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BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2024

THOSE PRESENT: JUDGE CLINT WOODS
BECKY BERTRAND
KEITH DAY
HAYLEE FOURNIER
TIM FUNCHESS
KELLIE HOLMES
CAPTAIN AARON MORRIS
LESLIE HUGHES
SANDRA MOTT
AL REED
TOM ROEBUCK
GLENDA SEGURA
RHONDA BRODE
VALENCIA SIMPSON
MARY HELM
ALEX SADLER
CHRIS ROMANO
TAMARA RITENOUR
DEDE ROJAS
BOOGER HOLLIER
KIMBERLY BROUSSARD

1 JUDGE WOODS: All right. Now call the
2 January 25th, 2024 bail bond meeting to order. On the agenda,
3 No. 1, review the minutes from last meeting. I guess that
4 would've been November, correct?

5 MS. SEGURA: That's November, yeah.

6 JUDGE WOODS: Those have been posted?

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

8 JUDGE WOODS: Oh, okay. Do I have a motion to
9 approve the minutes from November of 2023?

12:33PM 10 MR. DAY: I make a motion.

11 MS. FOURNIER: Motion.

12 JUDGE WOODS: Second?

13 MR. FUNCHESS: Second.

14 JUDGE WOODS: All in favor?

15 (RESPONSES GIVEN.)

16 JUDGE WOODS: Aye. Those are approved. We'll
17 post those.

18 No. 2, report from the district attorney's
19 office?

12:33PM 20 MS. MOTT: We're not doing our reports still, but
21 I mean the collections, we're collecting.

22 THE COURT: Okay. All right. No. 3,
23 consideration and approval of applications? I think we have
24 one.

25 MS. BERTRAND: We have one. I emailed all the

1 members Booger Hollier's applications. Everything is in order.

2 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

3 MR. FUNCHESS: I've got a question or
4 observation. On page 4, have you ever had a bail bond license
5 suspended or revoked, it says yes. But then you flip back to
6 Exhibit 14 and it says no.

7 MR. BERTRAND: I think that's just a mistake.
8 Mr. Hollier's here to answer that question.

9 MR. FUNCHESS: I don't have any objections to it,
10 but I think it just needs a correction.

11 MS. BERTRAND: I think he just checked the wrong
12 box, but he's here to answer any questions.

13 Mr. Hollier, have you had any license suspended
14 or revoked?

15 MR. HOLLIER: Nowhere else, for -- back in '81,
16 '82, it was revoked for nine months and then deferred probation
17 and they put me back in the pot, 48 years ago.

18 MS. BERTRAND: Before bail bond board existed?

19 MR. HOLLIER: (Nods head up and down.)

12:35PM 20 MS. BERTRAND: Okay.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Do y'all have a motion to
22 approve Mr. Hollier's application?

23 MR. FUNCHESS: I'll move.

24 JUDGE WOODS: Second?

25 MR. DAY: Second.

1 JUDGE WOODS: All in favor?

2 (RESPONSES GIVEN.)

3 JUDGE WOODS: Any opposed? Hearing none, it'll
4 pass. We'll accept Mr. Hollier's application. Any other
5 applications? No other applications?

6 MS. BERTRAND: Oh, no, sir.

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

9 MS. HOLMES: There aren't any.

12:35PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: No complaints.

11 No. 5, report from the treasurer's office.

12 MR. FUNCHESS: I have distributed my report. If
13 there are any questions, I'll answer them. If you don't have a
14 copy, I'll get you one.

15 JUDGE WOODS: Are there any questions or comments
16 regarding the treasurer's report? Hearing none, we'll move
17 forward.

18 No. 6, release of any property CDs, cash, or
19 cashier's checks?

12:36PM 20 MS. SEGURA: No.

21 JUDGE WOODS: No. 7, report from the auditor's
22 office?

23 MS. BRODE: I distributed copies of our general
24 ledger. I'm hoping to have our bond limits -- my old report
25 back up and running next month.

1 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Any questions or comments
2 regarding that issue? Okay.

3 MS. BERTRAND: I do want to jump in real quick
4 here 'cause I think it's going to impact your reports. Rhonda's
5 reports would say whether or not a bondsman's in default or not
6 and that it's going to be, you know, in the report. I was
7 hoping -- I just sent Mary a text, and she's not here yet.
8 She's on her way. Currently the situation is on the report that
9 the bondsman get on accusation bonds, we have not been able to
10 pull off the JP bonds, municipal court bonds which we previously
11 said should not be going against their liability.

12 JUDGE WOODS: Correct.

13 MS. BRODE: Wait, wait. I thought the JP bonds
14 were?

15 MR. DAY: No.

16 MS. BRODE: They're county bonds.

17 MR. DAY: Anything under a Class B.

18 MS. BERTRAND: So, all Class Cs do not go against
19 the bonds.

12:37PM 20 MR. ROEBUCK: That means accusation bonds never
21 get that way because there's no such thing as an indicted
22 accusation bond.

23 JUDGE WOODS: Right.

24 MS. BERTRAND: And, so, the problem is is that
25 according to this report right here, which has a combination of

1 everything on it, I mean, it shows over a million dollars in
2 accusation bonds which some of it should be against them and
3 some shouldn't. So, that's something she's --

4 MS. BRODE: I know Mary's on her way. I attended
5 a meeting with her and this is something we need to discuss
6 because when we discussed the municipalities, et cetera, we
7 discussed the fees. The fees were voted on. I was going to go
8 back and review the minutes to make sure this is correct. I
9 don't think the going against their liability was voted on.

12:38PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

11 MS. BRODE: Once it's voted on by the board, then
12 they can make a different -- like Keith Day Municipal Bonds
13 would be a bail bondsman --

14 MS. BERTRAND: Right.

15 MS. BRODE: -- and it would go against that, not
16 against his Professional Bail Bonds.

17 MS. BERTRAND: I think one of the things that
18 Mary and I had talked about was classifying everything that
19 would not go against them as a Class C --

12:38PM 20 MS. BRODE: Okay.

21 MS. BERTRAND: -- municipal, Class C, JP and, so,
22 those would not hit the report. They would -- the releases
23 would actually at the time the bond's presented would use that
24 code that would prevent it from showing up on the report.

25 MS. BRODE: Yeah. They would have to use a whole

1 different --

2 MS. BERTRAND: Code.

3 MS. BRODE: -- name, business name, yeah. And
4 that's what she told me an hour ago but --

5 MS. BERTRAND: We'll have another discussion.

6 MS. BRODE: Yeah. That needs to be -- we need to
7 look at the minutes and be able to tell her exactly what was
8 said.

9 MS. BERTRAND: I think what -- and I may be

12:39PM 10 wrong -- the meeting that we initially said yes, I don't think
11 Keith was at that meeting but we came back the next month and I
12 think it was corrected and you weren't here.

13 MS. BRODE: Okay.

14 MS. BERTRAND: That may be the problem.

15 MS. BRODE: Okay. October, November, December.

16 MS. HOLMES: We didn't have December.

17 MS. SEGURA: We didn't have December. So,
18 October or November.

19 MS. HOLMES: I have them but...

12:39PM 20 MS. BRODE: So, we'd like to bring it back, that
21 discussion back to the board next month just to clarify things.

22 MS. SEGURA: What are we bringing back to the --
23 on the agenda? What are we putting back on the agenda?

24 MS. BRODE: Class C or --

25 JUDGE WOODS: JP -- JP and Class Cs.

1 (MS. HELM AND MS. SADLER ENTER THE HEARING.)

2 MS. BRODE: JP and municipal bonds going
3 against -- and accusation bonds --

4 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah.

5 MS. BRODE: -- going against --

6 MS. BERTRAND: Well, they are accusation bonds.

7 MS. BRODE: Okay.

8 MS. BERTRAND: There are some that would go
9 against the liability and then some that wouldn't be and I have
10 a note, not that I can read it 'cause I didn't bring my glasses.
11 In November this was kind of brought up, but I made some kind of
12 reference to it.

13 MS. RITENOUR: And out of county, and out of
14 county bonds.

15 MS. SEGURA: So, JP, accusation, and out of
16 county bonds?

17 MS. BERTRAND: JP, out of county, and municipal.

18 MR. DAY: And municipal.

19 MS. BRODE: I need to understand the out of
20 county. So, if they're bonding someone out of our house, why
21 don't we charge them a fee?

22 JUDGE WOODS: Well, my understanding of out of
23 county bond is it's actually for a charge that arises out of
24 another county but they've been picked up on that warrant in our
25 county, I guess waiting to be sent to the originating county of

1 the warrant, if that makes sense.

2 MS. FOURNIER: So they haven't made bond yet.

3 JUDGE WOODS: Huh?

4 MS. FOURNIER: So they haven't made bond yet.

5 JUDGE WOODS: Correct.

6 MS. FOURNIER: So they wouldn't pay.

7 MS. BRODE: But if Keith bonded someone out for
8 an Orange County offense --

9 MR. REED: Judge, the reason why it doesn't go
10 against our liability is because if we default in another
11 county, they can't come to our county and get us for liability.

12 MR. DAY: That's not --

13 MR. ROMANO: Talking about jail fees.

14 MR. DAY: That's not what we're discussing.

15 MR. REED: Oh, the jail fee?

16 MR. DAY: Yeah.

17 JUDGE WOODS: Now, yeah, I understand his -- what
18 he's talking about but --

19 MS. BRODE: Right, right.

12:42PM 20 JUDGE WOODS: -- but you're talking about, so --

21 MS. BRODE: Fee.

22 JUDGE WOODS: -- a fee that is charged when
23 someone makes a bond regardless of where it's out of?

24 MS. BRODE: Right. It's our house. They should
25 pay a fee.

1 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

2 MS. BRODE: Am I correct? It doesn't go against
3 your liability but you should pay the fee. I mean, if not, then
4 me as bail bondsman, I'm sorry, I would only bail out out of
5 county people and never have a fee.

6 MR. DAY: Well, you'd go out of business -- you'd
7 go out of business real fast.

8 MS. BRODE: I mean, but if you're bailing out of
9 this county, we're doing the paperwork. The fee should come to
10 us to support our work.

12:42PM

11 MR. ROMANO: (Speaking.)

12 THE REPORTER: I didn't hear what he said.

13 MS. BRODE: Say that again.

14 MR. ROMANO: So, that fee goes to the DA's
15 longevity fund.

16 JUDGE WOODS: Who's that talking? I can't see.
17 Who's that talking?

18 MS. SEGURA: She can't hear.

19 MR. DAY: Chris, Chris Romano.

12:42PM

20 JUDGE WOODS: Chris.

21 MR. DAY: Chris Romano. Basically what he's
22 saying is that the fee doesn't go to the county. It goes to the
23 DA's retire -- assistant DA's retirement fund. It doesn't go to
24 the county. Yes, right here. Yeah.

25 MR. BRODE: Who is saying this?

1 MS. BERTRAND: Only \$2 goes to the County.

2 (MULTIPLE PEOPLE SPEAKING.)

3 JUDGE WOODS: All right. One at a time. We're
4 on the record.

5 THE REPORTER: Becky, what did you say?

6 MS. BERTRAND: Only \$2, I believe, goes to the
7 county. The rest of the \$15.00 fee goes to the state.

8 MS. BRODE: Yeah. It's like a two --
9 twelve-fifty, two-fifty kind of split, ninety-ten split but,
10 yeah, we do get a portion of it.

12:43PM

11 JUDGE WOODS: And where are you reading that
12 from, Keith?

13 MR. DAY: Code 41.258.

14 JUDGE WOODS: Of?

15 MR. DAY: Oh, it's in the Occupations Code. I
16 believe it's the Occupations Code I believe is where it's at.
17 What I -- Chris, do they -- do y'all bond in other counties?
18 What do they do in other counties? Do you know?

19 MR. ROMANO: Yeah.

12:44PM

20 MR. DAY: Yeah?

21 MS. BRODE: I mean, I understand it not going
22 against their liability, but we're the ones doing the paperwork.

23 JUDGE WOODS: Well, let me ask that question to
24 the bondsmen. Where and when you post a warrant -- or, I mean
25 I'm sorry, a bond on a warrant -- out of our county out of

1 county, does that fee get -- do y'all pay a fee in that county
2 that makes the arrest?

3 MR. DAY: Well, the way it's set up in other
4 counties -- this is what kind of separates Jefferson County;
5 that's why Jefferson County's kind of got a much better system
6 than a lot of counties -- the other counties that I post bonds
7 in, you have to bring a cashier's check day of to post the bond.
8 You have to walk in with a cashier's check. So, if I go post
9 bonds in Hardin County, I have to walk in with two 15-dollar
10 cashier's checks to post bond. They don't send you a report, a
11 bill.

12 MR. REED: Money order.

13 MR. DAY: Yeah, money order. I'm sorry.

14 SPEAKER: But for out of county.

15 MR. DAY: Money order. For out of county, I
16 don't -- I haven't posted an out of county in another county
17 before. I've only posted bonds in those counties. This is the
18 only county where I post out of county bonds.

19 JUDGE WOODS: And as of right now, you do or do
20 not pay the fee?

21 MR. DAY: No, we do not pay the fee in Jefferson
22 County.

23 MS. BRODE: They're charged the fee. You're
24 charged a fee.

25 MR. DAY: Well, I think -- didn't they take it

1 off the report, though?

2 MS. RITENOUR: Uh-huh.

3 MR. DAY: Yeah. Last month --

4 MS. BRODE: No. You're charged the fee.

5 MR. DAY: Well, last month, I think, or the last
6 meeting I think it was taken off the report, wasn't it?

7 MS. BERTRAND: It was going -- no.

8 MS. BRODE: No, because I'm the one that
9 invoices. I charge the fee.

12:46PM 10 MR. DAY: Okay. It was -- in the past up until,
11 up until Odyssey, it was never -- we were never charged for out
12 of county bonds until Odyssey took over. We were never charged
13 for out of county bonds.

14 MS. BRODE: Okay. Do we have a bail bondsman
15 here that does out of county bonds in other counties? Do you
16 have to bring money to other counties when you're doing an out
17 of county check?

18 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah. That was my question. Does
19 anybody -- has anybody been in that situation where you've
12:46PM 20 posted a bond on a warrant out of our county but the person was
21 arrested in another county and you posted that bond for that
22 person? Are you charged a fee in that county even though the
23 warrant is out of our county? Does that make sense?

24 MR. DAY: Or any other county, for that matter.

25 JUDGE WOODS: Or any other county.

1 MR. DAY: Any other county. I can -- I can email
2 Roger Moore and ask him --

3 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

4 MR. DAY: -- how it's handled, I don't have a
5 problem doing that, and just ask him how it's handled out of
6 counties and see. I mean, in the big scheme of things, it's
7 not -- we don't do that many. There's not that much out of
8 county stuff going through, but I can get more context from him
9 on if it's a fee that should be charged or not on out of county.
10 And I'll add Rhonda into the email when I send it to him. That
11 way she gets, you know, a response, as well.

12 MS. BRODE: And I think if we identify what goes
13 against their liability and what doesn't, then -- I'm speaking
14 for you, Mary. I don't know where you're at. That will help
15 you to know what you need to do in Odyssey to make that happen.

16 MS. HELM: Correct.

17 MS. BRODE: So, we need to -- do we need to go
18 back and look at the minutes, or do we need to have a
19 discussion? I'm looking for advice. I don't know what to do.

20 MS. HOLMES: I have a copy of the minutes.

21 JUDGE WOODS: Let's do this. Let's add it to the
22 agenda next time, that we're going to discuss this 15-dollar fee
23 for out of county warrants -- I mean out of county bonds.

24 MS. BRODE: And if it's going against their
25 liability. That's where --

1 JUDGE WOODS: Well, we've already discussed that,
2 I think.

3 MR. DAY: We discussed that in November.

4 JUDGE WOODS: Right.

5 MR. DAY: And the issue --

6 MS. HELM: Can I explain, just...

7 JUDGE WOODS: Mary?

8 MS. HELM: Can I say anything, or do I need to
9 wait?

12:48PM 10 JUDGE WOODS: No, go ahead, 'cause we were -- go
11 ahead.

12 MS. HELM: So, the way the computer system works
13 is if that bondsman is the bondsman placed on that bond, no
14 matter what the charge is, no matter what the type of bond it
15 is, it's going to bill them and count it against their
16 liability. There's nothing we can do to say don't do this,
17 don't do that. The only way we would be able to do that, we
18 have to come up with a whole different system of if that
19 bondsman is bonding that person out and it's not supposed to
12:49PM 20 count against their liability, the jail's going to have to
21 choose something different.

22 So, basically what I'm saying is there's --
23 everything built into the system, the computer system itself, if
24 I say Keith Day posted a bond, it counts against his liability
25 and it also bills him no matter what kind of offense or what

1 kind of bond. So, there's going to have to be a whole different
2 system set up in place for it. So, we really need to -- those
3 two things need to be understood completely of the billing
4 and -- am I making sense? Because if you say we're not supposed
5 to bill them but it is supposed to count against their
6 liability, we're not going to be able to do it that way because
7 it's going to have to be a whole separate bond company set up
8 for Keith Day as an out of county bondsman or for Keith Day as a
9 municipal bond. It's going to require the jail, when they're
10 posting someone's bond, to do a different action for that bond.
11 They can't just say Keith Day and then the background of the
12 reports will not just remove it by offense or by the type of
13 bond. Does that make sense?

14 JUDGE WOODS: Because Jefferson County's unique
15 in the fact we have an accusation rule? Is that why it's
16 creating a problem with the system?

17 MS. HELM: It really doesn't have anything to do
18 with accusation. It's just the way Odyssey works. I mean, I
19 don't know. All these other counties use Odyssey. I don't know
20 what they do different. It's just the way the system works
21 but --

22 MS. BERTRAND: To answer your question, yes, if
23 we didn't have accusations, we wouldn't have to have this issue.
24 I mean, they would have to make a bond-bond.

25 JUDGE WOODS: Right.

1 MS. SADLER: Bonds wouldn't be a problem if they
2 weren't on accusation.

3 MS. DAY: But what Mary -- maybe I'm confused.
4 You're not saying anything about accusation bonds. You're
5 talking about like out of county bonds.

6 MS. HELM: I'm talking about just bonds, not
7 anything to do with accusation.

8 MR. DAY: So, if I post a 20,000-dollar Hardin
9 County bond, you're saying based off the Odyssey system, it has
10 to go against my liability?

11 MS. HELM: Yes.

12 MR. DAY: There's no way to bypass --

13 MS. HELM: Basically what --

14 MR. DAY: -- unless you rewrite the system.

15 MS. HELM: -- the system looks at is who made
16 this bond and how much liability do they have or how much
17 collateral do they have. So, you have this much collateral when
18 they post a bond, all it's looking for is what bondsman that you
19 chose and there's no other criteria. That's all built into the
20 system. That's nothing we can control.

21 MS. FOURNIER: They almost have to have three
22 separate bondsman codes, out of county, in county, and Class C
23 misdemeanors.

24 MS. HELM: I don't know what other counties do.
25 That's why I'm saying we have all these other counties that use

1 the same system we use that do the same exact thing that we do.

2 MS. RITENOUR: Is there a way on the accusation
3 report to put a separate tab where it just calculates those out
4 of counties and the ones that you can't take off, where maybe it
5 calculates it at the bottom and then the county knows to
6 subtract that so that you don't go in default if you're over
7 your limit?

8 MS. HELM: I don't know.

9 MS. RITENOUR: You don't know?

12:52PM 10 MS. BERTRAND: I think that would have to be a
11 separate ECR that would take this accusation and say itemize it
12 out, these are out of county, these are Class Cs, you know,
13 whatever, if that could be done.

14 MS. HELM: And that's fine and dandy. ECR
15 reports are done all along. The problem is when we get to the
16 point that we say the jail, if you go to post a bond and that
17 person's in default, the system is not going to work correctly
18 if we're just doing things in the background through ECRs. Am I
19 making sense? We can send them ECRs all day long that says
12:53PM 20 we're not counting this against you, but the system itself has
21 built-in capabilities of once their writing ability is up, it's
22 going to stop the jail from posting their bond. It's going to
23 say you can't post a bond because they have no more money.

24 MS. RITENOUR: And that's going to take the
25 accusation total and then our bond total --

1 MS. HELM: It's going to take everything --

2 MS. RITENOUR: -- take them both and combine it
3 together?

4 MS. HELM: Yes. So, all the reports we can do,
5 even --

6 MS. RITENOUR: Yeah.

7 MR. HELM: -- if we don't do reports --

8 MS. RITENOUR: But the computer's going to
9 take --

12:53PM 10 MS. HELM: -- the way the system works is the way
11 the system works. Am I making sense? So, it's more to it than
12 just -- you know, and I don't know. Y'all can reach out to some
13 other counties that -- I mean --

14 MS. RITENOUR: But if we could -- if we could
15 figure out a way to get those things off our liability, off
16 the -- like, let's say the bonding companies come together and
17 say once a week we're going to send an email to so-and-so of
18 these that need to be cleaned off, that would -- I mean, it
19 might go on the next day. You can't get it -- but we just don't
12:54PM 20 know who --

21 MS. FOURNIER: The jail would have to do that in
22 their -- if they have the manpower to do that.

23 MS. BRODE: Captain, how would your jailers feel
24 about -- how hard would it be for them to enter -- if
25 Professional Bail Bonds had three different -- they had out of

1 county, they had --

2 CAPTAIN MORRIS: That would just depend on the
3 code. If they have a different company, then they have an
4 actual different code, also. So if the bond has --

5 MS. BRODE: Would that be difficult for them?

6 CAPTAIN MORRIS: -- Keith Day 015, that's the
7 code. We would go put it into the system. So --

8 MS. BRODE: Okay.

9 CAPTAIN MORRIS: It wouldn't be difficult. It'd
10 probably be difficult on their end but...

12:54PM

11 MS. BRODE: Okay.

12 JUDGE WOODS: So, Mary, bottom line is there's no
13 other way for us to correct the system or change the system to
14 flag certain bonds as accusation bond or out of county bond.
15 There's just no way to do it is basically what you're saying?

16 MS. HELM: No. When a bond is posted, if it's an
17 out of county bond, they post it as an out of county bond but
18 there's no way for us to have that not -- the whole financial
19 part of it is the way the system's built, and we have no control
20 over that. We can change reports. We can do queries but if
21 the -- if the jail -- we're going to have to get to a point,
22 especially because we want things to be as user friendly as
23 possible at the jail so there's not as many errors, if the jail
24 has to have all these different options to choose, that could
25 be, you know, an issue.

12:55PM

1 MR. DAY: So, Mary, you're saying -- I want to
2 make sure I get this straight. So, we bring a bond over and the
3 jail, you guys, enter a code basically and that basically
4 accelerates everything, put it on our liability, right --

5 MS. HELM: Correct.

6 MR. DAY: -- that code?

7 Is that code -- but it's only one code, right?

8 CAPTAIN MORRIS: Uh-huh.

9 MR. DAY: It's only one code. But if we bring a
10 bond over there and let's say we don't want it to go against our
11 liability and we want to bypass that system, is there an issue
12 with entering a different code and it would bypass the system?
13 And what I'm saying is, let's say, for instance, if we had out
14 of county bonds instead of a regular surety bond, maybe it was
15 -- all the wording was the same but it was an out of county bond
16 with a code on it and when that code -- when that bond was
17 turned in, that code that was on top of that bond is entered and
18 that way the system knows it's an out of county bond, it doesn't
19 go against the liability. How would that work?

12:56PM 20 MS. HELM: Well, we did that with AS400 and y'all
21 didn't like that.

22 MS. FOURNIER: And every bondsman used the same
23 code.

24 MR. DAY: Every bondsman used the same exact
25 code. It's a special bond.

1 MS. HELM: We did that in AS400 and Odyssey
2 didn't like that. 'Cause remember we had the 996.

3 MS. BERTRAND: 996, yeah.

4 MS. HELM: That code was used which is probably
5 why it was not counted against them. It was an out of county
6 code. But in order for us to know how many bonds that you wrote
7 out of county, we would have to create a separate bondsman
8 record for each bond company as an out of county code so that
9 it's not just generic to this is out of county but we don't know
10 who posted it.

12:57PM

11 MR. ROMANO: So, like -- so like my license is
12 188. So, that's probably what they put in when we post a bond.

13 MS. HELM: Correct.

14 MR. ROMANO: So, why don't we have separate --
15 you may not like this idea -- but two separate bonds, 188 is for
16 Jefferson County charges, 189 is for out of county and Class Cs?

17 MS. HELM: We can do that, but we're going to
18 have to also create a third -- we're going to have to have -- or
19 you could have two like you're saying, but that's still going to
20 require the jail to have to choose that separate code, which is
21 not a problem. We actually have created those.

12:57PM

22 MR. DAY: But they're typing the code in any way,
23 the code is on top --

24 MR. ROMANO: Whatever's on the bond.

25 MR. DAY: -- they're just -- or we can even put

1 the code next to the charge and that way when they see it, the
2 code in, I mean, they're typing a 3 digit code in any way.

3 MS. HELM: We would probably have -- I think what
4 we did is we put a letter on it or something like that. But the
5 point is, we can do that, but what I'm trying to say is if we do
6 that, we have to make a decision of the same decision for if it
7 counts against liability and if it's going to be billed or
8 you're going to have to get on two separate bills if it is
9 supposed to bill because if you're giving it a different bond
10 code, it's going to be on a whole separate report. So, all the
11 reports we send them daily are for Keith Day as Keith Day. If
12 we do Keith Day as -- you know, what's municipal or out of
13 county, is a whole separate bondsman, that's going to be a whole
14 separate report. Does that make sense?

15 MS. BRODE: Uh-huh.

16 JUDGE WOODS: Well, then, ultimately it's up to
17 the sheriff's department to decide if they want to do that or
18 not, too.

19 MS. SEGURA: Uh-huh.

12:59PM 20 MS. HELM: And we don't mind training the
21 releases. I think when this was talked about a few months ago,
22 we created that separate bond company, but at that time we also
23 had an upgrade of our system and the releases part of the
24 jailing was totally revamped and we didn't want to put too much
25 off on them at one time. So, whatever gets approved, we can

1 train them but we just -- I just want to make sure y'all
2 understand it's going to be very difficult to decide we need to
3 bill them but we don't count against their liability. It really
4 needs to -- both of those things need to be the same.

5 MR. DAY: But when you say you need to train the
6 jail, the jail's only responsibility is entering the code.

7 MS. HELM: They enter the bond, who bonded them
8 out.

9 MR. DAY: Right. But the code is the only thing
01:00PM 10 different. So, it's not really -- I mean just you would say --

11 MS. BRODE: That's why he said it would fall on
12 you.

13 MS. HELM: They have a lot of steps they do to
14 release someone. So, it is training. There is training there
15 'cause they're going to have to know -- and they're also going
16 to have to know if once we say their liability is, you know --
17 'cause right now they're not looking at -- if it says Keith
18 Day's over, they're still posting the bond.

19 Once we get to the point that we say no, we have
01:00PM 20 to make sure, you know, but that's extra training for their
21 part.

22 JUDGE WOODS: All right. So, I think where we
23 stand is we don't have a solution at this point other than the
24 Sheriff's going to have to get involved and talk with the
25 bondsmen to see what she's willing to do and not do as far as

1 how they enter those into the system. So, I guess we'll just --

2 MS. BERTRAND: Can I make a recommendation that
3 some of us get together, we'll discuss the options and come back
4 next month with a recommendation as to --

5 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

6 MS. BERTRAND: -- what our best go forward move
7 would be.

8 JUDGE WOODS: That's fine. But, like I said, I
9 think it's ultimately up to the sheriff how she wants to do it.

01:01PM 10 So...

11 MS. BERTRAND: Right. And they would certainly
12 be included.

13 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah, sure, yeah. Okay. Well,
14 then we'll set that on the agenda for next month.

15 Item No. 8, extending grace -- well, is there any
16 more discussion regarding the auditor's office and fees? I
17 guess that will be -- we made that for the agenda last time,
18 correct?

19 MS. BRODE: One more thing.

01:01PM 20 JUDGE WOODS: Yes.

21 MS. BRODE: I apologize to all the bail bondsman.
22 I'm preparing for fiscal year-end, and I have not billed for the
23 fees. They will come out. Don't worry. It's always -- it's
24 due after you get your invoice, but I am delayed on that.

25 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. Moving on, Item No. 8,

1 extended grace period on bondsman liability. Do we need to
2 extend that again?

3 MR. DAY: I'll presume these issues aren't, you
4 know...

5 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah.

6 MR. DAY: Are still pending, I would think. So,
7 yeah.

8 JUDGE WOODS: Yeah. Well, then, we'll extend it
9 another month. So, I have a motion to extend the grace period
10 for one more month till we get all these other issues resolved,
11 I guess.

12 MR. DAY: I make a motion.

13 MS. FOURNIER: Second.

14 JUDGE WOODS: All in favor say aye.

15 (RESPONSES GIVEN.)

16 JUDGE WOODS: Any opposed? Then that will pass.
17 We'll extend that grace period for one more month.

18 All right. No. 9, procedure for bonds assessment
19 fees being refunded to bondsmen.

20 MR. DAY: Tim, Rhonda.

21 MR. FUNCHESS: We had an issue that came up I
22 think in the November meeting where these assessment fees that
23 were charged to the bail bondsmen, if a case does not go to
24 trial or it gets dismissed or is disposed of in some other way
25 and it's no longer in existence, they are entitled to their

1 assessment fees back.

2 JUDGE WOODS: Okay.

3 MR. FUNCHESS: And, so, we just didn't have a
4 procedure in place to get those assessment fees back. So,
5 Rhonda and I are going to come up with a refund form. I guess
6 I'll put that on my website under bail bond forms and -- but
7 it'll be up to the bail bondsmen to fill that form out and
8 provide us or provide auditing with the backup showing that the
9 case was dismissed or never brought to trial and then -- did you
01:03PM 10 want proof of assessment fee being paid?

11 MS. BRODE: Yes.

12 MR. FUNCHESS: So, we'll have that. If
13 everything checks out, Rhonda will sign off on it; and then
14 we'll go through the payable process and get them their check.

15 MS. BRODE: Proof of payment and proof that it
16 never became a case, it was dismissed.

17 MR. DAY: Well, one thing. On the proof that the
18 assessment fee was paid, wouldn't the fact that the bondsman's
19 not be in default be the proof?

01:04PM 20 MS. BRODE: No.

21 MS. FOURNIER: And also the receipts that the
22 county clerk issues does not have the comment to reference what
23 month or bond.

24 MR. BRODE: Right now everything is so manual
25 with the invoicing, the problem that I see is that I'm invoicing

1 one amount and they're paying what they feel is correct. So, I
2 need proof that you paid. If it's an Odyssey payment, I need
3 you to show me what you paid for that month.

4 MR. DAY: Okay. But after --

5 MS. BRODE: You should have that record.

6 MR. DAY: Yeah. But after we get this situation
7 resolved, at that point if the bondsman's not in default, that
8 would be the proof --

9 MS. BRODE: Right.

01:05PM 10 MR. DAY: -- once we get all this other stuff
11 resolved.

12 MR. BRODE: Right.

13 MR. DAY: Okay.

14 JUDGE WOODS: So --

15 MS. BRODE: Everything's just too manual right
16 now.

17 MR. DAY: Basically what I caught was it the
18 treasurer and --

19 MR. FUNCHESS: Cindy Brown.

01:05PM 20 MR. DAY: Tom Green or --

21 MR. FUNCHESS: No, she's Denton County.

22 MR. DAY: Denton County and that's basically what
23 she said that they do. It's contingent upon the bondsman going
24 out and getting the information. The only problem was they did
25 not have a form that they filled out. They would just email the

1 Treasurer the case number and say they wanted a refund for it
2 and they would give them the information if the case was
3 dismissed or was never brought to -- they were never charged,
4 and so, but basically she said they would just take the
5 paperwork and send it to the auditor's office. But I was
6 telling Tim that I think it would be better if we just had a
7 form instead of each bondsman sending their own little email,
8 have a form that we fill out with the attachments of the
9 dismissal.

01:06PM 10 MS. BRODE: Can we put the form on the bail bond
11 page?

12 MR. DAY: There are forms -- there's a section
13 for forms on the bail bond list. So, it could be put on there.

14 JUDGE WOODS: Sure.

15 MS. BERTRAND: Draft a form, approve the form and
16 then it can be posted on our page.

17 MS. BRODE: Okay.

18 JUDGE WOODS: Okay. So, we'll put that on the
19 agenda for next month to approve the form for the refund for the
01:06PM 20 assessment fees to bondsmen?

21 MS. BERTRAND: And who's going to draft the form?

22 JUDGE WOODS: Any more old business we need to
23 discuss? Any more new business? I have a motion to adjourn.

24 MR. FUNCHES: Move to adjourn.

25 JUDGE WOODS: All right. Then we're adjourned.

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(MEETING ADJOURNED.)