

**DRUG COURT AND MENTAL HEALTH COURT COORDINATING COMMITTEE -
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONFERENCE CALL**

MARCH 8, 2018

New Courts Under ICAR 55

MINUTES

Members in Attendance

Justice Richard Bevan, Chair
Hon. Scott Wayman
Hon. John Stegner
Ron Christian
Marreen Burton
Rich Neu
Hon. Robert Naftz

Guests

Hon. Melissa Moody, D4 Administrative District Judge
Paul Meigio

Staff

Scott Ronan

Members Unable to Attend

Sara Thomas, Administrative Director of the Courts

1:00 p.m. The Drug Court and Mental Health Court Coordinating Committee-Executive Committee conference call was convened by Chair Justice Bevan. Justice Bevan called for introductions for those joining in the call and welcomed the Executive Committee members and guests.

Ada Felony Drug Court III Operations Application

Scott Ronan briefed the Executive Committee on a submitted package of information that included the Operations Application, the MOU, and the Policy and Procedures & Participant Handbook, among others. Scott identified that the 4th District conforms to the requirements set forth in Rule 55, with the exception of the timeframe between the start date of the court and the submission of the Operations Application; however, the Executive Committee may exercise the provision of the rule allowing the proposed starting date be adjusted.

Administrative District Judge Melissa Moody from the Fourth Judicial District presented the Operations Application for what would be the third felony drug court in Ada County. Judge Moody explained that no new resources are being asked and this is truly not a new court, but rather an expansion of current effort that would reduce caseloads sizes and provide relief for the current over-capacity Felony Drug Courts. Judge Moody requested that the Executive Committee consider the starting date of April 1, 2018.

Rich Neu inquired about the blank signature space for the Ada County commissioners on the MOU. Administrative Judge Moody addressed the concern and reported that a Commissioners hearing will be

held soon to take up the matter. Scott also confirmed that the Rule does not specifically require a signature from the county commissioners.

Judge Stegner moved to approve the third Felony Drug Court for Ada County and to specifically waive the timeframe requirement and approve the start date of April 1, 2018. Seconded by Judge Wayman. Motion carried unanimously.

In addition, Judge Stegner suggested that the Committee take up a related matter at the next Committee meeting. Judge Stegner articulated that breaking a Drug Court into smaller or more manageable pieces should not be required by Rule 55. Scott responded to Judge Stegner, indicating that the Committee should expect to see draft revisions to Rule 55 at the next meeting due to this issue, consideration of the new Quality Assurance plan (and certification), and outdated language.

1:18pm Meeting Adjourned

Next Drug Court and Mental Health Court Coordinating Committee Meeting: August 24, 2018