that have to be seamlessly integrated. He also provided status updates on the various existing and upcoming e-filing implementations around the state.

Marcus described features associated with the eBench viewing and annotating screen for judges before announcing that the Pima backfile effort has completed and that the Yavapai backfile effort is now underway. Through time consuming, backfiling indexes every single word of every document, making it rapidly searchable by judges and staff. He briefly mentioned that eAccess is continuing to have the Supreme Court Rule 123 access protections built into it and is presently on a trajectory toward an April 2016 limited launch to ensure the rules are functioning correctly and to allow time to load remaining rural county case documents.

Mr. Kent Batty reported that eBench adoption is now spreading to the various benches beyond the pilot judges in Pima Superior Court.

FOLLOWUP ON UNAPPROVED COUNTY IT PLANS

Mr. Stewart Bruner

Mr. Stewart Bruner, in his role as information technology strategic planning manager for the Judicial Branch, reminded members of the reasons four plans remained unapproved at the end of the annual meeting in June. He then summarized the actions taken since then. As a result of detail received in amendments to the plans, Stewart recommended reconsideration of the Cochise

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Courts' plan and Yuma Courts' plan. Stewart assured members that he will continue to follow up on the individual projects being accomplished to address the technology deficiencies.

MOTION	A motion was made and seconded to approve Cochise County Courts Information Technology Strategic Plan for FY2016-FY2018 as amended to include technology replacement project details. The motion passed unanimously, James Conlogue abstaining.	TECH 15-20
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MOTION	A motion was made and seconded to approve Yuma County Courts Information Technology Strategic Plan for FY2016-FY2018 as amended to include technology replacement project details. The motion passed unanimously.	TECH 15-21
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	FOLLOWUP ON UNAPPROVED MARICOPA COUNTY LJ COURTS' IT PLAN	Mr. Karl Heckart
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Mr. Karl Heckart prefaced has recap of visits with the leadership of various non-ACAP limited jurisdiction (LJ) courts in Maricopa County as directed in the previous COT meeting with a review of the applicable provisions in law and court rule for courts managing their own local automation. He described details of the support model and timetable for future CMS activities at each of the courts visited and informed members that none of the courts anticipate any need for AJACS within the upcoming plan period. Karl reminded members that more detail will be submitted in the next planning cycle, since last year was only a "lite" update cycle. The chair opened the floor for comment from the leadership of Chandler, Phoenix, and Gilbert municipal courts after Karl summarized each of their situations.

Karl then called attention to the unique position of Scottsdale, having been a longtime AZTEC court but now planning to sever the tie by customizing the software so thoroughly as to create a new locally developed CMS called CourtEZ. The projects to complete the separation are contained in the IT plan. He emphasized the hidden cost to the AOC in resources and time stemming from new needs for integration and recommended that the project not proceed without approval of an exception request brought to COT by Scottsdale. The Honorable James Olcavage, Scottsdale's presiding judge, explained the business impetus for the high degree of customization performed to the CMS over time and the fact that the move will broaden the local technical support base. Ms. Julie Dybas, Court Administrator for Scottsdale, added some other benefits to the list and emphasized that the project is too close to completion to wait until the February COT meeting for approval to proceed. She believed no transparency issue ever existed with the project, since AOC was aware and had taken no previous actions to stop it. Julie volunteered local resources to assist the AOC in re-integrating Scottsdale following completion of the porting of the database from Informix to SQL.

Members asked many questions while struggling to formulate an approach to address Scottsdale's current situation, but could not arrive at a clear direction that would balance desired

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local improvements with the cost to the court system as a whole, especially to those courts awaiting LJ AJACS. Karl more fully explained his concern about the growing cost of integrating an increasing rather than decreasing number of non-standard systems in the state. In the end, members were reticent to enable any statewide interfaces to break and affirmed that the rules needed to be respected, regardless of the nearness of the project to completion. Mr. Mike Baumstark proposed that Scottsdale and AOC compose a formal plan for accomplishing the separation to be reviewed for approval by COT at the February meeting.

MOTION	A motion was made and seconded to approve the Maricopa LJ Courts' IT Strategic Plan for FY2016-FY2018 with the exception of Scottsdale's portion, pending approval of an exception request for the CMS database conversion project, requesting Scottsdale to come back at the time of the February 2016 meeting with that exception request with the understanding that in the interim there will be ongoing discussion between Karl and staff and Scottsdale. The motion passed unanimously.	TECH 15-22
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	PHOENIX CMS WEB UPGRADE JPIJ	Ms. Jennifer Gilbertson
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The Honorable B. Don Taylor, Phoenix Municipal Court Presiding Judge, provided the context for the project proposal as the culmination of the court's examination of its long-term CMS direction. He conveyed the full support of city leadership in Phoenix for the direction being presented. He assured members that Phoenix's history of providing all statewide interfaces with no need of AOC support will continue. Ms. Jennifer Gilbertson, Information Technology Officer at Phoenix Municipal Court, reviewed the factors in the court's decision to enhance its long-running CMS to improve the usability of screens and to enable integration with the OnBase EDMS. She clarified that though the project consists of six phases total, the JPIJ covers only the initial three phases. Jennifer detailed the activities in each phase along with the timeline and cost for those activities. Work will be accomplished in conjunction with the resources of a long-time vendor.

Members questioned various implications of relying on a vendor, the vendor's disclaimer on its current estimate, and the wisdom of "facelifting" a system as old as the Phoenix CMS. They requested staff to explain the distinction between two similar motion options that were presented.

MOTION	A motion was made and seconded to approve the project as presented and require that Phoenix return with an amended JPIJ in the event the estimated cost increases by more than 10 percent over the amount provided in the current JPIJ at any time during the project. The motion passed unanimously with Roxanne Song Ong abstaining.	TECH 15-23
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CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Hon. John Pelander

After hearing no further discussion from members or the public, the chair reminded members of the next meeting on February 19. He entertained a motion to adjourn at 12:20 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

February 19, 2016	AOC – Conference Room 119
June 3, 2016	AOC – Conference Room 119

MEETING ADJOURNED

12:20 PM