

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND JUDICIARY

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 2025 Interim

September 17, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 4th meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Justice and Judiciary was held on September 17, 2025, at 9:00 AM in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Stephanie Dietz, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Stephanie Dietz Co-Chair; Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer Co-Chair; Senators and Amanda Mays Bledsoe; Representatives and Daniel Elliott.

Guests: Zach Ramsey, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC); Carole Henderson, Budget Director, AOC; Danny Rhoades, Executive Officer for Facilities, AOC; Elizabeth Lucas, Executive Officer for Information and Technology Services, AOC; and Debbie Hall, Director of Statewide Programs, AOC.

LRC Staff: Zachary Ireland, Perry Papka, and Benjamin Thompson.

Approval of Minutes

Due to the lack of a quorum, the minutes of the August 20, 2025 meeting were not approved.

Update - Judicial Branch Budget

Zach Ramsey, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts; Carole Henderson, Budget Director, AOC; Danny Rhoades, Executive Officer for Facilities, AOC; Elizabeth Lucas, Executive Officer for Information and Technology Services, AOC; and Debbie Hall, Director of Statewide Programs, AOC, provided an update on the Judicial Branch budget.

In response to a question from Senator Funke Frommeyer, Ms. Henderson noted that the \$341 million ask would cover current services while a 15 percent salary increase would be an additional funding request.

In response to questions from Senator Mays Bledsoe, Ms. Henderson stated that previous salary increases were the same as increments given to legislative and executive branch employees plus another two thousand dollars. The 15 percent salary increase for all Judicial Branch employees would be \$37 million.

In response to a question from Senator Funke Frommeyer, Ms. Henderson confirmed that civil court filing fees have not increased since 2014.

In response to a question from Chair Dietz, Ms. Lucas noted that the e-warrant system is a Kentucky State Police application that is not maintained by the AOC.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.