



## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Criminal Justice Task Force on Offender Court Costs and Collections  
Virtual meeting  
Monday, January 24, 2022

### Members Present

Senator Clarke Tucker  
Representative Robin Lundstrum  
Senator Bob Ballinger  
Circuit Clerk Debbie Wise  
Judge Hamilton Singleton  
Representative Keith Slape

Mr. Benny Magness  
Mr. Rick Stallings  
Ms. Kristin Clark  
Ms. Elizabeth Taylor  
Ms. Robin White

### Non-Members Present

Senator Missy Irvin  
Ms. Lindsay Wallace (DOC Chief of Staff)  
Ms. Melissa Rangel (DOC Executive Assistant)  
Mr. Jerry Bradshaw (Director, Division of Community Correction)

### Members Absent

Judge Tommy Fowler  
Ms. Lorie Mason Jordan  
Sheriff John Montgomery  
Mr. Bob McMahan

- I. Call to Order: Representative Lundstrum called the meeting to order after recognizing a quorum was present. There was a roll call.
- II. Approval of December Minutes: Sen. Tucker moved to adopt the minutes, Mr. Benny Magness seconded the motion to adopt the minutes. The minutes were adopted.
- III. Letter Update: Rep. Lundstrum asked everyone to read the letter. She has requested everyone review the letter and lobby the different committee members.

Senator Missy Irvin asked the committee if we have reached out to the Association of Counties and Municipal League. According to Rep. Lundstrum this has not yet been done. Mr. Magness and Sen. Irvin suggested the Association of Counties (AAC) so they can send it to the clerks and judges. Sen. Tucker said we should reach out to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to see who they have contacted. Rep. Lundstrum doesn't mind repetition at this point. Sen. Tucker also suggested sending it to the bar association.

Rep. Slape mentioned that the Association of Counties is looking into trying something that would allow the docket to be accessible to them to alleviate the part of the problem with moving inmates.

The committee was asked to review the letter and make sure they are all familiar with it. The target audience is ARPA. Sen. Irvin mentioned that she believed it would be helpful to pull up the legislation that allowed for the creation of this task force, who voted for it, the support it received during the legislature. It is important to remember that this group is a culmination from that legislation, and it is a non-partisan group designed to find a solution to the problem. Rep. Lundstrum said she would send the vote count and legislation to everyone.

Mr. Magness asked about the details in the attachment of the letter in which \$40 million was requested to put cameras in the courtrooms. He expressed that this is a good idea, but he does not know how many courtrooms currently do or do not have cameras and that this solution may not be getting us everything we want.

Ms. Kristin Clark responded that the portion allocated related to cameras in the courtroom is relatively small. The cameras amount to \$384 thousand dollars out of the \$40 million dollars. That breakdown is page 6 of 10 of the attachment in the letter. The biggest part of the financial request is for the development of the case management system.

Rep. Lundstrum recapped what the committee is going to do in regard to the letter: we will send the letter to county judges, clerks, the bar association, prosecutors. It was asked who else this information should be sent to. Sen. Tucker expressed his willingness to handle distribution to all of the attorney organizations. Rep. Lundstrum asked him to send everyone contact information on those organizations because each of the committee members need to reach out. No one was present from the prosecutor's association today to discuss distributing the letter to their contacts. Ms. Wise said she will be in Little Rock tomorrow (January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022) and would be happy to pass this information along to AAC, circuit clerks, and the sheriffs association.

Once the letter is submitted, ARPA has a process to follow to. The committee needs support letters from all of the organizations we contact to be submitted as well. Rep. Lundstrum emphasized to the committee that they should let her know of any other contacts they can think of to reach out to. Any additional contacts or information may be useful. Sen. Irvin thanked everyone for their help working on this committee and issue.

- IV. There was no other business.
- V. Next meeting date was not discussed.
- VI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:24 pm.

After the meeting, Sen. Tucker set a meeting of subcommittee for next Wednesday 2/2/22 for 10:30 a.m.