



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

County Legislature

*DaRon McGee (4th) Chairman,
Donna Peyton (2nd AL) Vice Chairman,
Jalen Anderson (1st AL), Megan L. Smith (3rd AL),
Manuel Abarca IV (1st), Venessa Huskey (2nd),
Charlie Franklin (3rd), Jeanie Lauer (5th)
Sean E. Smith (6th)*

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

Monday, November 3, 2025

3:00 PM

Forty-third Regular Meeting

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

DaRon McGee, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV,
Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused 1 - Jalen Anderson

2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

3 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to
approve the journal of the previous meeting held on October 27, 2025. The
motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Presentation regarding use of unlicensed gambling devices. (Ordinance
#6007)

The following people were present to offer testimony regarding Ordinance
#6007:

Laura Birdsong, Independence Avenue Community Improvement District
(CID), gave a presentation and spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Phil LeVota, County Executive, offered statements regarding the issue of
unlicensed smoke shops and dispensaries that may also have gambling
devices.

Murray Woodard II, Director of COMBAT, agreed with the testimony given by
Laura Birdsong.

Mark Berry, attorney representing convenience store owners in the Northeast area, stated the businesses he represents would be in favor of an application process to have gambling devices in their establishments.

Thomas Gardman, CFO of the Kansas Capital Group, stated his organization, along with the businesses they work with, favor establishing rules for operating gambling devices in Jackson County and other jurisdictions in the state.

Discussion ensued between the individuals listed above, and Legislators DaRon McGee, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Jeanie Lauer, Donna Peyton, Sean E. Smith and Megan L. Smith.

For a copy of the Independence Avenue CID presentation, please see the attachment under Meeting Details for the November 3, 2025 legislative meeting at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. It can also be found as an attachment to Ordinance #6007. To view the hearing, click on the video link for the same meeting.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Phil LeVota, County Executive, was present and gave the following report:

He announced Oscar Gudino, from the Collection Department, as the winner of the Halloween Memories Contest. Oscar received a \$25 Gift card.

Chris Whiting is the new Chief Policy Officer in the Executive's Office. He is currently reviewing applications to fill over 50 vacancies on the various Jackson County Boards and Commissions.

Mr. LeVota signed the Legislature's Outside Agency funding contracts. He requested that future contracts have a fiscal note attached so that he can see the impact of funding on the overall budget.

The County Executive's Office is working on the 2026 budget. Steve Arbo, County Administrator/Manager, is meeting with department heads and others to get input. Mr. LeVota intends to get his budget recommendations to the Legislature prior to the official deadline, to allow time for discussion.

He explained how his office will be implementing the policy regarding the 15% cap on commercial property assessments.

Steve Arbo, County Administrator/Manager, presented the new organizational chart to the legislature. For a copy of the organizational chart, please see the attachment under Meeting Details for the November 3, 2025 legislative meeting at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Theresa Garza, Chief of Staff, commented on the steps taken to create the organizational chart.

Legislators Sean E. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Megan L. Smith, and Donna Peyton had discussions with the County Executive and his staff. To view the full discussion please click on the video for County Legislature meeting dated Monday, November 3, 2025.

<https://jacksonco.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

6 PERFECTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Resolutions #22099 and #22100 were adopted at this time. See page 9 for details.

[5967](#)

AN ORDINANCE repealing subsections 7401.2., 7405.4., and 7406.5., Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to protections against retaliation for complaints, cooperating with complaint investigations, and amending the discretionary authority to decline a complaint and enacting, in lieu thereof, three new subsections relating to the same subject.

(Legislature As A Whole - 26th Perfection)

[6007](#)

AN ORDINANCE enacting section 5542., of Jackson County Code, 1984, related to the use of unlicensed gambling devices with severability clause.

(Legislature As A Whole - 11th Perfection)

[6026](#)

AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 17.68± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RR (Residential Ranchette).

(Land Use Committee - 5th. Perfection)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey to waive the reading of Ordinances #6027 and #6028. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 5 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Sean E. Smith

No: 2 - Megan L. Smith and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1- Manuel Abarca IV

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

[6027](#)

AN ORDINANCE vacating a portion of an unnamed and unimproved right of way within Breezy Meadows, a subdivision in Jackson County.

(Land Use Committee - 5th. Perfection)

[6028](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 10.13± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).

(Land Use Committee - 5th. Perfection)

The Land Use Committee will have a public hearing regarding Ordinances #6026, #6027, and #6028 on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 1 p.m. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area

[6034](#) A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Sean E. Smith to perfect Ordinance #6034. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[6034](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Ordinance #6034, repealing Schedule I, Chapter 50, Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to park fees and charges and enacting, in lieu thereof, one new schedule relating to the same subject. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Absent: 1 - Manuel Abarca IV

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[6035](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey to perfect Ordinance #6035. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[6035](#) A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Ordinance #6035, appropriating \$320,484.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2025 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Grant Fund, in acceptance of the 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant awarded to the Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[21992](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with two twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of broker and consulting services for the County's employee group health, life, and dental insurances for use countywide to CBIZ Benefits & Insurance, Inc. of Kansas City, MO, under terms and conditions of Request for Proposals No. 25-019, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$250,000.00.

(Legislature As A Whole - 7th. Meeting)

[22014](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with one twelve-month option to extend for the furnishing of disaster recovery services for use countywide to 21st Enterprise, LLC aka ServPro of Lee's Summit, Missouri, under the terms and conditions of the Junior College District of Metropolitan Kansas City, Missouri (MCC) Contract No. 19-7242-C3R2.

(Legislature As A Whole - 2nd. Meeting)

[22078](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to accept the Finance and Audit Committee Amendment dated November 3, 2025, to to insert the phrase "rescinding Resolution 21978 dated August 18, 2025 and" after the words "A RESOLUTION", to insert the vendors "DLL Finance of Johnston, IA and Club Car LLC of Evans, GA" after the words "Lee's Summit, MO" in the heading and paragraph three; to insert paragraph one "WHEREAS, by Resolution 21978, dated August 18, 2025, the Legislature did pass and awarded a term and supply contract to M&M Golf Cars of Lee's Summit, MO, however due to change in financing of the term and supply contract other vendors needed to be included to fulfill the contract need; and,"; to insert the word "continued" before the word "need" in paragraph two all on page one.

The motion passed by a voice vote. Manuel Abarca IV voted no.

[22078](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt the Finance and Audit Committee Amendment dated November 3, 2025 for Resolution #22078, rescinding Resolution 21978 dated August 18, 2025 and awarding a fourteen-month contract with four twelve-month options to extend for the leasing of golf carts, beverage cars, a six passenger car, and a range picker for use by the Parks + Rec Department to M&M Golf Cars LLC of Lee's Summit, MO, DLL Finance of Johnston, IA, and Club Car LLC of Evans, GA at a cost not to exceed \$21,838.00, under the terms and conditions of OMNIA Partners Contract No. EV2671.1, an existing government contract. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 6 - DaRon McGee, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

No: 2 - Donna Peyton and Manuel Abarca IV

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[22085](#)

Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22086](#)

Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22087](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the purchase of a Flex Wing rotary cutter for use by the Parks + Rec Department to Van Wall Equipment of Lenexa, KS under the terms and conditions of Sourcewell Ag Tractors Contract No. 082923-DAC, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$32,487.00.

(Land Use Committee - 1st. Meeting)

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[22085](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a twenty-one-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of dry goods, paper products, refrigerated and frozen foods, and beverages for use by the Parks + Rec Department to U.S. Foods of Lenexa, KS, under the terms and conditions of OMNIA Contract No. 42356 an existing competitively bid government contract.

(ADOPTED)

[22086](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with one twelve-month option to extend, for the furnishing of shredding services for use by various County departments to Midwest Shredding Service, LLC of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 25-035.

(ADOPTED)

Resolutions #22085 and #22086 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Charlie Franklin, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[6036](#) Amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 10.00± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RR (Residential Ranchette).
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

[6037](#) Amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 36.68± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

[6038](#) Requesting a renewal of a conditional use permit (CUP) in District RE (Residential Estates) for continuous operation of a bed and breakfast subject to specified conditions, as to a 0.48± acre tract.
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

[6039](#) Amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 20.00± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).
(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

The Land Use Committee will have a public hearing regarding Ordinances #6036, #6037, #6038, and #6039 on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 1 p.m. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area.

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[22092](#) Awarding a contract for the purchase of desk consoles for use by the Sheriff's Office to Watson Furniture of Poulsbo, WA, under the terms and conditions set forth in Houston Galveston Area Council Contract No. EC07-23, an existing government contract, at an actual cost to the County not to exceed \$169,807.00.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

[22093](#) Awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of employee group dental and vision insurance for use countywide to Ameritas Life Insurance Corporation of Lincoln, NE.
(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

[22094](#) Awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with three twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of printed stationery, envelopes, business cards, and specialty or miscellaneous printing services for use by various County departments to Almar Printing, Inc., of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 25-037.

(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

[22095](#) Awarding a ten-month term and supply contract, with five twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of pest management services for use by various County Departments to National Exterminating Company dba Smithereen Pest Management, of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of the City of Kansas City, MO Contract No. EV3996, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

Murray Woodard II, Director of COMBAT, explained Resolution #22097, requesting the County Legislature to adopt it. Whitney Miller, Chief Deputy County Counselor, explained why it was not done timely.

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Jeanie Lauer to hold Resolution #22097, so KCPD could present to the County Legislature regarding this legislation. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 6 - Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

No: 2 - Donna Peyton and DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

The Chairman then assigned this to committee. See above.

[22096](#) Awarding a two-month term and supply contract, with three twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of mailing services for use by various County departments to Lineage Mailing Services (formerly Strahm Automation and Mailing Services) of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas Contract No. R36488, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

[22098](#) Awarding a contract for a lease of three Wide-Area Mowers, two Zero-Turn Mowers, a utility tractor, and brush cutter for use by the Parks + Rec Department to Van Wall Equipment of Lenexa, KS under the terms and conditions of Sourcewell Ag Tractors Contract No. 082923-DAC and Sourcewell Grounds Maintenance Contract No. 112624-DAC, existing competitively bid government contracts, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$115,585.00.

(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)

Manuel Abarca IV recommended placing tracking devices on the Parks + Rec equipment leased as cited in Resolution #22098. Phil LeVota agreed.

[22099](#)

Honoring the Northeast High School Vikings Boys' Soccer Team.

(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)

[22100](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #22100, celebrating La Mega KC's 10th Anniversary. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[22101](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to adopt Resolution #22101, authorizing the Jackson County Legislature to hold a closed meeting on Monday, November 3, 2025, for the purpose of conducting privileged and confidential communications between itself and the Jackson County Counselor under section 610.021(1) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and closing all records prepared for discussion at said meeting. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[22102](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #22102, approving the settlement for the claim of Phillip Dunning v. County of Jackson, Missouri Case No. 2216-CV20811, for a total payment by the County of \$40,000.00. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 6 - Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Absent: 2 - DaRon McGee and Charlie Franklin

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

No objection to the consideration of Resolution #22102 - not on printed agenda.

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

None.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion regarding the reconsideration of Ordinance #6011. Phil LeVota asked for time to work on current issues like assessment relief. He said he will implement a plan for the Board of Equalization in approximately a month.

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to **reconsider Ordinance #6011**. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer, and Sean E. Smith

Abstain: 1 - Manuel Abarca IV

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to **adopt Ordinance #6011**, repealing sections 9103. and 9104., Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to the Board of Equalization, and enacting, in lieu thereof, two new sections relating to the same subject, with an effective date. The motion **failed** by a roll call vote:

Yes: 1 - Venessa Huskey

No: 6 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer, and Sean E. Smith

Abstain: 1 - Manuel Abarca IV

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(DEFEATED)

Discussion regarding the reconsideration of Ordinance #6016. Phil LeVota commented and said he would like to do this by County Executive Order instead.

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to **reconsider Ordinance #6016**. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer, and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Donna Peyton, to **adopt Ordinance #6016**, 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. The motion **failed** by a roll call vote:

Yes: 0

No: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer, and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(DEFEATED)

14 NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to cancel the legislative meetings scheduled to be held on November 10 and November 23, 2025. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - DaRon McGee, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

Megan L. Smith announced that the Land Use Committee will have a public hearing on Ordinances #6026, #6027, #6028, #6036, #6037, #6038, and #6039 on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area.

Charlie Franklin, Chairman of the Budget Committee, requested any 2026 budget updates be provided to him by the end of the day.

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Megan L. Smith, to recess to go into closed session. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Closed meeting per Resolution #22101. The closed meeting may be followed by the introduction and adoption of a Resolution in open session to authorize the settlement of a legal action, cause of action, or litigation matter.

The County Legislature reconvened.

Resolution #22102 was adopted at this time. See page 9 for details.

15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

PLEASE NOTE: THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN INDEPENDENCE SINCE THE KANSAS CITY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AREA WILL NOT BE ACCESSIBLE.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, **November 17, 2025** at 3:00 P.M. at the **Eastern Jackson County Courthouse, 308 W. Kansas, Independence, Missouri, Ground Floor, Legislative Chambers.**