



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

County Legislature

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

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

Monday, July 19, 2021

10:00 AM

Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting

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

Dan Tarwater III, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Dan Tarwater III, Ronald E. Finley, Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Charlie Franklin, 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 Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Ronald E. Finley to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on July 12, 2021. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Jacob D. Holman, CPA and Director of BKD, presented information regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. Mr. Holman said there are no audit adjustments that were reported. There were no issues with the controls around the financial reporting process. They believe all of the disclosures surrounding the audit are complete. Mr. Holman's complete report is available online at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=879518&GUID=709F1350-58F2-4C81-B990-37D78D02A643>.

Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, asked if the audit was on the year in total or by month. Mr. Holman said the audit was on the year in total.

Ronald E. Finley, County Legislator, asked about the impact of litigation over property taxes. Mr. Holman said there was some impact on the analysis of the funds, but he does not know the financial impact of the

litigation. He said this number is reflected in the financials under the fund balance accounts for the known cash received. Mr. Finley asked if Mr. Holman had an idea of the money available to build a new detention center. Mr. Holman said he does not have that information. He recommended looking at the unassigned fund balance on the financial statements. Troy Schulte, County Administrator, said the County is budgeting \$15.5 million per year in the County Improvement Fund as a result of the levy adjustment of the tax levy. The intent is this will be used to pay debt service on the detention center. Dan Tarwater III, County Legislator, asked if the levy amount was \$19.5 million. Mr. Schulte said that was prior to the roll back of the levy last year.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Frank White, Jr., County Executive, said the Administration will be meeting with the residents of the mobile home park where the detention center will be located. The Legislature is invited to attend. Masks will be mandatory at this event.

Mr. White said the Emergency Rental Assistance Program has been successful. To date, in the first 100 days, the program has prevented 1,059 evictions, paid more than \$4 million in rent and utilities, and about 66 percent of the total fund has been allocated. This program has kept many people in their homes through the pandemic. Mr. White commended the Community Services League and the United Way for their work on this program.

The Jackson County Health Department has joined other local health departments in issuing a public health advisory because of the outbreak of COVID cases throughout Missouri and the region. This advisory recommends wearing masks indoors, social distancing, hand washing, and other health measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Everyone is encouraged to get a COVID vaccine.

Mr. White said the Sheriff has reported an outbreak at the detention center resulting in several inmates in quarantine. Additionally, four Public Works Department associates have tested positive. When associates are out because of quarantine and infections, productivity is reduced. The Administration will continue to work to get all associates vaccinated.

Mr. White thanked BKD for their work on the County's clean audit. The County has been through tough times, and the Administration is pleased to report the County has \$13 million in reserves in the General Fund.

Ronald E. Finley asked about the County Health Department report stating there are 632 new cases of COVID in the recent week, double from the previous week. The media reports this virus outbreak is accelerating. He asked what else the County needs to do and what other options could be explored in regard to outreach in the community. He said he believes it may be time to consider actions to mitigate the virus such as mask mandates. He requested an update from the Jackson County Health Department.

Mr. White said he agrees. The outreach program in the eastside is to educate the public about the vaccine, not force anyone to take the shot. This program also reaches out to residents for other health care matters such as diabetes assistance. The Health Department recommendations are to wear masks indoors. Hospitals are crowded because people put off elective surgeries during the last year and as people are scheduling these surgeries, hospitals are seeing an increase in COVID hospitalizations, creating issues with the availability of bed space. Jackson County will be receiving patients from other parts of the state. He will reach out to Bridgette Shaffer at the Health Department regarding an update.

Mr. White said it is difficult to persuade people to take the vaccine. His greatest concern is with County associates and our efforts to get the vaccine to all employees. If vaccinated people contract COVID, there is a minimal impact to their health, it puts unvaccinated people at risk.

Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, said he has found many organizations are not able to provide services to those residents who do not speak English, particularly people who speak Arabic, and different languages spoken by the Asian Pacific Islander populations. Additionally, Mr. Anderson said he would like to see programs like the Healthy Eastside program expanded to areas in eastern Jackson County. He said 12 young people from East High School contracted COVID in the last two weeks. Mr. Anderson asked if inmates at the detention center are allowed to receive the vaccine. Mr. White said they are allowed to be vaccinated and the Health Department has made itself available to administer vaccines wherever there is a need. He will follow up with the Health Department on the language issues that were discussed.

Crystal Williams, County Legislator, said there are misunderstandings within the community regarding the delta variant of the COVID virus. When vaccinated people contract COVID their illness is mild, and they may not know they are infected. They are then exposing unvaccinated people, including children who then expose others in the community who are not

vaccinated. She recommended further discussions on the County's responsibilities as an employer. She believes insurance companies may require insured people to get the vaccine.

Frank White, Jr. said he is not sure if a government entity can mandate that associates get the vaccine. Ms. Williams said she is not recommending such a mandate yet, but it may come to that point.

Tony Miller, County Legislator, asked about the State of Missouri restrictions on health orders by local governments recently adopted by the state. Mr. White said they are awaiting further guidance from the governor's office.

Troy Schulte said new state law will go into effect August 28 and will greatly restrict the County's ability to be responsive to the pandemic. Mr. Finley asked for additional information on the law. Mr. Schulte said he will provide that information. The new law has different thresholds that require County Legislature approval of any health mandate. Tony Miller cited a Kansas City Star article that says children 12 and under may have approval to receive the Pfizer vaccine by November.

6 PERFECTING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[5525](#)

Justice and Law Enforcement Committee moved to perfect.

Ronald E. Finley objected to the Consent Agenda.

[5525](#)

A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Tony Miller to perfect Ordinance #5525. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[5525](#)

A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Tony Miller, to adopt Ordinance #5525, repealing section 1810., Jackson County Code 1984, relating to costs in the County Municipal Court, and enacting in lieu thereof, one new section relating to the same subject. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[20718](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the Director of Finance and Purchasing to execute a nine-year lease with Arghom, LLC, of Kansas City, MO, for office space for the State of Missouri Public Defender's Children's Defense Team, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$21,115.00 for 2021.
(Justice and Law Enforcement Committee - 1st. Meeting)

[20719](#) Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[20719](#) A RESOLUTION transferring \$75,000.00 within the 2021 Special Obligation Bond Fund to realign funds into the proper spending accounts resulting from the issuance of the Series 2020 Special Obligation Refunding Bonds (Animal Shelter Project).

(ADOPTED)

Resolution #20719 was moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Ronald E. Finley, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

None.

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[20722](#) Transferring \$28,848.00 within the 2021 Sheriff Revolving Fund to cover the cost of a replacement HVAC split system unit at the Sheriff's Office General Headquarters.
(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)

[20723](#) Awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract with one twelve-month option to extend for the furnishing of petroleum products for use by the Public Works and Parks + Rec Departments to Heathwood Oil of Kansas City, KS, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 24-21.
(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

[20724](#) Awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of surplus liquidation and/or auction service and related services for use by the Sheriff's Office to PropertyRoom.com, of Frederick, Maryland, under the terms and conditions of the Sourcewell Contract No. 012821-PRC, an existing government contract, at no cost to the County.

(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)

[20725](#) Awarding a contract for the furnishing of a fire notification and smoke control system at the downtown Jackson County Courthouse to Johnson Controls of Lenexa, KS, and Simplex Grinnell of Westminister, MA, under the terms and conditions set forth in the Sourcewell Contract No. 031517-SGL, an existing competitively bid government contract, at a total cost to the County not to exceed \$1,114,914.00.00.

(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

[20726](#) Authorizing the Director of Finance and Purchasing to execute an amendment to the contract with SFS Architecture of Kansas City, MO, for additional architecture and engineering services in connection with renovations at the downtown courthouse, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$58,500.00.

(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

None.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Jeanie Lauer said there is a backlog of trials in the court system and she encourages all citizens that receive a jury summons to follow through with their civic duty to serve as a juror.

15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by Ronald E. Finley, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, July 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.