



Meeting Minutes

Committee Name: Courts Committee

Date: September 6, 2023

Attendees: Sharon Sturges, Jose Vasquez, Jen Cuesta, Jon White, Faith Miller, Tim Schutz, Emo Overall

Agenda Items

1. Approval of July 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - a. **Decision made by vote:** Approved
 - i. **In favor:** all
 - ii. **Opposed:** none
 - iii. **Abstentions:** none
 - b. **Action item:** n/a
 - i. **Person(s) Responsible:**
 - ii. **Deadline:**
 - c. **Additional notes:**

2. Update Regarding Chief Justice Directive on Assistance to Self-Represented Litigants
 - a. **Decision made by vote:** n/a
 - i. **In favor:**
 - ii. **Opposed:**
 - iii. **Abstentions:**
 - b. **Action item:** Send to Justice Hart to share with Supreme Court Justices
 - i. **Person(s) Responsible:** Jackie
 - ii. **Deadline:** asap
 - c. **Additional notes:** The Commission approved the Courts Committee's suggested additions to CJD 13-01 at its last meeting. The Courts Committee added an Executive Summary. Justice Hart is going to bring it to the Supreme Court for possible consideration. For now the Courts Committee will wait and see what if anything is done. If approved, plans will be made to convert it into an easily digestible format for community partners statewide.

3. Subcommittee to Address the Assessment of Court Costs and Fees
 - a. **Decision made by vote:** n/a
 - i. **In favor:**
 - ii. **Opposed:**
 - iii. **Abstentions:**

- b. Action item:** the subcommittee consisting of Sharon Sturges, Jose Vasquez, Penny Wagner, and Jackie Marro will set up a time to meet.
 - i. Person(s) Responsible:** Sharon Sturges
 - ii. Deadline:** before the next Courts Committee meeting on 11/6
 - c. Additional notes:** The overall goal of this subcommittee will be to conduct a systematic review of the current state of forms fees. Initial questions include where do forms fees currently go and how could they be offset? Future questions may include who should forms fees be offset for (everyone, people whose earnings fall below a certain threshold), and what forms should fees be offset for (packets, all forms)?
- 4. Other business – Compliance with Colorado Sunshine Laws
 - a. Decision made by vote:** n/a
 - i. In favor:**
 - ii. Opposed:**
 - iii. Abstentions:**
 - b. Action item:** CC or BCC Emo on all committee-related correspondence
 - i. Person(s) Responsible:** All committee members
 - ii. Deadline:** ongoing
 - c. Action item:** Send Emo date, time, zoom link, and agenda of subcommittee meetings that may include two or more Commissioners ([see list here](#))
 - i. Person(s) Responsible:** Organizer of subcommittee meetings
 - ii. Deadline:** ongoing
 - d. Additional notes:** The Commission’s new status as a codified Commission of the State means it and its Commissioners are subject to Colorado’s Sunshine Laws, which are the Open Meetings Laws and the Colorado Open Records Act. Judge Schutz & Emo described the impacts this will have on the committee; mainly that zoom links to committee meetings, and potentially subcommittee meetings, will be posted on the Commission website calendar along with an Agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 12:57pm

Next meeting: November 6, 2023 @ 12pm - Court of Appeals conference room, and [via zoom](#)