

## GARLAND COUNTY IT MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

GARLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 200

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A meeting of the Garland County Department heads and/or members and IT Committee members was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at the Garland County Courthouse, Room 200.

Members Present: Chairwoman Susan Garner Jones, Vice-Chairwomen Debbie McGrew, and IT Director Jeff Winter

Other Representatives: Anna Libby, Lanie Martin, Kristie Womble, Rebecca Talbert, Vivian Thomas, Adam Webb, Paula Moody, Cindy Archer, Stephanie Simms, Justice Ralph Bailes, and Justice Ben Hooten

Members Absent: None

Guests: None

News Media: None

Chairwoman Jones called the meeting to order, presented the invocation, and all recited the Pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Jeff Winter opened the meeting, discussing ACT 846, in which all Counties and Cities are required to have cybersecurity insurance. This subject was brought up in last year's IT meeting. Jeff talked about a grant called SLCGP (State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program) that is funded by the Federal Government. The County and City benefited from having a joint cybersecurity assessment through the SLCGP Grant.

An independent auditor was funded by the grant and met with the IT department. Judge Mahoney and Bill Burrough attended the meeting. He complimented on how the County and City work well together, and we are the only County and City in the State of Arkansas to have a joint operation.

The IT Department will be working on policies and multi-factor authentication. Multi-factor authentication (MFA) is a security method that requires users to provide two or more verification factors to gain access to an account or resource, rather than just a password. More funding will be needed.

DEM (Digital Elevation Model) was bought out, and the new company changed all the rules concerning software. The annual maintenance agreement will be 30,000 to renew for the IT budget.

Jeff talked about the criteria for Garland County legislative auditors and the 1-year standard regulations for cybersecurity.

Jeff informed everyone that Microsoft will officially end support for Windows 10 in October 2025. The computer will no longer get "patches," and that means the computer is not safe from cyberattacks.

The IT Department does back up by disk to disk, to tape, to Cloud, to protect from cybersecurity. The tape is called Air Gap Solution, and it is the safest way against cyber theft. He also talked about the Cyber Security Awareness phishing test sent to employees. IT gets a report of results.

Patch Management and switches were discussed.

Microsoft Office 2016 and 2019 will be discontinued as of October 2025.

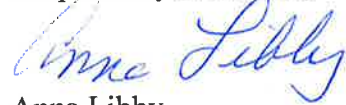
Kristie Womble, Circuit Court Elected Official, asked Jeff about licenses. Jeff discussed that the ultimate goal is for all City and County employees to be on a G1 license.

The City and County switched from AT&T to Ritter for internet.

Jeff will ask for an increase in the IT budget.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Justice Jones.

Respectfully submitted,



Anna Libby  
Recording Secretary