

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MEETING MINUTES
July 25, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.
Texas Association of Counties

I. Call to Order
Justice Simmons called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

JCIT Members:

Chair, Justice Rebecca Simmons
Honorable David Escamilla
Honorable David Field
Steve Mills
Honorable Amalia Rodríguez-Mendoza
Dean Stanzione
Ed Wells (*phone*)
Bob Wessels

JCIT Liaison Members:

Honorable Jeffrey Boyd
Randy Chapman
Doug Gowin (*phone*)
Honorable Blake Hawthorne
Honorable Dan Hinde
Honorable Laura Hinojosa (*phone*)
Tracy Hopper
Gary Hutton
Honorable Steve King (*phone*)
Cynthia Orr
Honorable Nancy Rister
Sian Schilhab
David Slayton (*phone*)
Mark Unger (*phone*)
Dennis Van Metre (*phone*)
Honorable Dianne Wilson
Honorable Sheri Woodfin

Others in attendance:

Amelia Balderama, iDocket
Travis Banks, Bexar County (*phone*)
Lupe Brieno, Tyler Technologies (*phone*)
Tammy Carter, File and Serve Xpress
Terry Derrick, Tyler Technologies
Jody Desantis, File and Serve Xpress
Jamie Gillespie, Tyler Technologies (*phone*)
Joel Green

Chris Griffith
Bobby Gutierrez, Travis County
Victor Jauregui, Travis County
Jeanine Hudson, Department of Public Safety
Carlos Lopez, Travis County
Honorable Donna Kay McKinney, Bexar County (*phone*)
Ronald Morgan, Travis County
Rod Napier, Office of Attorney General
Louis Sellers, Office of Attorney General
Caren Skipworth, Collin County (*phone*)
Brad Smith, Mentis Technology
Michelle Spencer, Bracewell & Giuliani
Jeff Wilson, Travis County

Office of Court Administration Staff:

Casey Kennedy, Director, Information Services
Thomas Sullivan, Deputy Director, Information Services

II. Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2014

Motion to approve the minutes was made by David Field with a second by Bob Wessels. **Motion carried.**

III. Committee Reports

A. eFiling Program Update

Terry Derrick, Tyler Technologies, gave a presentation to update the group on eFileTexas activities since the previous meeting. In phase 2, they implemented 33 counties. They are currently working on phase 3 which will have around 46 counties, 35 of which are new to eFiling. The goal is to have the counties live before November. Mr. Derrick also mentioned that they are beginning to look at criminal eFiling for subsequent filings.

Action Item: Mr. Kennedy will send the eFileTexas PowerPoint presentation to the JCIT members.

EFSP Update

Mr. Kennedy spoke on behalf of Steve Schenk for the EFSPs. Mr. Schenk reported that things are going ok, the standards helped a lot. There are some education issues where some clerks may not be following the standards, which is causing issues for the filing. Mr. Kennedy emphasized that version 3.8 won't be released just to meet a target date. If EFSPs and CMS providers are still finding issues, the release date will be pushed.

Justice Simmons brought up an issue about an attorney who is getting listed as an attorney for cases that she is not the attorney, and she can't get off the service list for those cases.

Action Item: Mr. Derrick said he will look into how the attorney can get removed

from the service list.

Clerks Group Update

Mr. Kennedy said that the clerks group had not met in several weeks when they prioritized their list. After 3.8 is released, there may be a 3.9 release, and then the Silverlight to HTML review tool conversion will be version 4.0. Version 4 will be a big change for the clerks. Version 4 is targeted for early January, it is currently being piloted in other states.

Action Item: Terry Derrick will see that the release notes for version 3.8 are shared with the clerk's group.

Tracy Hopper asked when expunge functionality will be fixed. Mr. Derrick said it is stage environment and should be released to production soon. Ms. Hopper asked if it was planned to be done automatically through an API, and Mr. Derrick responded it wasn't on the list at this time. She also brought up an issue about disputed charges which is causing accounting issues, and wondering if there is a way to flag the filer that is disputing charges.

Action Item: Terry Derrick will see that eFileTexas talks to Harris County about how they might be able to handle the disputed charges situation.

Filers Group Update

Mr. Kennedy talked briefly about the new Filers group that has been formed. The group met for the first time in June. The issues brought up by the group were then split up and assigned to the clerks group or EFSPs group, as appropriate. Issues with the EFM were added to the list for Tyler.

Action Item: Add Laura Hinojosa to the agenda for the next clerk's meeting to discuss how she handles proposed orders.

B. Standards

Bob Wessels provided an update on the standards committee's recent work. There are some tweaks being made to the civil standards. Yesterday, the committee met with Judge Guy Hermann to discuss probate code standards. Mr. Wessels thinks the probate codes will be ready to be sent out for review by the end of August. Once civil and family are done, he thinks they will be finalized other than an annual review. Criminal standards for subsequent filings are in process, and the committee will meet this afternoon to discuss further. Mr. Kennedy mentioned that the committee is also looking at optional services.

IV. New Business

a. Update on OCA Request for Offer for Statewide Case Management

Mr. Kennedy spoke briefly about the upcoming statewide Case Management request for offer. In the RFO, OCA is asking for a cloud-based, case

management system, mainly for small counties that don't have case management systems today. The RFO is available for viewing on the OCA website at <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/contract/pdf/RFOannouncement.pdf>. Vendor responses are due next week. There is no money to pay for the statewide system at this time. OCA will be asking the legislature for funding in the next session. The plan is for the system to be fully funded by the State. The counties would only pay for any capital or education needed in their office to use the system.

b. Legislative Initiatives

In addition to the statewide case management initiative, Justice Simmons mentioned they will be looking at statutes to see if anything needs to be changed for criminal e-filing. Dianne Wilson said that the Clerk's group is looking into fees that are collected by district and county clerks to see if any fees can be standardized.

c. Supreme Court Rules and Adoption of Standards

Justice Simmons said that the Supreme Court adopted the JCIT standards which has helped a lot.

V. Open Discussion

Justice Simmons congratulated the group for all the hard work they have accomplished, and encouraged people to continue attending the subcommittee meetings.

Justice Simmons adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

**Next meeting: October 24, 2014
Texas Association of Counties**