



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

County Legislature

*Theresa Cass Galvin (6th) Chair, Dan Tarwater III (4th) Vice Chair,
Jalen Anderson (1st AL), Crystal Williams (2nd AL), Tony Miller (3rd AL),
Scott Burnett (1st), Ronald E. Finley (2nd), Charlie Franklin (3rd),
Jeanie Lauer (5th)*

Jackson County Courthouse
415 E. 12th Street, 2nd floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816)881-3242

Monday, March 30, 2020

9:30 AM

Twelfth Regular Meeting

K.C. Legislative Assembly Area, Kansas City, Missouri

Theresa Cass Galvin, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

3 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jalen Anderson to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on March 16, 2020. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

None.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Stay at Home Order from the County Executive. (A copy of the Stay at Home Order may be found under Meeting details for the March 30, 2020 legislative meeting - <https://jacksonco.legislat.com/Calendar.aspx>).

6 PERFECTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[5320](#)

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the County Executive to execute an Off-System Bridge Program Agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission in connection with the Haines Road Bridge Replacement Project, No. 3241.

(Public Works Committee - 1st. Perfection)

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

Dan Tarwater III, County Legislator, asked for reconsideration of Resolution #20386. He invited Captain David Epperson and Sgt. Danny Barnes to address the resolution. Sgt. Barnes said that the Sheriff's Office is not taking any liability that belongs to UMKC. This measure allows the County to handle tickets issued by the UMKC police to ease the burden on the state court system. He said that small agencies that do not have their own court system must send their violations to state court. This measure will allow tickets issued by UMKC to be handled by the County municipal court. Prior to this, UMKC had an arrangement with the City of Kansas City to handle its tickets, but because KCMO has switched to a different computer system, the cost would increase to \$1,000 per officer. This resolution comes at a small cost to the Sheriff's Office. There will be administrative work to ensure that the UMKC officers are current on their POST certifications.

20386

A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Dan Tarwater III to move Resolution #20386 out of the Justice and Law Committee. The motion passed by a voice vote.

20386

A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Dan Tarwater III, to adopt Resolution #20386, authorizing the Sheriff to execute, on behalf of Jackson County, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Curators of the University of Missouri on behalf of University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) Police Department, allowing sworn UMKC officers to serve as auxiliary deputies with authority to enforce Jackson County petty offense and traffic ordinances within designated patrol areas on the UMKC campus. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

(ADOPTED)

9 CONSENT AGENDA

None.

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[5321](#)

Appropriating \$57,054.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 General Fund to be used toward the cost of wellness expenses, including Weight Watchers, and the continuation of the Associate Wellness Reimbursement Program.

(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

Theresa Cass Galvin asked Jay Haden, Chief Deputy County Counselor, to make sure legislation dealing with undesignated fund balances are assigned to the Budget Committee and the proper sponsor is assigned.

Ordinance #5321 will be corrected to reflect Crystal Williams as the sponsor.

Discussion regarding Resolution #20386. See above for details.

Troy Schulte, County Administrator, addressed Ordinance #5322. He said this ordinance is the first of several initiatives that will be addressing unanticipated costs related to the COVID 19 pandemic. This ordinance allocates \$4.3 million to Truman Medical Center and the Medical Examiner's Office. The administration anticipates these funds will be 100% reimbursed by the federal government through its emergency package.

Theresa Cass Galvin, Chairman, said that the Greater Kansas City Community Health Foundation is working out a \$10 million package to assist social service agencies including the United Way and Salvation Army with housing and food issues needed to provide direct assistance to residents. This first piece of legislation is to provide our health organizations with necessary funds to address the immediate health needs.

Charlie Shields, Chief Executive Officer of Truman Medical Center, said that while the County is not quite where it wants to be on testing, much of this funding will go toward personal protective equipment (PPE) for TMC staff and first responders. There are issues with finding this equipment on the market because multiple hospitals are all fighting for the same shipments from Chinese suppliers. He said TMC is helping all of the safety net health organizations to get the resources they need.

By the end of today Mr. Shields said, TMC will have completed 1,000 tests. At present only individuals showing symptoms are tested. They have had 59 positive tests, nine patients currently in the hospital, eleven tests

are pending for people that are hospitalized, and they have had one death. Quest is currently TMC's provider for testing with a one-day turnaround for results. Mr. Shields said that everyone in the hospital is wearing a Level 1 mask. Caregivers of people suspected of COVID infection wear a Level 3 mask covered with a Level 1 mask. When a healthcare provider is performing a procedure such as an intubation, they wear an N95 mask covered with a Level 1 mask. There is a shortage throughout the country for PPE. The hospital is down to a one-day supply of masks. The cost for masks is between \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. They are also in short supply for sanitizing wipes. If they run out, they will use spray sanitizers or straight bleach to sanitize an area.

Mr. Shields said that Truman Health Sciences facility has about 250 beds and Lakewood has 100 beds. If there is a surge of patients, they can add rooms through utilizing operating rooms and will be adding an air handler to add isolation rooms. The hospital is offering drive-by testing and setting up separate COVID clinics. Visitors to the hospital have been dramatically reduced and additional screening at entrances has been necessary. They are attempting to add in-house testing but cannot get the reagent needed. Testing cost through Quest is \$88 and the other private testing facility cost was \$260.

Because the hospital has had to reschedule elective surgery and have moved clinic appointments to telehealth, TMC has had a dramatic reduction in revenue while increasing costs relating to the virus. The hospital is preparing for a potential surge of patients which modeling indicates may occur middle to late April or early May.

Ronald E. Finley, County Legislator, asked if the administration could make sure information and plans are presented to the public as to community assistance programs and assistance to other health agencies in the County.

Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, asked what is driving the shortage of PPE and tests.

Charlie Shields said that testing is improving. The turn around for tests has improved from 48 hours down to 24 hours. The issue with the testing is the availability of the reagent that is used in the testing process. At one point they were also dangerously low on the level of swabs. Every hospital is sourcing PPE. Staff know that supplies are in the pipeline, but they do not know when supplies will be delivered because everyone is trying to buy the same shipment. Mr. Shields said that some people do not think this is

real. He emphasized that this crisis is real. Anyone can see patients in hospitals and see that this is real. The social distancing process is working. The hospital employees like to say, "We are here for you, so stay home for us."

Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, asked for clarification of the statement about additional requests. Mr. Shields said that if TMC is the fiscal agent for other health agencies, they will do that. They each rely on the other entity cooperatively.

Mr. Anderson asked about who was paying for the tests. Mr. Shields said that some tests are conducted on employees and some on people without resources to pay. Some people are covered by Medicaid, but the hospital will not be covered for all costs associated with testing. Actions taken by TMC are at an additional cost to the organization. It is currently unclear exactly how the federal emergency funding will work, they are keeping track of all of the costs related to the pandemic to seek reimbursement from the federal government. As a safety net hospital, this funding is crucial to provide these public health measures.

[5322](#)

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jalen Anderson to perfect Ordinance #5322. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[5322](#)

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Ordinance #5322, enacting the Representative Joe Runions Act, transferring \$3,613,603.00 within the 2020 General Fund, and appropriating \$900,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 Health Fund to meet unbudgeted public safety emergency expenses to be incurred by Truman Medical Centers, Inc., and the Medical Examiner's Office, in connection with the fight against the ongoing Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

(ADOPTED)

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

- [20388](#) Authorizing the Director of Parks + Rec to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cave Spring Association for the daily management, operation, maintenance, programming and improvement of the William M. Klein Park, also known as the Cave Spring Park and Historic Site, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$25,000.00.
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)
- [20389](#) Authorizing the County Executive to execute a Cooperative Agreement with the University of Missouri Extension Council to provide agricultural extension programs to the citizens of Jackson County, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$10,000.00.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)
- [20390](#) Authorizing the County Counselor to execute a Legal Services Agreement and Addendums to existing Legal Services Agreements with certain law firms, at an aggregate cost to the County not to exceed \$20,200.00, for services to be performed in 2020.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)
- [20391](#) Authorizing the Director of Finance and Purchasing to execute a four-year no-interest Master Lease Agreement for the lease of personal computers and hardware for use by various County departments with Dell Financial Services, L.L.C., of Round Rock, TX, and ConvergeOne of Overland Park, KS, under the terms and conditions set forth in NASPO ValuePoint Contract No. MNWNC-108 and Midwestern Higher Education Commission Contract No. MHEC-07012015, existing competitively bid government contracts, at an actual annual cost to the County in the amount of \$296,329.50.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)
- [20392](#) Transferring \$150,000.00 within the 2020 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Fund to cover funding for the Sheriff's Office's 2020 Law Enforcement School Based Initiative.
(Assigned to the Anti-Crime Committee.)
- [20393](#) Transferring \$136,750.00 within the 2020 Special Road and Bridge Fund, to cover the cost of rental of heavy equipment necessary to complete the 2020 Annual Road Program.
(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

[20394](#)

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Crystal Williams, to adopt Resolution #20394, supporting a freeze or a reduction of the current property tax rate on all residential and commercial real property taxes, excluding new construction, for the 2021 reassessment cycle. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 6 - Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Dan Tarwater III and Theresa Cass Galvin

No: 1 - Jeanie Lauer

Abstain: 2 - Jalen Anderson and Charlie Franklin

(ADOPTED)

Dan Tarwater III addressed Resolution # 20394. He explained that this resolution is stating the Legislature's position on the reassessment process, but any binding action will need to be enacted by ordinance. He believes this is a first step because of problems with Assessment Department staff, delays in completing the appeal process with the Board of Equalization, issues with software, and concerns about the economy in the coming year. This resolution will show the County's concerns as the state of Missouri General Assembly moves forward with making decisions and passing legislation. This action will not preclude citizens from appealing their value during 2020. He said his main concern is to be proactive on this issue.

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

[20-06](#)

On March 12, 2020, in accordance with the power vested in me by the Constitutional Home Rule Charter of Jackson County, Missouri, and the laws of this state and county, I proclaimed a State of Emergency for Jackson County due to the public health threat caused by the spread of COVID-19. Due to subsequent developments, including updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and on the recommendation of the Governor of the State of Missouri and the County's Director of Health, I amended this order on March 15, 2020.

Based upon further subsequent developments, including President Donald J. Trump's recommended cessation of school operations near areas of community transmission; numerous confirmed cases of the COVID-19 illness, including one fatality case, within communities surrounding Jackson County, Missouri; and based upon Jackson County's desire to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its residents' potential exposure to the illness, I am hereby amending my prior order as follows:

That a State of Emergency exists in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, and lasting

until at least 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020, due to the public health threat caused by the spread of COVID-19. The following provisions are made in consultation with those enacted by the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and the Core 4 jurisdictions in Kansas and Missouri.

Section 1. For purposes of this Order, all previous references to Section 1 in prior Orders regarding “Large Group Events” are hereby repealed and replaced with the following regarding “Group Events:” For purposes of this Order, the term “Group Event” means any gathering of 10 or more people at any restaurant, tavern, professional, social, cultural, entertainment, or other special event where people are not separated by physical space of at least six feet.

Section 2. For purposes of this Order, “School Operations” means any institution of elementary or secondary education, including but not limited to public, chartered, private, or parochial institutions.

Section 3. For purposes of this Order, “School Operations” does not include a requirement that school buildings be closed if needed to house individuals, distribute food, provide medical care or any other services deemed necessary to protect the life and property of the residents of Jackson County, Missouri.

Section 4. That due to unique characteristics and risks associated with transmission dynamics, the likely spread of the disease based on factors of social distancing, the clinical severity of COVID-19, the lack of vaccine or antivirals as treatment options, the crowd density, the inability to ensure social distancing, and to prevent close contact among Group Event attendees, all Group Events and School Operations are prohibited from taking place in Jackson County, Missouri, during the duration stated within this Order, unless Group Event organizers or School Operations leadership can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Jackson County Director of Health that sufficient mitigation plans for infectious diseases are in place.

Section 5. That the County Administrator is directed, in concert with or acting through the County Director of Health, to immediately make and adopt rules and regulations for the evaluation of approval of sufficient mitigation plans for infectious disease Group Events and School Operations.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Theresa Cass Galvin expressed her appreciation to the Communications Department and the Information Technology Department for their work in bringing today's meeting together.

Jalen Anderson asked Troy Schulte if he has had a discussion with the Health Department and Truman Medical Center regarding where we are on the curve. Mr. Schulte said that we are on the upside of the epidemic. We are encouraging people to shelter in place. Our Environmental Health department has been working diligently to make sure that those businesses are doing what they are supposed to do to maintain the public health. Mr. Anderson asked about discussion with Congressman Cleaver or Congressman Graves. Mr. Schulte said they have talked with Congressman Graves but have not yet reached Congressman Cleaver. He said because of our size only Jackson County and St. Louis County are eligible for emergency funding from the federal government. There is a great deal of administrative work to make sure the County obtains its proper allocation of these emergency funds. Mr. Schulte said they have had discussion with city managers from the municipalities in Jackson County. The private hospitals in the area have the funding ability to outbid public entities. Discussion is underway with local governments about pooling resources to purchase PPE and needed equipment. Mr. Anderson also requested information related to a plan to provide assistance to the homeless populations, a number that is increasing daily.

Dan Tarwater III expressed his thanks to all associates for their efforts that have made it possible for the work of the County to move forward, while following the stay at home order.

15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, April 6, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area. Committee meetings will be scheduled prior to the legislative meeting.

The Jackson County Legislature will not meet on Monday, April 13 but will meet on April 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.