



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, March 4, 2024

3:00 PM

Seventh 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 8 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee 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 Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on February 26, 2024. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Frank White, Jr., County Executive, expressed condolences to everyone affected by the recent gun violence in Jackson County. He encouraged everyone to take care of themselves, mentally, physically, and emotionally. He said the County associates have access to grief counseling services. He recognized Jean Peters Baker, Prosecuting Attorney, for making counseling services available to people in the community over the past few weeks. Tragedy hit close to home last week when 16th Judicial Circuit Court process server Drexel Mack was shot and killed. Independence Police Officer, Cody Allen worked to try to save Mr. Mack's life and lost his life in the line of duty. Both men exemplified courage, dedication, and selflessness. Their bravery will never be forgotten. Their memory will be a source of strength and inspiration for us all. Visitation services for Officer Allen will be 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the Community of Christ Auditorium, 101 West Walnut Street, Independence, MO 64050. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 8, 2024, at the same

location. Both are open to the public. The County is working with Presiding Judge Jalilah Otto to support Mr. Mack's family and to celebrate his life. Mr. White then called for a moment of silence in remembrance of both men and to pray for a safer city and a safer state.

Resolution #21570 was adopted and presented at this time. See page 11 for details.

Resolutions #21563, #21564, #21565, #21566, #21567, #21568, and #21569 were adopted at this time. See pages 9 through 11 for details.

Team members from the Our Healthy Jackson County program presented an update. Dr. Stefanie R. Ellison, Professor of Emergency Medicine at University Health - University of Missouri - Kansas City Health Sciences District, reported on the sexual health program. This program has provided 346 sexually transmitted disease (STD) tests at seven events since August in 2023 and will be holding 25 events in 2024. There have been 47 positive tests. It is a goal to provide screening to more adolescent clients. They educate far more than they test. They include medical students in the program to encourage education among young people. They follow the talk, test, treat model. They did one-on-one communication and five of these adolescents came in for follow-up appointments and tested clean.

Bishop Eric Morrison, Pastor of Kingdom Word Ministries in Kansas City, and his wife, Regina Morrison, provided information regarding partnership events held in the community for engagement and outreach to expand access to the Our Healthy Jackson County program.

Dr. Jannette Berkley-Patton, project leader for the Our Healthy Jackson County program, gave an update on the program's accomplishments and on-going efforts. A copy of Dr. Berkley-Patton's presentation is available under the Meeting Details for the March 4, 2024 Legislative Meeting, located at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=1182048&GUID=9158EE80-1813-47FF-8D69-2B8967365D18&Options=info|notes|&Search=>>

Manuel Abarca IV, County Legislator, said it is a tremendous opportunity to have this program in Jackson County. He was struck by the number of people in the program's survey who were exposed to gun violence. He asked how many members of the program's staff are bilingual. Dr. Berkley-Patton said they have approximately 30 or more bilingual staff members, across the four health professional schools. There is an additional 150 team members that are involved with the program. They are continually expanding across demographics. Mr. Abarca asked about the demographics data. Dr. Berkley-Patton referred him to the presentation slides which indicated where clinic events were held. Most participants are African American, but they see everyone. They are looking to expand the

racial mix and the urban mix of participants. Mr. Abarca asked about the referral statistics. Dr. Berkley-Patton said referrals occur for those people with non-normal results from the clinic visit. People with normal results from the screenings would not typically receive a referral unless there is a specific area of concern. They have physicians and pharmacy personnel on staff. Additional blood tests may be needed, and those clients may have a referral and those costs are covered. They will also cover well-women check-ups and pap smears.

Scott Lakin, Director of Collection, Karey Schulz, Deputy Director of Collection for Administration, and Anthony Mitts, Deputy Director of Collection for Operations, presented an update on implementation of the SB190 senior tax credit program. Mr. Lakin said the Collection Department does not set tax policy; they enact the County's policies. The department deals with 80 different taxing authorities in Jackson County. These taxing jurisdictions contract with the County to collect taxes, rather than setting up processes to collect their own taxes. The County collects and distributes taxes back to the taxing authority.

Mr. Lakin said the County Ordinance directs the department to create an application process to enact the SB190 program. The Collection Department rolled out that application on Friday, March 1, 2024. These applications for the 2024 tax year will be due by December 31, 2024, for the implementation of the Senior Property Tax Credit Program. During the renewal period going forward, the renewal application will be due on August 31 for each year thereafter. The Collection staff will be verifying eligibility for seniors who apply to the program. The County's ordinance and Senate Bill 190 specify to qualify the applicant must be eligible for social security, the owner of record of the property, the property must be their primary residence, they must be current on their taxes owed to the County and the property must have a value of less than \$550,000.00. The applicant does not have to be receiving social security, just eligible for social security. Collection staff have put together a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) which are posted on the County's website. As inquiries arise that may not be included in the FAQs, the department will revise that list of commonly asked questions. The Missouri General Assembly may revise the SB190 program, to clean up some issues, such as people who worked as teachers or railroad workers who are not eligible for social security but would otherwise qualify. Education and communications are the key to making this a successful roll out of the new program.

Donna Peyton, County Legislator, asked about the deadlines. Ms. Peyton said when the Legislature approved the SB190 program, she believed this would freeze the 2023 taxes. Mr. Lakin said the application process opened on time on March 1. This is the implementation year of SB190. This creates a baseline year. The deadline to apply is December 31st. This will freeze the

taxes for those that qualify to the 2024 rate. The County, by state law, reassesses in odd numbered years. The values of properties are not likely to change, although the taxing jurisdictions may have changes to their tax levy which may cause the tax bill to fluctuate.

Sean E. Smith, County Legislator, said taxing jurisdictions may file for a recoupment on their tax levy rates for 2024, which may cause a change in tax bills. The value may stay the same, but the taxes may go up. He believed the protection the Legislature passed should have been in effect for the tax rate from 2023. He believes seniors should receive credit for the increase in their taxes from last year. He believes seniors should be encouraged to apply before December 31, 2024. Karey Schulz said 2024 would be the initial baseline year, and that would be the rate going forward. It does not contemplate going back to prior years.

Mr. Lakin said there cannot be a conflict between the state statute that was passed and what the County implements.

Caleb Clifford, Chief of Staff, said they would review the presentations regarding SB190 and have the County Counselor's Office issue an opinion. The law that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly states that the first year of implementation of SB190 would be the baseline year, and rates would be frozen going forward. If 2024 is the first year to apply, that would be a baseline year. The County Counselor's Office will put something in writing.

Manuel Abarca IV asked about people with a pending appeal before the Board of Equalization and how does that impact those people. Mr. Lakin said those are the kinds of questions the department needs to address in the FAQs. Mr. Abarca said he had the same question about the quad pay program. Caleb Clifford said anyone in the quad pay program is considered up to date on their taxes. He said the senior quad payment program is still available if the taxpayer is current on their payments and they will also qualify for an SB190 application.

Karey Schulz requested that Legislators pass on to their department the questions they receive so they can address those questions in the FAQs.

Manuel Abarca IV said he understands there was a problem that the leap year affected the quad pay schedule and also he has received calls from constituents who have paid their taxes but they are not being applied to their accounts in a timely manner.

Sean E. Smith asked about property in a trust. Scott Lakin replied that a person can qualify for SB190 if property is in a trust as long as they adhere to the guidelines.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Caleb Clifford said the County Executive had no further comment other than his statement regarding recent gun violence.

Manuel Abarca IV asked the Administration about the workforce issues at the Detention Center Project. Troy Schulte, County Administrator, said the Administration was able to follow up on the issues today. They do not anticipate any additional costs at this point. Mr. Abarca asked about the localized workforce. Mr. Schulte said he would follow up with the contractor.

Mr. Abarca asked about the Compliance Office staffing issues. Mr. Schulte said to his knowledge all positions have been created, promotions have been approved, and new positions are posted for recruitment. Troy Thomas, Legislative Auditor, asked about the back pay issues. Mr. Schulte said backpay should be on upcoming pay checks.

Mr. Abarca asked about the BOE letter they all received and how the Administration plans to respond. Mr. Schulte said he disputes some of the allegations. They are working through issues presented by the BOE. Some have been resolved. The unresolved issues involve legal representation and pay.

Mr. Abarca asked about the human resources policy on bilingual pay, the certification process and how associates are grandfathered in. Troy Schulte responded that several associates have been grandfathered into the program, and he thought Mr. Abarca's aide was included. Mr. Schulte said the issue was brought to their attention last week regarding the certification requirement. Certified bilingual employees will be able to translate for legal matters, etc. To resolve the certification issue, they are allowing self-certification in which the employee attests to being bilingual. If it is found that the employee is not bilingual, they could be subject to termination.

Sean E. Smith asked about long wait times at the Historic Truman Courthouse. Mr. Schulte said most people go to the Historic Truman Courthouse to add vehicles to their individual personal property account. Most people prefer the Independence location due to the ease of parking. They have consolidated staff at the Truman Courthouse which has helped maintain the crowds. They have added staff to help with the congestion. They serve between 200 to 250 people per day. They are constrained by the space at the Truman Courthouse. Mr. Smith said he does not think the issue has improved since the staff has been consolidated.

Mr. Abarca asked for an updated organization chart for the Administration.

Mr. Abarca asked about the status of the health insurance rebid. He asked

for a work session regarding the benefits consultant before signing off on an extended contract. Mr. Schulte said it is more effective to have the benefits in a separate year from the health insurance contract.

6 PERFECTON OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[5823](#) AN ORDINANCE 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.
(Finance and Audit Committee - 5th. Perfection)

[5824](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$22,000,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the General Fund and authorizing the construction of two floors of office space in the Health Sciences building for use by University Health.
(Budget Committee - 8th. Perfection)

Manuel Abarca IV objected to holding Ordinance #5824 in the Budget Committee.

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Donna Peyton, to moved Ordinance #5824 from the Budget Committee to the Legislature as a Whole. The motion failed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 4 - Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey and DaRon McGee

No: 4 - Megan Marshall, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith
Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

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 - 4th. Meeting)

[21536](#) A RESOLUTION approving the 2024-2025 Jackson County Assessment and Equalization Maintenance Plan.
(Finance and Audit Committee - 2nd. Meeting)

[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 - 2nd. Meeting)

- [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 - 2nd. 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 - 2nd. 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 - 2nd. 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 - 1st. 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 - 1st. 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 - 1st. Meeting)
- [21555](#) Justice and Law Enforcement Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [21556](#) Land Use Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [21557](#) Land Use Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [21559](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[21560](#)

A motion was made by Megan L. Marshall, seconded by Charlie Franklin, to approve the Finance and Audit Committee Amendment dated March 4, 2024 for Resolution #21560, to delete the figure "\$92,000.00" and insert the figure "\$142,000.00" in the heading on page one, next to the word "Total" in the table on page two and the BE IT RESOLVED paragraph on page two; to insert the following "Cheri Simpkins, Lee's Summit, MO, Merit Commission, Board of Equalization, \$50,000.00" in the table on page two. The motion passed by a voice vote. Consent Agenda.

Manuel Abarca IV objected to the Consent Agenda.

[21560](#)

A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by DaRon McGee, to adopt Resolution #21560, 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 \$142,000.00, for services to be performed in 2024. The motion failed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 3 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall and Charlie Franklin

No: 4 - Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey and DaRon McGee

Absent: 1 - Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(DEFEATED)

After the legislative meeting, the Clerk of the County Legislature received a request from Legislator Peyton to change her vote from "Yes" to "No" for Resolution #21560 as reflected above.

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[21555](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the furnishing of three new vehicles for use by the Jackson County Drug Task Force to Corwin Motors of Springfield, MO and Corwin Ford Lincoln Republic of Republic, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. CC240138001-011, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the total amount of \$146,134.00.

(ADOPTED)

[21556](#)

A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Executive to execute a permanent utility easement in favor of Evergy across a portion of the Rock Island Corridor, for a fee payable to the County.

(ADOPTED)

[21557](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a sixty-month term and supply contract with two twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of grounds maintenance equipment, parts, accessories, supplies, and related services for use by the Parks + Rec Department to Professional Turf Products of Lenexa, KS, under the terms and conditions of the City of Mesa, AZ/OMNIA Partners Contract No. 2023261, an existing competitively bid government contract.
(ADOPTED)

[21559](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for video closed captioning services for use by the Office of the Clerk of the County Legislature to Granicus of St. Paul, MN, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$25,278.75, as a sole source purchase.
(ADOPTED)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and DaRon McGee

Absent: 1 - Sean E. Smith

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

None.

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[21562](#) 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.
(Assigned to the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee.)

[21563](#) A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #21563, recognizing the heroic efforts of Mike Aciego to assist Jenipher Cabrera, who was shot near Union Station on February 14, 2023, during the Kansas City Chiefs Championship Parade. The motion passed by a roll call vote:
Yes: 8 - Jeanie Lauer, Megan L. Marshall, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Sean E. Smith
Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson
(ADOPTED)

[21564](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to adopt Resolution #21564, recognizing the heroic efforts of Sasha Gallardo Krough to assist Jenipher Cabrera, who was shot near Union Station on February 14, 2023, during the Kansas City Chiefs Championship Parade. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21565](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to adopt Resolution #21565, recognizing the heroic efforts of John Krough to assist Jenipher Cabrera, who was shot near Union Station on February 14, 2023, during the Kansas City Chiefs Championship Parade. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21566](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by DaRon McGee, to adopt Resolution #21566, recognizing the heroic actions of Trey Filter at the Kansas City Chiefs' Championship Parade and Rally on February 14, 2024. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21567](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by DaRon McGee, to adopt Resolution #21567, recognizing the heroic actions of Paul Contreras at the Kansas City Chiefs' Championship Parade and Rally on February 14, 2024. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21568](#)

A motion was made by Manuel Abarca IV, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #21568, recognizing Heartland Women in Trades and the contributions of all tradeswomen in the Kansas City metropolitan area during National Women in Construction Week, March 4 - 10, 2024. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21569](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #21569, congratulating Vicki Turnbow on the occasion of her retirement as the Executive Director of the Raytown Chamber of Commerce. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

[21570](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #21570, honoring the life and memory of Drexel Mack, process server for the 16th Judicial Circuit Court of Jackson County, who was tragically killed February 29, 2024. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Jalen Anderson

(ADOPTED)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

None.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Manuel Abarca IV said he hopes the Legislature will address the lobbyist resolutions sooner rather than later. He believes that by holding these resolutions, the County is missing out on important opportunities to lobby for issues such as gun violence and local control. He said every day the County Legislature does nothing the State Legislature moves forward.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Jeanie Lauer, Chairman, excused the absences of Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, for the legislative meetings held on February 19, February 26, and March 4, 2024.

15 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by DaRon McGee, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until Monday, March 11, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.