

ELECTRONIC RECORDING COMMISSION

Draft Minutes – May 8, 2013

Room 151

Arkansas State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkansas

10:30 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Laurie Westfall, Chair*

Rhonda Wharton, Vice-Chair *

Alma Davis, Secretary

Pat O'Brien*

Phyllis Villines*

Martha Smith *

Cheryl Wilson

Larry Crane*

Andrea Billingsly*

JT Ferstl*

*Present

Chair called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes [EXHIBIT B]

Ms. Wharton made a motion to approve the December 12, 2012, meeting minutes. Mr. Crane seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Administration Office of the Courts (AOC)

- Alex Rogers, Contexte Program Manager, updated the Commission on eFiling in Arkansas. He explained, the Pulaski County eFiling pilot program ends soon; noting its success. Since the March 19, 2012, mandate for attorneys to eFile in Pulaski County, the number of Arkansas attorneys registered for eFiling rose to 1,740, an increase of about 27%.
- AOC is continuing plans to implement eFiling statewide, creating a need for more document and image storage space. Feasibility studies are underway to determine if AOC should create a database for storing the records. Mr. Rogers said he expects AOC's steering committee to recommend creating the database; and noted equipment procurement and installation, along with staff training will take time, but he hopes the system is in place by the end of 2013.

Status of E-Recording

- Ms. Villines said Madison County is a good example of E-Recording's success in smaller counties. She noted, as more real estate companies and banking institutions are using the system, county offices are realizing the need for E-Recording.
- Ms. Smith explained several abstract companies are showing interest in helping counties cover E-Recording upgrade expenses.
- In response to a recommendation by Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Wharton explained legislation requires the Grant Fund Committee to substantially award funds each year, and prohibits them from "rolling money over" from year to year.

Other Business

- Mr. O'Brien said membership appointments to ERC expire in September; and advised members interested in continuing to notify the Governor's Office.

Establish Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Ms. Westfall said a representative from Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration would attend the August meeting to update Commissioners on the status of revenue stamps.
- Commissioners agreed the next meeting would be Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at 1:30 in Room 151 of the State Capitol.

Mr. Crane motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.