



Office of  
**Mary Jo Spino**  
Clerk of the County Legislature

# Jackson County Missouri

## JOURNAL

### County Legislature

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

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

**Monday, April 1, 2024**

**3:00 PM**

**Eleventh Regular Meeting**

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

Jeanie Lauer, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

**1 ROLL CALL**

Present 9 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Sean E. Smith

**2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited.

**3 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion was made by Megan L. Marshall, seconded by Jalen Anderson to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on March 25, 2024. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**4 HEARINGS**

None.

**5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

The County Executive was not present. Sylvya Stevenson, Chief Administrative Officer, said there was no report.

Manuel Abarca IV, County Legislator, asked for the organizational chart that he originally requested three weeks ago. Troy Schulte, County Administrator, said the most recent chart is included in the budget book that was distributed last week. Mr. Abarca asked about the status of the health benefits survey. Sylvya Stevenson said all members of the Legislature should have received the results from Michelle Chrisman, Director of Human Resources. Mr. Abarca asked about the staff at Public Works. Mr. Schulte said Brian Gaddie is still the Director of Public Works and he is also the interim Facilities Management Division manager. He said there is also a new staff person in the Road and Bridge Division. Any questions about

facilities management, should be directed to Brian Gaddie.

Mr. Abarca asked for an update on the situation causing long lines at the Historic Truman Courthouse. Mr. Schulte said they have been managing the lines fairly well and are adding staff. Gail McCann Beatty, Director of Assessment, said she has consistently requested more space for her staff to work. The two buildings, 1300 Washington and the Historic Truman Courthouse, need to be retrofitted to provide enough space and windows to assist customers. They have seen 8,000 more people during the first quarter of this year than last year. They see over 5,000 people a month and receive more than 5,000 emails every month. They need more space, more staff, more windows to serve the citizens of Jackson County. Mr. Abarca said reviewing funding for the Assessment Department over previous years, the Legislature has provided more funding, but nothing has changed. Ms. McCann Beatty said the department has greatly changed. When she started the department only had 58 staff members. There were not enough staff to complete any functions because previous administrations cut staff in half. There was not a functioning CAMA system. There had not been a parcel-by-parcel review since 2005. Money was spent to upgrade these systems. In 2019 there were no meetings with the public because there was no space to do so. The staff moved to 1300 Washington and set up on temporary tables to be able to meet with the citizens of Jackson County. They now have about 100 members in the Assessment department. She said properties in Jackson County are closer to market value than they have ever been. She said it is incorrect to say the Assessment Department has not made progress.

Mr. Abarca said he thinks taxpayers would see things differently. He asked if there was still staff at 1300 Washington. Ms. Beatty answered yes. Mr. Abarca asked why Assessment does not take customers at the Washington location. Ms. Beatty said there is no vault for the Collection Department to keep money collected or customer windows at 1300 Washington. The building needs to be renovated. She would gladly move her staff and the Collection Department to 1300 Washington, but the space needs renovations. Mr. Schulte said the approximate cost for complete renovation of the building is \$17 million.

Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, asked about the situation with expired tags. Ms. Beatty said the state is cracking down on expired tags. One night the police department issued 200 citations for expired tags. Since people renew tags every two years there is a significant number of people that wait until their tags are due to pay their taxes. This forces them to come to the office because of the changes to their account.

Jeanie Lauer said the Assessment Department director and staff will present more information under Hearings during the legislative meeting next week.

**6 PERFECTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE**

[5837](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to perfect. Consent Agenda.

**7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES**

[5836](#) Consent Agenda.

**8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE**

[21519](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Executive or the Chairman of the Legislature to sell the County-owned property located at 1300 Washington Street, Kansas City, MO 64105 via the competitive bidding process.  
*(Land Use Committee - 8th. Meeting)*

(DROPPED)

[21537](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of greater local controls for Jackson County.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 6th. Meeting)*

A motion was made by Megan L. Marshall, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to waive the reading of Resolutions #21537, #21538, #21540, #21546, #21552, #21553, #21554, #21562 and #21572. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[21538](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate in support of trans rights to the Missouri General Assembly.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 6th. Meeting)*

[21540](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in opposition to House Bills 2367, 2470, and 2523.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 6th. Meeting)*

[21546](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of maintaining a fair and equitable citizen initiative petition process.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 6th. Meeting)*

- [21552](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of Blair's Law and greater local gun control for Jackson County.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 5th. Meeting)*
- [21553](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of the County Assessor being an elected position in Jackson County.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 5th. Meeting)*
- [21554](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of the Missouri Nondiscrimination Act in Jackson County.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 5th. Meeting)*
- [21562](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of reproductive rights and funding for family planning clinics.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 4th. Meeting)*
- [21572](#) A RESOLUTION expressing the intent of the Legislature to direct the Chief Lobbyist to advocate to the Missouri General Assembly in support of House Joint Resolution 135.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 3rd. Meeting)*
- [21592](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt.  
Manuel Abarca IV objected to the Consent Agenda.
- [21592](#) A motion was made by Megan L. Marshall, seconded by Charlie Franklin, to adopt Resolution #21592, authorizing the County Counselor to execute a Legal Services Agreement and Addendums to existing Legal Services Agreements with certain lawyers and law firms at an aggregate cost to the County not to exceed \$92,000.00, for services to be performed in 2024. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 5 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Charlie Franklin and DaRon McGee  
No: 4 - Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey and Sean E. Smith
- (ADOPTED)
- After the meeting, Legislator DaRon McGee, requested his vote on Resolution #21592 be changed from "No" to "Yes".

**9 CONSENT AGENDA**

[5837](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$24,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2024 Grant Fund in acceptance of the National Environmental Health Association Food and Drug Administration grant awarded by the Federal Drug Administration.

(PERFECTED)

[5836](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$975,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2024 County Improvement Fund to cover the cost of renovations and accessibility to the Family Court Division of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court.

(ADOPTED)

Ordinance #5837 was sent to the Consent Agenda for perfection.  
Ordinance #5836 was moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Megan L. Marshall, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 9 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Sean E. Smith

**10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE**

[5839](#) Appropriating \$291,598.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2024 Grant Fund in acceptance of the 2022 JAG Grant awarded to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

*(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)*

[5840](#) Appropriating \$6,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 Grant Fund in acceptance of grant funds awarded to the Family Court Division by the Family Court Committee of the Supreme Court of Missouri for the Juvenile Justice Program Assistance Grant.

*(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)*

[5841](#) Appropriating \$726,157.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2024 Grant Fund in acceptance of the 2023 JAG Grant awarded to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

*(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)*

**11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE**[21593](#)

Awarding a contract for annual software maintenance for use by the Sheriff's Office and Department of Corrections to Lexipol, LLC, of Frisco, TX, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$54,544.00, as a sole source purchase.

*(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)*

[21594](#)

Authorizing a three-month extension to a term and supply contract for the furnishing of commercial tires, tubes, and related services for use by various County departments to Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of Akron, OH, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. CC191557003, an existing government contract.

*(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)*

[21595](#)

Awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with two twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of diesel generators and repair services for use by the various County departments to Central Power Systems and Services of Liberty, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 24-004.

*(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)*

[21596](#)

Awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract with two twelve-month options to extend for the furnishing of concessions products for resale for use by the Parks + Rec Department to St. Joseph Distributing, of St. Joseph, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 24-009.

*(Assigned to the Land Use Committee.)*

**12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

None.

**13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**14 NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to reconsider Resolution #21536, approving the 2024-2025 Jackson County Assessment and Equalization Maintenance Plan.

Jeanie Lauer relinquished the Chair. Megan L. Marshall assumed the Chair. Jeanie Lauer said she and the Vice Chair signed the plan and it is her

understanding it has been submitted to the State Tax Commission. Gail McCann Beatty said she submitted the plan to the STC with the vote count on the resolution.

Jeanie Lauer resumed the Chair.

Gail McCann Beatty asked why this was being reconsidered. She said the Legislature is not being asked to approve the plan, but to affirm that an Assessment Fund is established, and the reassessment process will be funded. She said the plan had been approved and submitted to the State Tax Commission. Ms. Beatty said they have followed the same process with its plan each year. The STC has approved this plan. Donna Peyton said she had concerns about how the plan was carried out. The enforcement of that plan raises concerns. She does not think the plan contains the details that other counties' plans contain.

Whitney Miller, Chief Deputy County Counselor, said Rule 37 of Robert's Rules of Order covers the issue of reconsideration. Robert's Rules of Order states that a vote to reconsider an affirmative action cannot be taken when the action approved by the vote has been partially carried out.

Mr. Abarca said the plan does not contain his signature. Ms. Beatty said it does not need his signature since he voted no. She said the plan signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the County Legislature and a copy of the adopted resolution was submitted and has been accepted by the STC.

Sean E. Smith, County Legislator, said in most counties the assessor is elected and the county commission is elected. If they do not agree, there is an administrative process to approve the plan. Ms. Beatty said she believes that is in cases in which the plan is not submitted, but Jackson County has submitted its plan.

Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, asked Ms. Miller to reread the section from Robert's Rules of Order. Ms. Miller said, Rule 37.5 states a vote to reconsider an affirmative action cannot be taken when the action approved by the vote has been partially carried out. Mr. Anderson asked for her interpretation of that section. Ms. Miller said this is another instance that has come up today without giving the County Counselor's office adequate time to review the question.

Manuel Abarca IV called for the question.

The motion to reconsider resolution #21536 failed by a roll call vote:

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

No: 5 - Jalen Anderson, Megan L. Marshall, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee, and Jeanie Lauer

## 15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Megan L. Marshall, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, April 8, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.