

**UTAH JUDICIAL COUNCIL
POLICY, PLANNING and TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Webex video conferencing
March 6, 2026 – 12 p.m.

MEMBERS:

PRESENT

EXCUSED

Judge James Gardner, <i>Chair</i>	✓	
Judge Jon Carpenter	✓	
Judge Angela Fonnesbeck	✓	
Judge Christine Johnson	✓	

GUESTS:

Chris Talbot
Michael Drechsel
Melissa Kennedy
Keri Sargent
Shane Bahr
Michael Samantha Starks

STAFF:

Brody Arishita
Keisa Williams
Cindy Schut

(1) Welcome and approval of minutes:

Judge Gardner welcomed the committee members to the Policy, Planning, and Technology Committee (PP&T). PP&T considered the minutes from the February 6, 2026 meeting. With no changes, Judge Carpenter moved to approve the minutes as presented. Judge Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(2) 1-205. Standing and ad hoc committees:

The Council approved membership changes to the Uniform Fine Committee and disbanding the Court Facility Planning Committee as final with a May 1, 2026 effective date. The Standing Committee on Children and Family Law (SCCFL) is seeking to add the Director of the Self-Help Center and Law Library or their designee to be a voting member of the SCCFL.

Following discussion, Judge Carpenter moved to send rule 1-205 to the Judicial Council with a recommendation that it be posted for a 45-day public comment period. Judge Fonnesbeck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(3) Artwork policy:

The artwork policy was presented to the Council in April 2025. The Council directed Mr. Talbot to add exceptions for juvenile court courtrooms and take the policy to PP&T before seeking final approval from the Council. Revisions from previous drafts include increased allowable artwork sizes and an exception for juvenile courts which frequently display children's art or existing murals to be handled on a case-by-case basis. The policy applies to all public spaces including jury deliberation rooms, jury assembly rooms, and any public corridors.

Judge Carpenter raised a question about whether the policy applies to justice courts and shared public lobbies in city or county-owned buildings. Mr. Talbot explained that there are numerous shared facilities across the state that we don't control and any complaints received will be reviewed case by case with the city or county. The committee recommended adding clarifying language to exempt common areas not under state owned control from the policy. Mr. Talbot will draft clarifying language for Ms. Williams' review before sending the policy to the Management Committee.

With no further discussion, Judge Gardner moved to send the Artwork Policy to the Management Committee for final approval. Judge Fannesbeck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(4) 3-409. Court facilities planning:

The proposed amendments 1) remove references to the now disbanded Court Facility Planning Committee, 2) update the responsibilities and reporting duties of the Court Facilities Director and court executives, and 3) modernize verbiage from 1996.

Judge Fannesbeck moved to send rule 3-409 to the Judicial Council with a recommendation that it be posted for a 45-day public comment period. Judge Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Technology report/proposals:

Brody Arishita provided an IT update, noting that the website will implement a system to track historical changes to rules with a tentative go-live date in September.

Mr. Arishita and Mr. Drechsel also briefed the committee on the newly passed House Bill 540 regarding public and party access to audio recordings. Parties will have expedited, free access to their own audio. The bill includes funding for 10-14 new FTEs to manage these requests.

Old Business/New Business:

A draft amendment to Rule 4-102 was circulated to the committee shortly before the meeting. The Committee discussed proposed amendments in light of pending legislation, but took no action.

Adjourn: With no further items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 17, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. via Webex video conferencing.