Back | Print

Attachment # 2
Page 1 of 3

Board of County Commissioners
Agenda Request 9

Date of Meeting: 7/31/2001
Date Submitted: 7/26/2001

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
FROM: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Kim Dressel, Management Services Director
SUBJECT: Justice Community Interlocal Agreement for Justice Information Management

---

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:
This agenda item seeks Board approval for the County to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for Justice Information Management with members of the Leon County Justice Community.

BACKGROUND:
Over the past decade the current CJIS, Criminal Justice Information System, was developed with input and direction from a loose, non-formal cooperative liaison between MIS and the multiple justice agencies within Leon County and the Second Judicial Circuit of Florida. Changes and enhancements to the system were made by MIS without any formal review by the justice community as a whole and generally for specific end user's needs. Over time the system became inflexible, outdated and difficult and expensive to modify and maintain. Requests for new reports and process changes were not being met in a timely fashion or at all. Also, many of the information management needs of the other justice agencies were beginning to be handled by in-house solutions to meet their specific business processes. Interaction between these systems and CJIS were generally handled with redundant multiple data entry processes or with cumbersome and expensive, automated interfaces. Staff, user and management frustration grew.

MIS initiated an assessment of the justice information management solutions in Leon County by hiring MODIS to conduct a gap analysis study of user's needs and what current systems such as CJIS delivered. The study was completed in June, 2000 and recommendations were made to 1) develop an Interlocal Agreement for justice community agencies that would ensure participating agencies equal representation, provide a forum to resolve information management issues and a process to hold actions accountable; 2) convert CJIS from the mainframe DB2 environment to a mid-range UNIX Oracle environment; and 3) create a data warehouse for justice information.

These recommendations along with support letters from the Leon County Sheriff's Office, the Leon County Clerk of the Courts, Leon County Probation, the 2nd Judicial Circuit State Attorney, Public Defender, and Court Administration, and the Tallahassee Police Department for the creation of an Interlocal Agreement and a justice data warehouse were presented to the Board during the September 19, 2000 Board meeting. The Board directed MIS to work with a task force from the Leon County Justice Community to draft an Interlocal Agreement as well as begin the process of converting CJIS to Oracle as the first step in developing the data warehouse.

ANALYSIS:

Under direction from the Board, the MIS Director and staff formed a Justice Information Management Interlocal Task Force with the following membership:

Hermon Davis/Pat Curtis - MIS
John Stott/Sene Bauman - Clerk of the Courts
Doug Smith/Susan Wilson - Court Administration
Lt. Maureau - TPD
Dave Frimmel - Sheriff's Office
Alona McNeil - Public Defender's Office
Al Wood - State Attorney's Office
Gloria Daniels - Probation

Working for several months, the task force crafted a document that establishes the working relationships of the interested parties and defined the terms of agreement called the Justice Information System/Justice Data Warehouse Interlocal Agreement. A secondary document for procedures was developed that defines the governance body structure, roles, and expectations and exists as a "living" document to accommodate changes that may occur in the business processes of the justice community, as approved by the governance body.

The task force fashioned the governance body from some existing committees, as suggested by the MODIS report, "*Currently, a conference structure exists to discuss criminal information issues from the user through elected officials. The structure to manage shared criminal information systems is less effective than desired, and information systems have grown unilaterally. Leon County criminal information systems users and administrators are ready to embark on a collaborative effort to better serve the operational and support needs of the County. A new model for managing this coordinated approach is needed.*"

The Justice Information System's Governance Body is built from existing committees and councils with the addition of charters, clearly defined roles and responsibilities, and is empowered by the Interlocal Agreement. That Body will address justice community information management needs and issues; prioritize and enable activity; coordinate planning; determine the most cost-effective method for the County as a whole to provide the information; and provide a forum for conflict management.

The Interlocal Agreement and Procedures Document were reviewed by each participating organization's executive management and legal staff. The Task Force negotiated issues with agencies and legal staff with the final version presented to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council on June 12, 2001. At that time the Council agreed to undertake the role of Executive Committee of the governance body for the Justice Information System and voted to accept the Interlocal Agreement and Procedures Document. The Council was advised that these documents would be presented to the Board for final approval.

OPTIONS:

1. Accept the Interlocal Agreement and Procedures documents as presented and authorize the County to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for Leon County Justice Information Management with the Justice Community.

2. Provide Board direction to staff.

RECOMMENDATION:

Option #1.

Attachments:

1. Interlocal Agreement and Procedures Document
2. September 19, 2000 Agenda Item

Back | Print