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BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

JUNE 22, 2023

- THOSE PRESENT:
- JUDGE CLINT WOODS
  - VALENCIA SIMPSON
  - BECKY BERTRAND
  - LISA MARKS
  - KEITH DAY
  - KELLIE HOLMES
  - GLENDA SEGURA
  - RHONDA BRODE
  - TOM ROEBUCK
  - DUSTIN GALMOR
  - AL REED
  - CAPTAIN AARON MORRIS
  - LIEUTENANT ROBERT MINARD
  - QUENTIN PRICE
  - SANDRA MOTT
  - HAYLEE FOURNIER
  - VALENCIA FONTENOT
  - STELLINA REED
  - DEDE ROJAS
  - TAMARA RITENOUR
  - CHRIS ROMANO
  - MARY HELM

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ALEX SADLER  
LYNETTE HENSLEY  
SHERRIE WILLOUGHBY  
JARED GILTHORPE  
KIMBERLY BROUSSARD

1 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. We're calling the Bail Bond  
2 meeting to order.

3 Item No. 1, review the minutes from last month's  
4 meeting and as well as April.

5 MS. SEGURA: They're there (indicating).

6 JUDGE WOODS: They're there?

7 MS. SEGURA: Uh-huh.

8 JUDGE WOODS: They're posted?

9 MS. SEGURA: They're right there if you want to  
10 review them. I attached both of them.

11 JUDGE WOODS: Got you. And they have been  
12 posted?

13 MS. SEGURA: No.

14 JUDGE WOODS: No?

15 MS. SEGURA: No, not until you approve them.

16 JUDGE WOODS: Then I have a motion to approve and  
17 post the record from April and May of 2023 Bail Bond meeting.

18 MR. GALMOR: I make a motion to approve.

19 MR. DAY: I second.

12:42PM 20 JUDGE WOODS: All in favor?

21 (AYE RESPONSES.)

22 JUDGE WOODS: Any opposed?

23 (NO RESPONSE.)

24 JUDGE WOODS: That'll pass.

25 Item No. 2, report from the district attorney's

1 office. Any questions or comments?

2 MS. BERTRAND: There's no report at this time.

3 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Item No. 3, consideration  
4 and approval of any application of bondsmen or agents?

5 MR. BERTRAND: There's none.

6 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. No. 4, consider complaints  
7 against bondsmen.

8 MS. HOLMES: There aren't any.

9 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Item No. 5, report from the  
10 treasurer's office.

12:42PM

11 MS. MARKS: I've given the reports out.

12 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Any questions or comments  
13 regarding report from the treasurer's office?

14 MS. BERTRAND: I would like to say that the  
15 collateral has gone up for Al Reed. He has pledged some  
16 property up. So, there is a notation that went up, as well as  
17 Keith Day.

18 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

19 MS. BERTRAND: That's it.

12:43PM

20 JUDGE WOODS: Any other comments or questions?  
21 Hearing none, then we'll go to Item No. 6, release of any  
22 property, CDs, or cash.

23 MS. SEGURA: Yes, Keith Day.

24 JUDGE WOODS: All right. We have one?

25 MS. SEGURA: Yes.

1 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Dang Keith.

2 JUDGE WOODS: Will he, I guess, still be in good  
3 standing?

4 MS. SEGURA: He'll be in good standing.

5 MS. BRODE: Can I know the dollar amount, please?

6 JUDGE WOODS: I'll just read it into the record.

7 Okay. He would like the release of cashier's checks in the  
8 amounts of 25,000, 25,000, 20,000, 17,500, and 10,000.

9 MS. BRODE: Okay.

12:43PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: Total of 97,500.

11 MS. BRODE: Thank you.

12 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. I have a motion to approve  
13 the release of these cashier's checks to Mr. Keith Day.

14 MS. FOURNIER: I'll make a motion.

15 JUDGE WOODS: Do I have a second, anyone?

16 MR. GALMOR: Second.

17 JUDGE WOODS: Second, Mr. Galmor. All in favor?

18 (AYE RESPONSES.)

19 JUDGE WOODS: Any opposed?

12:44PM 20 (NO RESPONSE.)

21 JUDGE WOODS: Hearing none, it'll pass. I'll  
22 give you this. Does she need to sign it?

23 MS. SEGURA: Huh-uh.

24 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. No. 7, report from the  
25 auditor's office.

1 MS. BRODE: Well, I've handed out my tiny little  
2 general ledger report that tells you we're spending money but  
3 we're not collecting any. And I would love to give you a  
4 bondsmen report or an attorney report, but there aren't --  
5 there's no information. So, I don't know how Glenda knows that  
6 Keith is in good standing. I mean, seriously.

7 MS. SEGURA: I have files on all of them, all the  
8 bondsmen.

9 MS. BRODE: How do you know --

12:45PM 10 MS. SEGURA: She gets a -- Becky got a report.

11 MS. BERTRAND: Based on the numbers that we can  
12 run, that we can, if we subtract it, he will be in good  
13 standing.

14 MS. BRODE: Okay.

15 JUDGE WOODS: And I'm assuming this is the issue  
16 with the new system?

17 MS. BERTRAND: Yes.

18 MS. BRODE: Yes, sir.

19 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

12:45PM 20 MS. BRODE: We're not charging any fees to the  
21 bail bondsmen yet. We're not tracking --

22 MS. BERTRAND: They were talking about that.

23 MS. BRODE: Mary's here to talk about it but --

24 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

25 MS. BRODE: -- I mean, I have nothing for you.

1 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Then we'll move on. Okay.  
2 So, that's probably going to be brought up in the next, No. 8,  
3 revisit surety liability report.

4 (ALEX SADLER ENTERS THE MEETING.)

5 MS. BERTRAND: Yes. So, Mary, if you want to  
6 speak on this.

7 MS. HELM: Can you repeat it? I'm sorry. I  
8 wasn't paying attention.

9 MS. BERTRAND: The status of where we're at with  
10 our liability reports.

11 MS. HELM: Yes. So, Tamara has been so gracious  
12 to try to help us try to find the issue. So, basically what  
13 we've been doing is we did schedule -- so, the daily report that  
14 the bondsmen used to all get, we have that set up and we  
15 scheduled it only to go to Tamara first so that she could try to  
16 work out the kinks so that we didn't stress everyone out to the  
17 core first.

18 So, she -- we had a long meeting with her last  
19 week and went through the issues that she found of, like, some  
20 bonds had been duplicated. We had some bonds that had  
21 conversion issues. We just found a multitude of things. So,  
22 we're working down the list of things that she provided us.  
23 Some is just things in the report that needed to be updated,  
24 other actual problems of either conversion issues or things  
25 people were doing after Go Live that they're doing incorrectly.

1 So, we're trying to identify what's a conversion issue versus  
2 what is it that someone needs to be -- maybe have additional  
3 training. You know, some of it's maybe the first two or three  
4 weeks of Go Live, we were all not really knowing what we were  
5 doing. So, there were some things where bonds got put in, like  
6 one person may have that bond five times on their case --

7 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

8 MS. HELM: -- when it was really not. So, we're  
9 trying to identify all of those problems so that we can make  
10 sure that the report that we have is accurate. And then once we  
11 get to that point, we'll have an accurate number of what bonds  
12 they have out.

13 Now, I would like some suggestions and -- you  
14 know, if it's okay for us to talk about it together, I guess --  
15 but as far as the billing, I would like for us to try to get  
16 that going, whether or not we do something temporarily and we  
17 change it to something different later, but we really need to  
18 get March, April and May billed because, you know, we don't want  
19 to cause you too much -- you know, of us doing too many things  
20 at one time. And we don't want to get too far behind on that  
21 because that is a State fee that we have to pay. Most of that  
22 money goes to the State.

23 So, I know at one of the meetings we had  
24 previously it was mentioned that, you know, once we can get a  
25 report to you of all the bonds that you had each month, the



1 bondsmen could determine if it's when they don't -- you know, I  
2 know there's a limit to like two thirty dollars if it's -- we  
3 really don't have a way of billing that out of Odyssey at this  
4 time, but we can get a report. And Becky and I think district  
5 clerks said they wouldn't mind, either, if the bondsmen went to  
6 pay that fee to them. But we really need to get something in  
7 place where we can at least get those charges charged.

8 MR. DAY: Mary, can you send that report to us?

9 And the bondsmen can go through it obviously, but we have to

12:49PM

10 have a contact person to if there's one that's -- that we show  
11 that's not on there or show that one that's on there  
12 that shouldn't be on there, who's going to take that off and who  
13 determines that?

14 MS. HELM: Well, I think once we work through  
15 maybe in the next week to two weeks, if we can work through all  
16 the issues that we found that Tamara found, then if we can get  
17 those problems corrected, then what we'll do is we'll rerun  
18 those reports. I think Becky had provided each bondsman with --

19 MS. BERTRAND: Yeah. I sent --

12:49PM

20 MS. HELM: -- a report.

21 MS. BERTRAND: -- a report out to all the  
22 bondsmen. Y'all worked them up, and y'all gave me some  
23 feedback. The feedback that I'm getting from everyone is  
24 basically some very common issues that all of y'all are  
25 experiencing in your reports.

1 Chris, you had one that bonds weren't showing up  
2 on Atterberry. The issue with that one is it wasn't done  
3 correctly in the 400. So, it didn't convert over correctly into  
4 our new system. That's a very common issue with some of the  
5 cases that we're finding. And/or, like Mary said, when the case  
6 did convert over, the bond somehow doubled and tripled on the  
7 case. So, it's the same issues that I'm seeing going through  
8 all of y'all's reports. So, we know what we're looking for.  
9 It's just a matter of having the time to go back and fix them.

12:50PM

10 MS. HELM: Yeah. It took us two hours to fix two  
11 bonds because it was so messed up.

12 MS. SADLER: Yes.

13 MS. HELM: We had to literally delete all the  
14 financials off the case, remove them from hearings just so that  
15 we could remove the bonds so that we could add the bonds back  
16 and then go add the financials and go add back the -- so, it's a  
17 lot of work to fix some of these. Some of them, it's an easy  
18 fix. Some of them, it's not. So --

19 MR. DAY: Mary --

12:51PM

20 MS. HELM: -- it takes research.

21 MR. DAY: -- what about just getting it put in  
22 alphabetical order? What about that? Is that --

23 MS. SADLER: The new report that was run by the  
24 programmer, it is going to fix that issue.

25 MR. DAY: All right.

1 MS. HELM: Yes. So, Tamara gave us -- I should  
2 have brought that with us, but we had kind of a list of --

3 MS. RITENOUR: I have it.

4 MS. HELM: Yeah. And, so, once we fix those  
5 issues, if all the bondsmen would like us to schedule that daily  
6 report to go to them, we can get it scheduled. We just didn't  
7 want to schedule it for everyone right off the bat. We wanted  
8 to try to have one person kind of tell us, okay, does this look  
9 right or not?

12:51PM 10 So, Tamara went through, marked everything, you  
11 know, what she found that was wrong, which helped us identify  
12 several issues that we did not know that we had.

13 (MR. GILTHORPE ENTERS THE MEETING.)

14 MS. HELM: So, once we get those -- and I know we  
15 worked -- we've worked a couple of those. We still have a  
16 couple more of the issues to work.

17 MS. SADLER: Uh-huh.

18 MS. HELM: Once we get those worked out, we can  
19 schedule that to start going out to everyone and let everyone  
12:52PM 20 look at it again and say yay or nay and then we can go from  
21 there on getting you your report of what needs to be billed,  
22 'cause we can also pull you each month what cases were billed --  
23 I mean need to be billed --

24 MS. BRODE: Mary --

25 MS. HELM: -- bonds were written that need to be

1 billed.

2 MS. BRODE: -- is there a report that we can  
3 print out of just bonds that were issued in each month, surety  
4 bonds?

5 MS. HELM: Uh-huh.

6 MS. SADLER: Yeah. We can pull an activity  
7 report for the previous month.

8 MS. HELM: Yeah. We have reports. We have  
9 plenty of reports. It's just --

12:52PM 10 MS. BRODE: Right.

11 MS. HELM: -- every time we pull reports, we find  
12 more problems. So, we're trying to get those problems corrected  
13 so that the report is accurate, you know. We want to make sure  
14 we have accurate information. And, like Becky said, the one  
15 that Becky called me about this morning, that wasn't even in the  
16 400.

17 MS. BRODE: Yeah.

18 MS. HELM: So, it was a case and the person had  
19 posted bond and the bond was on the jail link in the AS400 but  
12:53PM 20 not on the bond screen. So, that's why it did not get  
21 converted. So, as we work through those, I'm trying to think of  
22 what -- some of Tamara's other issues besides -- we had some --  
23 we have found a few cases that converted over with two  
24 charges --

25 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

1 MS. HELM: -- which then causes a whole nother  
2 problem. There are some cases that have multiple charges  
3 because there were things we didn't know we were doing wrong the  
4 first month of Go Live and we were adding additional charges  
5 instead of merging charges. So, we're trying to make sure all  
6 of those things are worked out. If you -- one of the things  
7 Tamara brought to our attention is on the jail roster --

8 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

9 MS. HELM: -- that's on the website, there was  
10 somebody that had, like, two charges; but it was showing they  
11 had four charges. And that was why, because those two cases had  
12 duplicate charges on them. So, if there's anything that you  
13 notice, even jail, if there's anything that you notice on the  
14 roster or if there's anything y'all notice that's, like, "This  
15 doesn't look right," please let us know because, you know,  
16 that's how we find the issues to try to make sure these things  
17 are correct.

18 But if the bondsmen don't mind trying to help us  
19 determine what you owe for that month, 'cause we can go through,  
20 we can send -- so that we can at least get those bills done and  
21 I know this is probably way too much information, but basically  
22 I would like to try to write -- have our programmer write an ECR  
23 that would calculate that for you, like we used to do with the  
24 AS400, but we can't do that until we can override our test  
25 system with production. And we can't do that till we work some

1 other things through that we're still working on.

2 So, once we get to a point that we can override  
3 test with production, we'll have a test copy of our actual data,  
4 we can do another report to see if we can give you, 'cause we do  
5 want to make it -- I know that was one of the things in one of  
6 the early-on meetings that everyone agreed on, that they would  
7 prefer to get billed monthly for that. So, we're going to try  
8 our best to do that. But if the bondsmen can work with us on  
9 trying to get those three months that we're behind done, so that  
10 way what's -- you know, hopefully we can get you an accurate.

12:55PM

11 MS. RITENOUR: What if -- you have the report to  
12 do the release from the jail. Could you do the three months  
13 of -- because it has our names listed of, like we discussed, who  
14 is booked in and who is released and the bonding companies could  
15 get that, it would have everybody's and then you just add it  
16 from there.

17 MS. HELM: Yeah.

18 MS. RITENOUR: That might be easier.

19 MS. HELM: Yeah. It's easier for us to give you

12:56PM

20 a report. We just need to -- we can't really calculate that,  
21 okay, if you posted three bonds on this person, you only owe \$30  
22 and not \$45. You would have to determine that and tell us --

23 MS. RITENOUR: Right.

24 MS. HELM: -- "Okay, we don't owe you for this."

25 MS. BRODE: And the report can be broken out by

1 bondsmen.

2 MS. HELM: Yes. Becky's been working close with  
3 us and Alex just trying to get these things resolved, but it's  
4 just each little thing that we find takes research on what  
5 caused it, how to fix it, and we're trying to make sure if we  
6 understand what caused it, that we won't have it happen in the  
7 future. So, we're trying to just not quick fix stuff. We want  
8 to make sure, okay, is this something that someone did and it  
9 wasn't correct or is it a conversion issue. You know, we want  
10 to make sure we don't have to deal with that forever, you know.  
11 So...

12 MR. DAY: I know we don't have access to the  
13 portal yet, but have y'all noticed that, for the people who do  
14 have access to the portal, I mean, does it seem to -- I mean,  
15 does it seem to be a pretty good system? I mean, is everybody  
16 happy with what they're able to use at this point?

17 MS. HELM: Well, the attorneys, which I don't  
18 know if you want to speak to the portal. Have you used the  
19 portal much or...

12:57PM 20 MR. GILTHORPE: I don't use the portal. My  
21 assistant does. I have no clue how that portal works.

22 MR. GALMOR: I used it. I use it for like -- I  
23 use it a lot for finding district clerk records. I can't  
24 remember -- are the county clerk records online yet?

25 MS. HELM: Yeah, they are.

1 MS. BERTRAND: They are.

2 MS. FOURNIER: For you, yeah.

3 MR. GALMOR: The district clerk records, yeah. I  
4 mean, I use their own website beforehand but the portal works  
5 good for finding the case, TRN, what it is. Most of the  
6 documents are there.

7 MS. HELM: Yeah, we've had pretty good luck with  
8 that. And, Becky, what's the status on the bondsmen portal?

9 MS. BERTRAND: I think at this point we just need  
10 to get the list. There was a few things I think we were testing  
11 since our last meeting that we had, about sealed, there was  
12 something to do with the sealed document, I think.

13 MS. SADLER: I think we were just trying to make  
14 sure that everything was working correctly --

15 MS. BERTRAND: Right.

16 MS. SADLER: -- making sure that everything that  
17 wasn't supposed to be visible isn't visible and everything that  
18 you guys were supposed to see is visible. So, it's just going  
19 through, like, final stages of testing and then we'll be able to  
20 release it to you guys and there will be a notification when you  
21 guys will be able to access that.

22 MS. BERTRAND: So, one thing that I think we did  
23 talk about with the bondsmen is that each one is going to get  
24 one login. Is that something --

25 MS. HELM: Yes, yes, because you have to register



1 with an email address. And you have to prove -- there's going  
2 to be something on there that says you have to prove that you  
3 are who you are basically.

4 MS. SADLER: License number.

5 MS. HELM: So, like, when an attorney registers,  
6 they have to give us their bar number and then we know -- we  
7 link them up with their bar number. So, I think Becky's going  
8 to come up with something that you'll sign basically saying, you  
9 know, you're going to have access to this portal.

12:59PM 10 MS. BERTRAND: And some things that you see will  
11 be privileged information. So, it's basically a document that  
12 you're not to release sensitive information, you know. So...

13 MS. HELM: So, what you'll do is you'll  
14 register -- once we get it set up to where you can register,  
15 you'll register your email address and then, you know, if you  
16 want to provide that to multiple people in your office, we just  
17 don't want every office to have multiple people register because  
18 then that makes us responsible for if somebody leaves your  
19 office and it's -- that's too much upkeep for us to disable  
01:00PM 20 accounts and, you know, reenable accounts. So, like if you're  
21 bonding company has a generic email that you use -- I know,  
22 like, Tamara, y'all have, like, Professional --

23 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

24 MS. HELM: -- you can register with that. Your  
25 username's going to be your email address, and then you'll just

1 set up a password. And I think we'll probably have you use your  
2 license number as how you -- when you register, you'll be asked  
3 to identify that you are who you are and use that license  
4 number; and that's really all you do. Once you register, you'll  
5 be able to go in and Becky's been working with Alex and our  
6 Tyler representative on what you have access to. But basically  
7 you'll have access to the documents that aren't sealed or cases  
8 that are sealed or things like that. So, that should help you.  
9 Eventually there will be a jail portlet on the portal, also.

01:01PM 10 That's currently not working. That's something Tyler's still  
11 working on. So, Justin Colazzo wrote the web version; but  
12 eventually there will be a jail portlet out there. There is  
13 also a way in the portal to search hearings. So, you can look  
14 at the calendars for the courts and stuff like that in the  
15 portal.

16 So, hopefully that will help give y'all a little  
17 bit of additional information to -- I know we have a meeting  
18 tomorrow with you. So, I guess we need to see what we have left  
19 to get that done so we can get them registered.

01:01PM 20 MS. BERTRAND: Yeah. So, at this time the  
21 decision needs to be made if, whenever we can get the reports to  
22 start running for the bonds that have been written to be paid,  
23 do y'all want to pay it all at one time? Do y'all need a  
24 breakdown? Because we haven't collected since we went -- and  
25 we're in this month. So, are we going to collect all at one

1 time or collect a past due month with the current -- you know,  
2 one at a time until they're caught up?

3 MS. BRODE: Was February paid?

4 MR. DAY: (Nods head up and down.) February was  
5 paid.

6 MS. BERTRAND: I didn't hear back; so, I don't  
7 know.

8 MS. HELM: Yeah. Becky and I were talking about  
9 that earlier. We were going to check with Tonja to see. We  
01:02PM 10 weren't sure if she billed out --

11 MS. BRODE: I didn't know the timing of when the  
12 bills went out compared to when they closed if February was paid  
13 for everyone.

14 MS. HELM: And everyone paid those at the  
15 sheriff's office?

16 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

17 MS. HELM: So, yeah, we should be able to start  
18 with March. And, I mean, if anyone has an idea, we're up to --

19 MS. BRODE: I tossed a few things around in my  
01:03PM 20 head; so, maybe we can talk after the meeting.

21 MS. BERTRAND: (Indicating.)

22 MS. BRODE: I know. It's empty space.

23 I want to go on record and say that, yeah, I'm  
24 frustrated; but the people who are working on this, when I tell  
25 you they've touched every case, every bond, every everything in

1 fixing this, they have worked very hard. So, yeah, it's  
2 frustrating. And I feel bad for the administrators having to  
3 say -- that's why I said what I said when Glenda said he's in  
4 good standing. I'm, like, how do you know? You know, we can  
5 run a report but until -- I don't want to use the word "junk,"  
6 but junk in, junk out. So, until all the AS400 stuff is cleaned  
7 up and procedures are honed -- and that's key, procedures being  
8 honed -- on the new activity, there should be no errors on the  
9 new activity. So, I don't know how to fix that because it's not  
01:04PM 10 a system problem. I mean, we're human. We have to learn. But  
11 procedures need to be honed.

12 (MR. ROEBUCK EXITS THE MEETING.)

13 MS. HELM: Yeah. And I would say when you do  
14 start getting your daily reports, which I think this is  
15 something y'all have all kind of done, but when you do start  
16 getting your daily reports, if there's something wrong, please  
17 let us know. And probably Becky and I can be the point of  
18 contact for that, because that way we can research and see,  
19 because our prior system, there were a lot of issues because  
01:04PM 20 things had to be entered in multiple places. So, you know, the  
21 bond was held at the jail and then after the case was filed, it  
22 was sent to the court and then the court had to enter it. And,  
23 so, the process is very different with the current system; and  
24 it's new, you know. We're all still learning.

25 So, I do want to make sure that we have processes

1 in place that are correct. So, if there's an issue that you  
2 find and you say, "Hey, this bond really shouldn't be here" or  
3 "This bond is here duplicate times," even in the future, please  
4 let us know so that we can make sure what's -- you know, what's  
5 causing that issue. Until we work through, which could be a  
6 very long time with the amount of cases that we have, until we  
7 work through all of our converted cases and we just have cases  
8 that were, you know, created, the jailing, the bond, the  
9 everything was created in Odyssey should be different. But it's  
10 going to take us awhile to work through. I don't know how many  
11 cases the DA's office still has that was from the old system  
12 that they haven't filed yet. So, it may take us years --

01:05PM

13 MS. BERTRAND: Between five and 600.

14 MS. HELM: -- to get those cases reworked out and  
15 through.

16 I can say we've found a lot of things that we're  
17 figuring out. You know, we're all learning and every day we  
18 find things and we're, like, "Aw, we finally figured this out."  
19 So, sometimes we have help from our software vendor; and  
20 sometimes we don't. We have to figure it out on our own. So,  
21 just be patient with us. We appreciate it. And just let us  
22 know anything that we can do to help.

01:06PM

23 I know -- I don't know if you also want to talk  
24 about, with Sandra, the forfeitures or...

25 MS. BERTRAND: (Shakes head from side to side.)

1 MS. HELM: No?

2 MS. BERTRAND: Not right now.

3 MS. HELM: And we do need to talk to Kellie about  
4 that later, too. So, I don't know. Is there anything else?

5 MS. BERTRAND: The next thing that we talk about  
6 will have to be after we're done. It'll be another discussion.

7 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Any more comments regarding  
8 the surety liability reports?

9 (NO RESPONSE.)

01:07PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Moving on. Item No. 9,  
11 refund application fee for Allied Bail Bond.

12 MS. BERTRAND: Okay. So, I had an application  
13 that was tendered to me from Allied for a certain person to be  
14 authorized to pull someone out and interview them. However, it  
15 was brought to my attention that this person no longer works  
16 there and since the application had not been presented to the  
17 Board and voted on, if they can get a refund back for the \$500.

18 JUDGE WOODS: I don't -- does anybody have any  
19 objection to that, I guess?

01:07PM 20 (NO RESPONSE.)

21 JUDGE WOODS: So, I guess we take a vote on if we  
22 refund the money?

23 MS. BERTRAND: Yeah.

24 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Is there a motion to approve  
25 the refund application fee to Allied Bail Bonds?

1 MR. DAY: I'll make a motion.

2 JUDGE WOODS: Second, anybody?

3 MR. GALMOR: I'll second.

4 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. All in favor?

5 (AYE RESPONSES.)

6 JUDGE WOODS: Any opposed?

7 (NO RESPONSE.)

8 JUDGE WOODS: Then that will pass.

9 MS. BERTRAND: Okay. And -- go ahead. I'm

01:08PM 10 sorry.

11 JUDGE WOODS: Any new business?

12 MS. BERTRAND: Uh-huh. So, the other thing that  
13 we wanted to discuss regarding the bondsmen is in the reports  
14 that we're running, something that the bondsmen have brought to  
15 my attention is JP bonds and municipal court bonds are showing  
16 up on the report. Now, two different ways. The bondsman's  
17 concerned that these are showing up when it never has before;  
18 but on the other side of it, these bonds are being put up on the  
19 collateral that they have pledged.

01:08PM 20 So, right now I think the concern is because the  
21 JP courts and municipal courts handle those bonds differently  
22 with their process and procedures, that it will be more of an  
23 issue, concern, headache, whatever.

24 MR. DAY: Well, I think the question would be  
25 we -- if the City -- the City obviously, they're not under the

1 same system, the City of Beaumont, City of Port Neches,  
2 Nederland, whoever, they're not under the same system. So, how  
3 would we get that liability taken off? Who would we contact  
4 if -- say I wrote five Beaumont City bonds and the cases are  
5 disposed of or whatever. Who would I contact? I couldn't  
6 contact anybody at the City to have them taken off. So, who  
7 would I contact at the -- who would we contact at the County to  
8 have them removed? 'Cause nobody at the County would be able to  
9 remove it, right, 'cause y'all don't have a case. Y'all don't  
10 handle City cases. So...

01:09PM

11 MS. BERTRAND: We don't. Is that something on  
12 the IT department that could take it off of the report?

13 MS. BRODE: Okay. So, you're bonding someone out  
14 of Jefferson County Jail.

15 MR. DAY: Uh-huh.

16 MS. BRODE: So, the bond's going to Jefferson  
17 County; and it's coming off your collateral. You go -- they go  
18 to -- I'm just trying to follow the process. They go to  
19 municipal court.

01:10PM

20 MR. DAY: Let's say City of Beaumont at this  
21 point. Let's just say City of Beaumont.

22 MS. BRODE: Okay. What do you get showing that  
23 they're all cleared?

24 MR. DAY: We have to contact the City of  
25 Beaumont.



1 MS. BRODE: And what do they give you?

2 MR. DAY: Verbal.

3 MS. RITENOUR: Verbal. They have ten days to  
4 appear and some of -- if they go the following day, like let's  
5 say I get them out today and they go tomorrow, we're  
6 automatically released whether they pay their fines or not, or  
7 they can wait until the tenth day. So, that's kind of probably  
8 the issue there is that if they go the next day or within the  
9 ten days, I mean, that should be cleared off the liability  
01:10PM 10 immediately.

11 MR. DAY: It would be cleared before it ever even  
12 processed --

13 MS. RITENOUR: Right.

14 MR. DAY: -- hit the liability possibly, so...

15 MS. RITENOUR: Exactly.

16 MR. DAY: But all we get is a verbal.

17 MS. BRODE: How is JP court different since  
18 that's County?

19 MR. DAY: Same thing, it's a verbal. We get a  
01:11PM 20 verbal from the JPs, as well. We don't get anything -- now, of  
21 course, I guess the JPs would be under the Odyssey system,  
22 right?

23 MS. BERTRAND: Uh-huh.

24 MR. DAY: So, I'm not sure how that would work.  
25 But the cities certainly don't have access to the system.

1 MS. RITENOUR: Well, currently on the reports  
2 that I have, I have no City, no -- no Port Arthur, no Beaumont  
3 municipal. Only JPs have been on the reports that I've  
4 received. So, those -- those follow under the same thing. They  
5 have ten days to go. If they go -- most JPs, as long as they  
6 appear, we're released. That could be the -- that could be  
7 within 24 hours. It's all pretty much the same.

8 MS. BERTRAND: But it's not all JPs do the same  
9 way, right?

01:11PM 10 MS. RITENOUR: No.

11 MR. ROMANO: And, also, Class Cs are different.  
12 They all have different standards in Class Bs and above. So, on  
13 Class Cs it's appearance only, where Class Bs and above is at  
14 disposition. So, as soon as they show up, we're done. And that  
15 would just be knowledge from the JP level because, you know,  
16 people are not going to just go in there and pay -- someone  
17 wanted to go -- you know, they want to take it to trial. They  
18 want to do -- well, as far as we're concerned, once they show  
19 up, we are done. It's a different parameter. So, I mean, it's  
01:12PM 20 an issue in a lot of places.

21 MS. BRODE: So, Lynette, what could happen at the  
22 JP office to trigger that coming off?

23 MS. HENSLEY: Well, now, since everybody's on  
24 Odyssey, they can close -- they can close out that bond as soon  
25 as the appearance is made.

1 MS. BRODE: I think that's an easy fix. We keep  
2 them on the liability until the JP office takes them off. If  
3 your JP's office doesn't take them off, you contact them.

4 MR. DAY: Right.

5 MS. BRODE: I think that's easy. That's  
6 Jefferson County. That needs to stay on.

7 JUDGE WOODS: But what about the cities?

8 MS. BRODE: But the municipal --

9 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah.

Ø1:13PM 10 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I wish Judge was here.

11 MS. HELM: Is there any other county that does  
12 municipal -- do you have any other --

13 MS. BERTRAND: Did anyone get a City listed on  
14 y'all's reports --

15 MS. RITENOUR: Huh-uh.

16 MS. BERTRAND: -- that were sent out?

17 MS. ROJAS: Yeah. I did.

18 MS. BERTRAND: I thought I remembered someone  
19 did.

Ø1:13PM 20 MS. HELM: Yeah. I need an example to really  
21 look at because we have to look and see what it looks like in  
22 Odyssey. The only other suggestion that I have as far as an IT  
23 perspective -- now, whether this is a correct way to do it --  
24 but as far as the system goes, if that's not supposed to count  
25 against the liability, we could create a separate bonding

1 company for bonds that were municipal, but that's just from an  
2 IT perspective. I'm not a decision maker on that.

3 MS. BRODE: Can we come back --

4 MS. HELM: If it's supposed to count against the  
5 liability, then it would have to be the jail to close that bond  
6 back out because they're the only people that have access to  
7 that bond.

8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good luck with that.

9 MS. BRODE: Can we come back on the municipal  
Ø1:14PM 10 ones only because each of those municipalities has contracted  
11 with Jefferson County to use our jail.

12 JUDGE WOODS: Right.

13 MS. BRODE: So, that's a legitimate bond.

14 MR. ROMANO: So, here's the next question. If  
15 they don't show up, what's done after that?

16 MS. BRODE: What's done after they don't -- I  
17 don't know.

18 MS. HOLMES: What's happened in the past?

19 MS. BRODE: In the past it hasn't --

Ø1:14PM 20 MR. ROMANO: It hasn't been --

21 MS. BERTRAND: It wasn't an issue in the past  
22 because it wasn't on there. It's very rare, but I do know there  
23 has been a few occasions in my lifetime here that the JPs would  
24 ever forfeit a bond. I think that's very, very rare. So, I  
25 don't think that's really an issue that we need to look at

1 because, as Chris said, it's upon appearance.

2 MS. BRODE: Yeah. So, that's just a training  
3 issue with the JP offices, right? Yeah?

4 MS. HELM: Yeah. I think it's just a process  
5 that we need to put in place with the JPs so they all do things  
6 the same way. We can get Lynette to work with them on what the  
7 rule needs to be and then -- because in the AS400 they never had  
8 to close out a bond. So, they never cared about it. And then  
9 with conversion, we closed all the bonds out because they never  
01:15PM 10 had been closed. So, we had -- every JP bond ever was still  
11 open.

12 MR. ROMANO: Could it be an automatic, like, ten  
13 days --

14 MS. RITENOUR: Yes.

15 MR. ROMANO: -- from when the bond's posted,  
16 there's something to put in the IT system that after ten days,  
17 it falls off?

18 MS. RITENOUR: A lot of the clients, if they  
19 don't pay, right, they end up with warrants later on anyway,  
01:16PM 20 even though the bondsman's been released. So, if you had the  
21 ten-day thing that automatically just took the bondsman off and  
22 then the JP court dealt with the client and the warrant, that  
23 might be easier than having to deal with every single JP court  
24 to learn how to close it out, if that's an option.

25 MS. FOURNIER: Mary, can you set time standards

1 through the jail; or is that only through the case manager?

2 Only in the case?

3 MS. HELM: (Nods head up and down.)

4 MS. HENSLEY: They do have that option to. I  
5 think that would have to be -- they would have to make that  
6 decision.

7 MS. RITENOUR: She's saying she thinks that each  
8 JP Judge would have to make that decision if they would want to  
9 run their court that way but...

01:16PM 10 MS. HENSLEY: I mean, by law they have the option  
11 to do a nisi. I mean, just because they don't do them doesn't  
12 mean that they can't.

13 MS. BRODE: Right.

14 MS. HENSLEY: So, you're taking something away  
15 from them. I don't think they would go for that.

16 MS. BRODE: I think it should be in their hands.

17 MS. HENSLEY: Right.

18 MS. HELM: Yeah.

19 MS. BRODE: It's their court.

01:17PM 20 MS. HELM: Yeah. We can put in place a business  
21 process that they do need to close out the bonds. The person  
22 appears and they're on bond, then they need to, you know, have a  
23 process to close that bond out so that it's not going against  
24 but...

25 JUDGE WOODS: So, do we need to table that to

1 have a follow-up?

2 MS. BERTRAND: Yes, sir.

3 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Then we'll do so.

4 Any other new business? Any other old business  
5 we need to rediscuss?

6 MR. DAY: Well, I'm not sure if this is going to  
7 fall under new business or old business but we're going to --  
8 looks like we're going to have to extend that 30-day grace  
9 period again to the next meeting for the -- for the liability  
10 issues.

01:18PM

11 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Until we can get those  
12 reports run?

13 MR. DAY: Yeah.

14 MS. BERTRAND: Yeah. One other thing that the  
15 bondsmen have been telling me and I have seen it myself -- and I  
16 was hoping Quintin was going to be here today, and we actually  
17 have a meeting following this meeting -- that a court would  
18 forfeit the bond, we'd issue the judgment nisi, we'd issue the  
19 warrant, but the warrant isn't active. It's been weeks, and the  
20 warrant has not been made active. Our -- our part is just the  
21 issuance of the warrant. It's the sheriff's office that will  
22 make it active. So, you've got -- now your clock's starting to  
23 run because the nisi's been filed but we're already two, three  
24 weeks into it and the warrant hasn't been made active to allow  
25 them to go get someone. Or they had knowledge of where they

01:18PM

1 were at and they were going to go pick them up and they can't  
2 because that warrant hasn't been made active. That is now going  
3 to be an issue until we make a resolution at our next meeting  
4 hopefully at 1:30, that I was going to talk to Quintin about and  
5 to the courts, but it's a very real thing.

6 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. So, do we need to extend the  
7 grace period, then?

8 MS. BERTRAND: That's something that we will have  
9 to address, maybe put on the agenda for next month to discuss --

01:19PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

11 MS. BERTRAND: -- whether we're going to notify  
12 the courts themselves or make Quintin aware of it when  
13 addressing the forfeiture if it goes to docket.

14 MR. DAY: What I think Judge was asking, if we  
15 need to extend the grace period for liability.

16 MS. BERTRAND: The grace period, yes. But this  
17 issue, I think we need to discuss it again in more depth --

18 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

19 MS. BERTRAND: -- on an agenda item for next  
01:20PM 20 month.

21 JUDGE WOODS: All right.

22 MS. SEGURA: And what is that?

23 MS. BERTRAND: Warrant status on forfeitures.

24 MS. SEGURA: Okay.

25 MS. BRODE: So, is that a process issue?



1 MS. HELM: Well, I think we also --

2 MS. RITENOUR: Here's the ones that we discussed  
3 the other day.

4 MS. HELM: Yeah. I think there's also some bond  
5 forfeitures that the warrants were never issued. So, if the --

6 MS. BERTRAND: Most of those have been addressed,  
7 and we've issued them --

8 MS. HELM: Okay.

9 MS. BERTRAND: -- because we had to go back on  
01:20PM 10 part of it. It was a BP. But now I'm seeing things that have  
11 happened last week where we've issued the warrant -- I have  
12 those in the examples for our next meeting -- that aren't active  
13 because they were already in custody and they didn't want to put  
14 the new charge on them.

15 MS. HELM: Okay.

16 MS. FONTENOT: I've got a question. They were  
17 already in custody. So, you have a new charge. You didn't just  
18 send it to the jail? That's not...

19 MS. BERTRAND: We were sending --

01:21PM 20 MS. FONTENOT: -- the process now?

21 MS. BERTRAND: -- them to the warrant division,  
22 and they're not making the warrants active. They send it back  
23 with Post-it notes.

24 MS. FONTENOT: That say?

25 MS. BERTRAND: Can't make it active.

1 MS. HELM: I think it's a confusion between the  
2 person's already in jail, so, in our old system we would create  
3 warrants if the person was in jail even if they were in jail on  
4 that charge and the warrant would just get closed out because  
5 they were already in jail.

6 (MR. PRICE ENTERS THE MEETING.)

7 MS. HELM: But in the new system if you create a  
8 warrant on somebody that's already in jail on that same charge,  
9 it will not allow you to close out that warrant properly because  
01:21PM 10 they've already been booked into jail before the warrant was  
11 ever issued. So, we've been kind of having problems with that.  
12 But I think where the warrant division's getting confused -- and  
13 we're going to meet with them about that -- is if they're  
14 issuing a warrant on a different charge because they got a new  
15 charge, but they're in jail on a different charge, then they're  
16 not wanting to activate that warrant because they're saying,  
17 well, they're in jail but they're really in jail on a different  
18 charge. So, they really need to activate the warrant so they  
19 can be, I guess, rebooked in jail on the new charge.

01:22PM 20 MS. FONTENOT: So, on the warrants that -- the  
21 warrants that come in to be activated, it all goes through the  
22 warrant division?

23 MS. HELM: Warrant division, yes.

24 MS. FONTENOT: They have to activate them whether  
25 they're in jail or not?

1 MS. HELM: Yes.

2 MS. FONTENOT: Okay.

3 MS. HELM: Yes. And basically the system makes  
4 you do everything in a certain order. If things are done out of  
5 order, it gives you an error.

6 MS. BERTRAND: Sequence.

7 MS. HELM: So, it's real particular about -- you  
8 know, we're all trying to figure those things out. But I think  
9 some of the nisis had that problem and, so, we wanted to make  
10 sure that the -- I know Tamara -- I was trying to call you  
11 Tonja -- Tamara had some questions about that because she had  
12 some forfeitures that she was showing there never was a warrant  
13 issued on it.

14 MS. RITENOUR: From April, yeah, all the way back  
15 from April.

16 JUDGE WOODS: We'll add that to the agenda for  
17 next time.

18 MS. SEGURA: Okay. I got it.

19 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Any other business? Motion  
20 to adjourn?

21 MR. GALMOR: Make a motion.

22 JUDGE WOODS: Second?

23 MR. DAY: Second.

24 JUDGE WOODS: We're adjourned.

25 (CONCLUSION OF MEETING.)

01:22PM

01:23PM