VETO OVERRIDDEN 11/6/2017

## IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

**AN ORDINANCE** repealing Schedule III to Chapter 2, <u>Jackson County Code</u>, 1984, relating to the salaries of County associates not within the Merit System, enacting, in lieu thereof, one new schedule relating to the same subject.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5037,** October 23, 2017

**INTRODUCED BY** Dennis Waits, County Legislator

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor recommends the creation of three new positions on her staff, as well as modest adjustments to the ranges for two other positions, which require a revision to Schedule III to Chapter 2, <u>Jackson County Code</u>, 1984; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds the necessary code revision to be in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Jackson County, now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, as follows:

Section A. <u>Enacting Clause</u>. Schedule III to Chapter 2, <u>Jackson County</u>, 1984, is hereby repealed, and one new schedule enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as Schedule III, to read as follows:

## SCHEDULE III

## **LEGISLATURE**

POSITION	SALARY
County Auditor	\$ <b>[</b> 66,980 - 110,520 <b>]</b> <u>87,800 - 147,754</u>
Chief Deputy Auditor	\$52,450 - 86,550
Budget & Financial Analyst	<u>\$87,800 – 147,754</u>
Special Projects Analyst	<u>\$87,800 – 147,754</u>
Public Liaison	<u>\$52,450 – 86,550</u>
Senior Assistant Auditor	\$41,075 <i>–</i> 67,775
Assistant Auditor	\$37,776 - 58,550
Secretary to Auditor	\$26,410 - 40,940
Audit Assistant	\$33,430 - 51,820
Chief Compliance Review Officer	\$52,450 - 86,550
Compliance Review Officer	\$41,075 - 67,775
Senior Administrative/Executive Assistant	\$33,430 – 51,820
Administrative/Executive Assistant	\$29,580 - 45,856
Housing Resource Director	\$52,450 - 86,550
Clerk of the Legislature	\$[66,980 - 110,520] <u>87,800 - 147,754</u>
Deputy County Clerk	\$41,075 – 67,775
Legislative Secretary	\$26,410 - 40,940
Secretary	\$26,410 - 40,940
Notary Clerk	\$23,580 - 36,556
Clerk Typist	\$21,480 - 32,220

Effective Date: This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage by the County Executive. APPROVED AS TO FORM: I hereby certify that the attached ordinance, Ordinance No. 5037 introduced on October 23, 2017, was duly passed on October 25 \_\_\_\_, 2017 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows: Yeas \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Absent Abstaining \_\_\_\_ This Ordinance is hereby transmitted to the County Executive for his signature.

I hereby approve the attached Ordinance No. 5037.

November 3, 2017 - Veto message received from the County Executive. (See attached)
November 6, 2017 - Veto overridden by County Legislature. (See journal of 11/6/17.)

Date Frank White, Jr., County Executive



FILED NOV 0 3 2017

MARY JO SPINO COUNT. CLERK

Veto Message from the County Executive

Friday, November 3, 2017

Ordinance 5037

10/27/10/10

## TO THE JACKSON COUNTY LEGISLATURE:

I am returning herewith without my approval Ordinance 5037, which provides for the creation of three new staff positions within the Legislative Auditor's office, and upward adjustments to the salary ranges for the legislatively appointed positions of Auditor and County Clerk. If this Ordinance were to be approved, the three new positions alone, when including benefits, could cost Jackson County taxpayers in excess of \$500,000 next year. I cannot in good conscience support such an expenditure of taxpayer dollars for the creation of three additional highly-compensated, poorly defined, and, quite simply, unnecessary positions at a time of such immense need in our County.

Before I further detail my objections, I believe it is important that I note and commend the opposition to this Ordinance by Legislators Crystal Williams and Tony Miller. I have learned that unfortunately in politics, the benefits of going along often overshadow the best interests of those we are elected to serve. I can confidentially say that has never and will never be the case with these two Legislators.

During the consideration of this Ordinance, there was discussion of the Legislature's need for additional resources to fulfill their responsibilities. Out of respect to those concerns, my office has analyzed both past Legislative budgets and those of similar counties in the State of Missouri to provide contexts for the Legislature's current budget allocation. In 2016, the Jackson County Legislature adopted a budget for themselves of \$2,604,954. In my first year as County Executive, I proposed a three percent increase for the County Legislature to cover merit increases for their staff and to cover higher health care costs. However, a six-member majority of the Jackson County Legislature ultimately approved a 40.68% increase to their own budget, which equaled out to just over one-million additional dollars.<sup>1</sup>

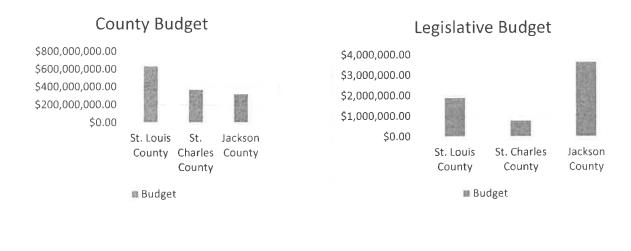
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It should once again be noted that Legislators Crystal Williams, Tony Miller and Theresa Galvin voted in opposition to the FY2017 budget, which included this increase.

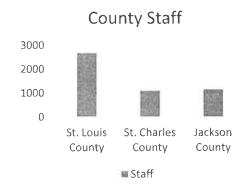
In the State of Missouri there are currently three other counties that have adopted charter forms of government. Two of which, St. Charles County and St. Louis County, have budgets and staffs that are approximately equal to or in excess of our own.

For 2017, St. Charles County adopted a county-wide budget of \$370,285,877 and employed more than 1,100 people. Legislatively, St. Charles County employed 13<sup>2</sup> people in legislative and auditing positions, while budgeting \$787,871 for both.

St. Louis County adopted a budget that totaled \$633,240,297 and employed 2,675 people. Legislatively, St. Louis County employed 26 people for legislative and audit functions, while budgeting a total of \$1,904,293.

Finally, Jackson County's adopted 2017 budget totals \$318,799,452 and we currently employ approximately 1,150 associates. As noted above, the Jackson County Legislature's current adopted budget is for \$3,664,764 and they have 33 staff members.







 $<sup>^2</sup>$  St Charles FY2017 council and auditor's budget included 12.65 FTE positions collectively. Also, one full time employee that is responsible for notary services is outside both budgets.

While I am hopeful that these numbers speak for themselves, I will provide a couple of examples to highlight the significance of these numbers. If the Jackson County Legislature's budget was equal to that of the St. Charles County Council:

- 1. We could immediately implement my September 5, 2017, recommendation of increasing the minimum salary for corrections officers in our jail to \$15 an hour, account for salary compression of more tenured jail staff, fund a jail master planning study and renovate the officers' locker room<sup>3</sup>; or
- 2. We could fund the debt service for a nearly \$50,000,000 bond that could cover urgently needed repairs to our current jail facility and also cover the costs for such other needed capital improvement items as installing sprinklers throughout the downtown courthouse, and making every County building ADA compliant.

For the foregoing reasons, I cannot support any further increase to the County Legislature's budget, therefore, Ordinance 5037 has earned my veto.

Respectfully submitted,

Metter.

Frank White, Jr.

**Jackson County Executive** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See attached

