



Jackson County Missouri

Jackson County Courthouse
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Kansas City, Missouri 64106
(816)881-3242

Meeting Minutes Rules Committee

*Sean E. Smith (6th) Chairman,
Venessa Huskey (2nd), Donna Peyton (2nd AL),
Charlie Franklin (3rd)*

Monday, September 15, 2025

1:00 PM

K.C. Legislative Assembly Area
Kansas City, Missouri

Present 4 - Sean E. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Donna Peyton and Manuel Abarca IV

Absent 1 - Charlie Franklin

ORDINANCES IN COMMITTEE

6016

AN ORDINANCE prohibiting County employees from knowingly making false material statements to the County Legislature by amending Chapter 74 and incorporating such prohibition into the Jackson County Code of Conduct.

Attachments: [RLA](#)

[6016 NA 2025 Misinformation to the Legislature](#)

Whitney Miller from the County Counselor's office discussed needed amendments with Sean Smith, both referencing Chapter 9 and Chapter 74 in the Jackson County Code.

A recording of the legislative meeting from August 18th, 2025 was displayed. In the recorded video, Manuel Abarca IV inquired to County Administration if any administration members had received recent raises. He again specifically asked if any administration members had been approved for Out-Of-Class pay. Manuel Abarca IV further inquired directly with Caleb Clifford if either Mr. Clifford or Ms. Sylvia Stevenson were receiving Out-Of-Class pay. Caleb Clifford responded that they were not, and that he himself had not received any raise to his own knowledge. The recording was stopped.

Sean Smith outlined a document that was handed out to the committee. In July of 2025, two employees approved each other's Out-Of-Class pay. He noted that was a direct example referenced to Ordinance No. 6016. Sean Smith also noted concerns of Jackson County Administration being able to self govern, as this was blatant false information previously submitted to the Legislature in response to a direct and specific inquiry.

Donna Peyton asked if this pay approval was in addition to merit increases that were approved. The Legislative Auditor, Troy Thomas, confirmed that it was.

Manuel Abarca IV commented that this pay approval was completed well before the meeting took place on August 18th. He noted concerns of delaying

accountability and said he did not wish to wait for amendments to be approved out of committee. Manuel Abarca IV noted several amendment topics that could be discussed within the Legislature. The intention is for amendments to be taken up in Legislature As A Whole. Whitney Miller confirmed this process.

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to recommend for perfection Ordinance No. 6016. The motion passed by voice vote.

RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE