

CACC MEETING MINUTES

COURT AUTOMATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE A Subcommittee of the Commission on Technology

Thursday, September 25, 2014
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT
1501 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007



AUDIO PHONE NUMBER: 1-602-425-3288
AUDIO ACCESS CODE: 3581#

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Clarich
Julie Dybas
Donald Jacobson
Phillip Knox
Ron Overholt*
Janie Randall*
Paul Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kip Anderson
Christopher Hale
Michael Pollard, *Chair*
Chad Roche
Rona Newton

GUESTS

Charles Drake*, *PCCJC*
Jennifer Gilbertson*, *Phoenix Muni Court*
Lester Godsey, *City of Mesa IT*
Lauren Lupica, *City of Mesa IT*
Hon. Matthias Tafoya, *Mesa Muni Court*
Connie Williams, *Mesa Muni Court*

AOC STAFF

Stewart Bruner, *ITD*
Eric Ciminski, *ITD*
Mary Kennedy, *ITD*
Tina Knezovich-Hladik*, *ITD*
Lou Ponesse, *ITD*
Jim Price, *ITD*
Jason Shumberger, *ITD*
Amy Wood, *CSD*

* indicates appeared by telephone

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Don Jacobson substituting for Judge Michael Pollard, Chair, called the Court Automation Coordinating Committee (CACC) meeting to order shortly after 10:00 a.m. He conducted a roll call of those on the phone and confirmed that a quorum existed. The chair then called attention to the minutes of the August 28, 2014 CACC in members' packets.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the August 28, 2014 CACC meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY REFRESH PROJECT UPDATE

Tina Knezovich, Technology Refresh Project Manager, updated members on the recent accomplishments of the project in Pinal where over 100 machines have now been placed in Juvenile Probation areas and the superior court building. Tina detailed the various issues encountered so far in Pinal. Activities are two days behind schedule but on track to catch up now that early issues are getting resolved. Some time will be taken to incorporate the lessons learned in Pinal before activities begin for Yuma on October 10.

REVIEW OF CHANGES TO MINDMAP THIS MONTH

Staff member Stewart Bruner informed members of the few changes to the MindMap made since last month, mostly in the two e-filing project areas. All limited jurisdiction (LJ) AJACS release dates remain in "TBD" status. Members were provided the updated priority projects table for reference.

PROJECT UPDATE: eUNIVERSA E-FILING

Eric Ciminski reported that AmCad is now officially in bankruptcy and that the eAccess product is currently in a "stalking horse" asset sale. The contract with AOC is part of that sale. Stewart reminded members of AOC's right to the source code Karl negotiated, that could be exercised depending on the performance of any new vendor. Eric stated that work continues on supporting and further implementing eAccess as a critical project contained in the chief justice's agenda.

Jim Price, eUniversa eFiling Program Manager, described the focus of work on the electronic filing product, which has not been sold. Jim detailed the order of case types being considered for e-filing as well as the specifications being provided to AZTurboCourt, Maricopa Superior Court, and Pima Superior Court to create a truly statewide e-filing system. He also detailed the importance of Amy Wood's participant matching activities to eUniversa.

PROJECT UPDATE: CMS REPLACEMENT DEVELOPMENT EFFORT

Mary Kennedy, Release Manager for the AJACS case management system (CMS), reminded members that she needs detail on a few remaining items before she will replace the TBD listings on the MindMap. In answer to a question, Mary provided a recap of the AOC East resource level and longer-term outlook, especially for the two shared resources. Apache Junction Municipal remains the AZTEC replacement pilot court.

Mary also updated members on recent progress toward getting Tucson converted and implemented on AJACS. Paul Thomas added that Tucson has been working closely with Mesa for some period of time, giving them a head start on adopting AJACS. Members requested a

demonstration of the LJ version of AJACS as it would be implemented in Tucson as soon as the code is sufficient. Mary discussed the fate of Mesa's required functionality contained in AJACS now that Mesa has announced their intention not to use the product.

PROJECT UPDATE: AZTURBOCOURT E-FILING

Amy Wood, AZTurboCourt eFiling Program Manager, reviewed information she shared last month about the need to address certain issues discovered during testing that will delay Release 3. Amy is now moving various functions that will stand alone out of the release. Key items include tax case processing and system changes that allow process servers, including constables, to file receipts of service. Amy clarified that payment is made through the attorney. She also gave an update on re-invigorating the small claims TurboCourt processing effort after Pima participant matching reaches production.

MESA ALTERNATE CMS ADOPTION RECOMMENDATION

Paul Thomas, court administrator at Mesa, introduced IT team members and Judge Tafoya from the court. Judge Tafoya described the vital importance of the exception to Mesa and thanked members for reviewing the draft copy of the exception request and Judicial Project Investment Justification (JPIJ) destined for COT. The judge described the effort that went into the LV CMS development project as well as the analysis of options following AmCad's abrupt departure from the CMS business. Paul Thomas then explained Mesa Municipal Court's rationale for implementing the Tempe THEMIS CMS rather than COT's statewide standard CMS, AJACS, developed using Mesa's own large-volume requirements and Mesa's staff resources.

Paul explained that Mesa has always had a large local scope of work that would follow AOC's turnover of the CMS to the court for implementation. With as many as 2600 hours needed for adding web services, local interfaces, automated check writing, etc., no time remains for implementing AJACS before the June 2015 mainframe shutdown date. Paul highlighted the 22-year relationship of the court with Mesa's IT department and the high level of support the court has come to expect from the department in comparison to the court's experience with AmCad. Mesa has achieved a high level of knowledge about the Tempe system.

Paul then described how Mesa's decision benefits the state as a whole, focusing on the culture of innovation that Mesa exemplifies, its leadership role for other LJ courts, and its recognition as a model court by the National Center for State Courts. He also stated that further development of the Tempe system gives the state a viable backup to AJACS. Paul elaborated the "Day 2" enhancements for THEMIS that Mesa is contemplating based on gap analysis work done so far. Les Godsey from Mesa City IT added details about the serious financial risks to the city and platform stability risks to the court of remaining on the mainframe beyond July 1, 2015.

Stewart relayed Karl Heckart's concerns that no AOC input can yet be provided to the committee since the exception document only arrived 48 hours before the meeting and that members must provide substantive reasons to COT for a recommendation to not adopt the statewide standard. Stewart emphasized that sufficient time exists before COT for CACC to hear from AOC and then make its recommendation, thereby adding credibility to the process.

Following members' discussion and questions, Don Jacobson summarized reasons for making a potential recommendation to COT:

- The substantial financial impact to and local political implications for Mesa should a solution not be in place within the determined timeframes,
- The history of and long-term plan for local development and support of the new CMS coupled with the high risk in maintaining the current CMS,
- The fact that the Tempe system has been a prior candidate for statewide use and that issues precluding its selection were predominantly related to justice court rather than municipal court functionality,
- Tempe's support for Mesa's use and adoption of the system,
- The fact that Mesa's preliminary gap analysis indicates only a few necessary but manageable additions to the Tempe code prior to implementation,
- Mesa's previous non-standard condition with respect to statewide automation, and
- The benefit to Tucson of shifting AOC resources toward their greater need.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to table any recommendation about Mesa's adoption of the THEMIS CMS until an AOC response can be presented at the October CACC meeting. The motion failed with 2 aye votes and 4 nay votes (Paul Thomas abstained).

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to recommend adoption of the THEMIS CMS rather than AJACS to COT for Mesa Municipal Court for the reasons listed in Don Jacobson's summary of the discussion. The motion passed with 5 aye votes and 1 nay vote (Paul Thomas abstained).

POST-IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS

There were no implementations to report since the previous meeting.

ITEMS OF OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

No items of old or new business were raised.

The next meeting will take place in Room 230 of the **State Courts Building** on **October 16, 2014 at 10 AM.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.