

Board of Judicial Policy and Administration
Minutes
August 23, 2012

The Board of Judicial Policy and Administration held a phone meeting on August 23, 2012. In attendance were Chief Justice Marilyn Kite, Justice Michael Golden, Justice Jim Burke, Judge Dan Price, Judge Jeffrey Donnell, Judge Tom Campbell, Judge Wes Roberts, Judge Curt Haws, Georgia Tibbetts, Joann Odendahl, Ronda Munger, and Becky Craig. Chief Justice Kite explained to the Board that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the security concerns at the Circuit Court in Riverton, and to draft a resolution prior to the meeting that is scheduled on August 28, 2012 between representatives from this Board, the Fremont County Judges, the Court Security Commission, and the Fremont County Commissioners.

Judge Roberts gave an overview of the gunshot incident at the Circuit Court in Riverton. Lengthy discussion followed about the security measures that have taken place to date, about the steps that need to be taken, and about the potential exposure for legal liability that exists.

Judge Donnell moved and Judge Haws seconded a motion to draft a resolution directed to the Fremont County Commissioners that states that the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration believes that the current building in Riverton has been known for years to be an unsafe facility and subject to serious security breaches; that recent events have highlighted the fact that this is an extremely unsafe facility; that employees of the court simply are not and cannot be protected in said facility; and that steps need to be taken to provide a safe environment, not only for the court employees and the judge, but for the citizens who appear in court. The resolution will further request that the Fremont County Commissioners address these issues by immediately taking the necessary steps to provide a suitable, safe, and secure facility for the Riverton Circuit Court and the citizens of Fremont County. Judge Roberts abstained from voting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned.

Approved by email on 12/19/2012

The Board of Judicial Policy and Administration's meetings are not open to the public unless the Board, in its discretion, determines that a particular meeting or agenda item should be open to the public. The Board will disclose what is discussed at the meetings at its discretion.