Trial Court Budget Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2013

Attendance – Members Present
The Honorable Margaret Steinbeck, Chair
The Honorable Catherine Brunson
The Honorable Ronald Ficarrotta
Mr. Tom Genung
The Honorable Wayne Miller
The Honorable Debra Nelson
The Honorable Gregory Parker
The Honorable Belvin Perry, Jr
Ms. Kathy Pugh
The Honorable James McCune

The Honorable Mark Mahon, Vice Chair
The Honorable Robert Roundtree
The Honorable Olin Shinholser
Mr. Grant Slayden
The Honorable Elijah Smiley
Mr. Walt Smith
The Honorable John Stargel
The Honorable Terry Terrell
Mr. Mark Weinberg
Ms. Robin Wright

Attendance – Members Absent
Ms. Sandra Lonergan
The Honorable Bertila Soto

The Honorable Thomas McGrady
The Honorable Patricia Thomas

Special Note: It is recommended that these minutes be used in conjunction with the meeting materials.

Agenda Item I.: Welcome and Roll Call
Judge Steinbeck called the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The roll was taken with a quorum present.

Judge Steinbeck thanked everyone for their attendance on such short notice. The Supreme Court Conference is scheduled for next week to address the LBR issues and the employee salary issues need to be reconsidered.

Agenda Item II.: Reconsideration of FY 14/15 Legislative Budget Request for Employee Salary Increases
Judge Steinbeck provided some background stating the Trial Courts Budget Commission (TCBC) voted at their August 3, 2013 to recommend to the Supreme Court a Legislative Budget Request
(LBR) on employee salary issues. The TCBC voted to request a 6% increase in salaries and benefits, 3.5% for an across the board pay raise and 2.5% for salary flexibility.

At the Joint Budget Leadership (JBL) meeting on September 13, 2013, members expressed a concern that if a portion of the proposal was used for a general increase across the board, the issues of competitiveness and equity would never be fully addressed. The JBL recommended separating the issues into two parts: A request for a 3.5% across the board increase for FY 2014-15 and a request for $18.8 million to address the equity and retention issues facing the State Courts System. The JBL recognized the considerable size of the equity and retention request and proposed a two year implementation period.

Judge Roundtree motioned to recommend approval of the alternative recommendation with Judge Smiley seconding the motion.

A roll call vote was requested by Judge Steinbeck due to problems with the phones, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

With no other business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.