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2560-102 BARRINGTON CIRCLE | TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32308 | PHONE 850.386.2223 | WWW.FLCCOC.ORG

Minutes of October 3, 2023, Legislative Committee Meeting

Approved by the Legislative Committee at their meeting on December 18, 2023.

The Legislative Committee of the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC) held a meeting via WebEx on October 3, 2023. An agenda and materials were distributed and posted on the CCOC website before the meeting. Provided below is a summary of staff notes from the meeting. These staff notes are designed to document committee action, not to be a complete record of committee discussions. All motions adopted by the committee are in **bold** text. All action items based on committee direction are in **red** and **bold** text.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order and Approve Agenda

Clerk Carolyn Timmann, Chair of the Legislative Committee, called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. The meeting was turned over to Jason L. Welty, CCOC Deputy Executive Director, to conduct roll call. Mr. Welty called the roll.

Present via WebEx: Honorable Carolyn Timmann, Chair, Honorable Tara S. Green, Vice-Chair, Honorable Barry Baker, Honorable Doug Chorvat, Jr., Honorable Roger Eaton, Honorable Michelle R. Miller, Honorable Victoria L. Rogers, Honorable Cindy Stuart, Honorable Jerald D. Bryant, Honorable Rachel Sadoff

The agenda was approved by Chair Timmann.

Agenda Item 2 – Approve Minutes from 01/17/23 Meeting

The minutes from the 01/17/23 Legislative Committee meeting were presented. Chair Timmann stated that Agenda Item 2 approving the minutes of 01/17/23 should be revised to approve the minutes of 9/7/22.

A motion to approve the minutes with the revision was made by Clerk Baker and seconded by Clerk Eaton; the motion was adopted without objection.

Agenda Item 3 – CCOC Legislative Budget Request (LBR) Issue

Chair Timmann recognized Mr. Welty to present the CCOC LBR. Mr. Welty stated that each year the CCOC has provided the JAC with the number that each county has for Baker Act,

Our Mission: As a governmental organization created by the Legislature, we evaluate Clerks' court-related budgetary needs, and recommend the fair and equitable allocation of resources needed to sustain court operations.

Marchman Act, and Sexually Violent Predators petitions and orders. Mr. Welty stated that this builds into a budget request that provides \$40 for each one of these cases. Mr. Welty shared with the committee the narrative that was submitted for the LBR.

Agenda Item 4 – Justice Administrative Commission (JAC) Legislative Proposal

Mr. Welty stated that the JAC is the organization that does a lot of the administrative services for clerks' partners. Mr. Welty stated that the JAC would like the clerks to pick up some of their technical items leading up to the session. Mr. Welty noted that the JAC's Executive Director Rip Colvin, Jr. and Abram Dale were present on the meeting. Mr. Welty stated that the JAC legislative proposals were included in the packet.

Chair Timmann recognized Mr. Dale to present the JAC statutory changes. Mr. Dale stated that a lot of these items are technical; the only statutory change that may have some questions is the public records exemption. Mr. Dale stated that if anyone wants to discuss this item further to please contact him.

Chair Timmann asked Mr. Colvin if he was asking for the clerks' support or if they are bringing this forward as an informational piece. Mr. Colvin stated that he wanted to join the clerks on the legislative request. Clerk Green stated that this sounds like it would go over to FCCC from a legislative perspective. Mr. Welty stated that, during the previous two sessions, what the CCOC Legislative Committee deemed as a priority got kicked over to FCCC who then compiled these priorities from the CCOC legislative agenda into the FCCC legislative agenda. The JAC statutory changes can be included in this process this year. Mr. Welty stated that these legislative changes can be added to our bill because they are going to relate to the judicial system. Mr. Dale stated that, moving forward, the JAC will be at each committee meeting as we move through the process.

A motion to move the JAC Legislative Proposal forward to the FCCC was made by Clerk Green and seconded by Clerk Baker; the motion was adopted without objection.

Agenda Item 5 – CCOC Legislative Agenda

Mr. Welty stated that included in the packet are the two issues that the committee has discussed at length, the additional juror management funding and reimbursement for Baker Act, Marchman Act, and Sexual Violent Predator cases. Clerk Stuart asked Mr. Welty what the methodology for distribution for the LBR is if these funds were to be granted. Mr. Welty stated that the reimbursement is for the most recent fiscal year. Mr. Welty stated that the total cases multiplied by \$40 produced the \$2.7 million reimbursement amount. Clerk Green asked if Mr. Welty had the most recent jury expenses data to see the net difference that we will need to request. Mr. Welty answered that the most recently completed quarter was around \$3.9 million. Mr. Welty stated that we will move forward with an LBR request and then staff will look at what the number should be. Mr. Welty stated that the ask looks like \$16.5 million total. Clerk Green stated that she wants to bring a case study to the committee as it relates to the jury. Clerk Kinzel asked why 2021-22 data was used instead of 2022-23 data. Mr. Welty stated that 2021-22 data was used

because the LBR is due to the JAC in August, and it gets sent to the Governor's office by September 15. Mr. Welty mentioned that the Case Counting Review Workgroup also reviews them during the budget process every year to make sure those cases are being counted accurately.

A motion to move forward with the request for additional juror management funding was made by Clerk Miller and seconded by Clerk Sadoff; the motion was adopted without objection.

A motion to move forward with the request for Reimbursement for Baker Act, Marchman Act, and Sexual Violent Predators cases was made by Clerk Miller and seconded by Clerk Chorvat; the motion was adopted without objection.

Agenda Item 6 – Capturing Uniform Case Reporting (UCR) Costs

Clerk Chorvat stated that we have been working on UCR for years now. Clerk Chorvat asked Chair Timmann if that's how she wants to go about recording that data and who to report it to. Chair Timmann stated that we don't want to capture costs using a process that costs us a lot more time. Chair Timmann stated that her recommendation would be that clerks estimate their costs. Clerk Miller stated that she is having a lot of issues with Juvenile data. Clerk Miller stated that she has concerns about the amount of time it takes to complete this project. Chair Timmann asked the CCOC team to send out a survey to capture this information. Clerk Green stated that she's been tracking the impact at her office, and it is mostly in salary. Clerk Green stated that she does not believe that her office will meet that deadline. Clerk Stuart stated that she agreed with Clerk Miller on the deadline for this project and recommended that we ask in the survey if clerks can make that deadline.

Agenda Item 7 – Other Business

a) Legislative Idea from Clerk Burke

Mr. Welty stated that Clerk Burke has a recommendation that the CCOC become in charge of estimating the revenue collected and not the Revenue Estimating Conference (REC). Chair Timmann stated that this would not be a voting action today. Chair Timmann recommended that Mr. Welty review this issue with legislative staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 PM.
