



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

Jackson County Courthouse
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Kansas City, Missouri 64106
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County Legislature

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

Monday, June 8, 2026

3:00 PM

Nineteenth Regular Meeting

Eastern Jackson County Courthouse, 308 W. Kansas, Independence, Missouri, Ground Floor, Legislative Chambers

Manuel Abarca IV, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused 1 - Megan L. Smith

2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

3 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Sean E. Smith to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on June 01, 2026. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

None.

Resolution #22300 was adopted at this time. See page 9 for details.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

Earlier today, he joined representatives from the state of Missouri, MoDOT and local Jackson County leaders for the ribbon cutting of the new Lefholz Road Bridge over Interstate 70. He stated Jackson County should be involved with a connected project focused on the Lefholz Road corridor between Grain Valley and Oak Grove. He is requesting a \$150,000.00 investment needed to complete the design plans necessary to move the project forward. Chairman Abarca asked if the investment is an agreement

with MoDOT, the County Executive said the agreement would be with a design group who is working with a private developer. He also stated this is a prevailing wage project.

He wanted to remind the Legislature of the ARPA proposal currently on the agenda and what projects it will cover.

On Saturday, the Truman Courthouse was used as a location for a major motion picture produced by Terrance Howard. The County Executive thanked Assistant County Administrator Daren Fristoe and Deputy Tyler McCurd for being on hand during filming.

There was great input from the public at the Town Hall held to discuss the vacant McCune School in Fort Osage. Results were the building is dangerous and should be demolished and they will discuss later what to do next. Legislator Donna Peyton thanked Mr. LeVota for hosting the Town Hall and clarifying the commitment of Jackson County to return and solicit ideas for what to do with the property. Chairman Abarca asked if there is a process in place to find out the cost of demolition. The County Executive said they have begun the process to get a bid out to do so. Chairman Abarca also mentioned that some of the materials, such as bricks, rocks and stones, be salvaged and used in other places throughout the Parks + Rec system.

He restated the reason for the creation and necessary adoption of Ordinance #6089 which deals with tax credits and assessment adjustments according to the State Tax Commission ruling. Legislator Sean E. Smith asked what the new deadline will be to get the corrected tax bills entered into the billing system. The County Executive said they are still working to get them completed and the new deadline is July 1st.

The COMBAT tax expires in March of 2027 so it needs to be on the ballot in November for it to renew.

Legislator Peyton asked about the progress for the Senior Tax Levy. The County Executive said they have hired an Executive Director and things should be moving forward.

Chairman Abarca requested making parts of the monthly financial report bigger and receiving an updated Organizational Chart with names and pay ranges inserted. He also asked what happened with some of the elevators that were not working. County Executive LeVota said he will send the new Org Chart and the elevators were flooded and the water needed to be pumped out.

To view details from this section of the journal, click on the link below and select the video of the County Legislative meeting dated Monday, June 8, 2026.

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

6 PERFECTON OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[6050](#)

AN ORDINANCE prohibiting law enforcement officers from concealing their faces or badges during performance of their official duties and establishing penalties and exemptions.

(Legislature As A Whole - 17th Perfection)

[6074](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Donna Peyton, to delete the number "120" and insert the number "180" in the heading on page one and in the two final paragraphs on page two.

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[6074](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Donna Peyton, to perfect Ordinance #6074 implementing a 180-day moratorium on the processing of data center land use applications and Battery Energy Storage System land use applications by Jackson County for the purpose of developing a long-term policy and accompanying County Code provisions related to such applications, including the direction of regulatory standards and enhanced public notification requirements. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(PERFECTED)

[6077](#)

AN ORDINANCE enacting section 6004., of the Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to standards for care and treatment in Jackson County residential facilities with a severability clause.

(Legislature As A Whole - 8th. Perfection)

[6081](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 5.00± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).

(Land Use Committee - 4th. Perfection)

The Land Use Committee will have a public hearing regarding Ordinance #6081 on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 2:15 p.m. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area.

Sean E. Smith assumed the Chair.

[6087](#) Establishing a temporary moratorium on new data center development projects within Jackson County, Missouri, and establishing requirements for future data center project review with an effective date and severability clause.

(WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR MANUEL ABARCA IV. CONCURRED BY JALEN ANDERSON AND JEANIE LAUER.)

Manuel Abarca IV resumed the Chair.

[6088](#) Public Works Committee moved to perfect. Consent Agenda.

[6089](#) AN ORDINANCE enacting subsection 2067. Jackson County Code, 1984 relating to tax credits and assessment adjustments.

(Budget Committee - 1st. Perfection)

[6090](#) AN ORDINANCE transferring and appropriating \$25,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Park Fund for installation services provided by Frisbie Monuments of Independence, MO for use by the Parks + Rec Department.

(WWII Memorial Committee (Ad Hoc) - 1st. Perfection)

[6091](#) AN ORDINANCE submitting to the qualified voters of Jackson County, Missouri, at a general election to be held on November 3, 2026, a question authorizing Jackson County to impose a countywide sales tax of one half of one percent for public transportation purposes.

(Regional Transit Committee (Ad Hoc) - 1st. Perfection)

6092 AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$15,415,000 from the undesignated fund balance of various funds and authorizing the County Executive to execute Cooperative Agreements to fund infrastructure projects with certain municipalities within Jackson County in an amount not to exceed \$15,415,000.

(County Infrastructure & Strategic Planning Committee (Ad Hoc) - 1st. Perfection)

(Ordinance 6092 was an add-on and awaiting an amendment.)

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

[6049](#) AN ORDINANCE establishing a third-party monitoring program for Jackson County projects and authorizing access for qualified contracted third parties to conduct site visits.

(PERFECTED)

[6083](#) A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to adopt Ordinance #6083 appropriating an additional \$34,970.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Grant Fund, in acceptance of the 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant awarded to the Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[22269](#) A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to discharge to Legislature As A Whole Resolution #22269 authorizing the County Executive to execute a Participation Agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services related to its Summer Food Service program, with costs to be reimbursed to the County. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(APPROVED)

[22269](#)

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to adopt Resolution #22269 authorizing the County Executive to execute a Participation Agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services related to its Summer Food Service program, with costs to be reimbursed to the County. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22270](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding an eleven-month term and supply contract, with four (4) twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of prisoner transportation services for use by the Sheriff's Office to Security Transport Services, Inc., of Topeka, KS, under the terms and conditions of Johnson County, Kansas Contract No. 2026-014, an existing, competitively bid government contract.

(Justice & Law Enforcement Committee - 3rd. Meeting)

[22276](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #22276 authorizing the Interim Director of Finance and Purchasing to issue a check in the amount of \$6,000.00 for the purchase of a sponsorship for the 2026 Palestine Senior Citizens Activity Center's Prom hosted by LINC. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 5 - Manuel Abarca IV, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey and Charlie Franklin

No: 1 - Jeanie Lauer

Abstain: 1 - Sean E. Smith

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22280](#)

A RESOLUTION recognizing Janet Miles Bartee and the Local Investment Commission (LINC) during Older Americans Month.

(Legislature As A Whole - 1st. Meeting)

[22281](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a thirty-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of automation control products and services for use by the Jackson County Detention Center to Control Service Company of Lee's Summit, Missouri under the terms and conditions of OMNIA Cooperative Contract #159051, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(Justice & Law Enforcement Committee - 1st. Meeting)

[22293](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22295](#) Finance & Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[6088](#) AN ORDINANCE transferring and appropriating \$29,658.00 from the undesignated balance of the 2026 Park Fund and authorizing the County Executive to execute a contract with US Engineering of Kansas City, Missouri to cover construction and installation of a drinking fountain at Fleming Park at a cost to the County not to exceed \$29,658.00.
(PERFECTED)

[22293](#) A RESOLUTION directing the County Executive to develop and implement a comprehensive repair, restoration, safety, accessibility, and preservation plan for Lake Jacomo and to provide periodic reports to the Legislature regarding the condition and future of the Lake.
(ADOPTED)

[22295](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the furnishing of appointment management software for use by the Office of the Clerk of the County Legislature to QLess Software of Pasadena, CA, as a sole source purchase, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$9,734.00.
(ADOPTED)

Ordinance #6088 was moved to the Consent Agenda for perfection.
Resolutions #22293 and #22295 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

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

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[6093](#) Appropriating \$106,800.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Grant Fund in acceptance of a seven-month extension of the Victims of Crime Act Grant awarded to the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office by the Missouri Department of Social Services.
(Assigned to the Justice & Law Enforcement Committee.)

[6094](#) Appropriating \$95,137.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Grant Fund in acceptance of the Violence Against Women Act grant awarded by the Missouri Department of Public Safety to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office for a program focused on the prevention and prosecution of sexual assaults.

(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)

[6095](#) Establishing a temporary moratorium on the delinquent land tax sale of properties affected by the erroneous 2023 tax assessments.

(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)

[6096](#) Submitting to the qualified voters of Jackson County at the general election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, a question authorizing Jackson County to continue its countywide anti-crime sales tax (COMBAT) at the rate of one-quarter of one cent for a period of ten years for the purpose of promoting and providing public safety within Jackson County, including the prevention and treatment of drug abuse and addiction and the prevention, investigation, prosecution, and detention of violent criminals and drug dealers.

(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)

No objection to the consideration of Ordinance #6097 not on printed agenda.

[6097](#) Establishing the position of Legislative Intern within the Office of the Jackson County Legislature and setting forth provisions governing the appointment, supervision, and employment of Legislative Interns.

(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[22296](#) Awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with three (3) twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of ice cream concessions for resale by Parks + Rec Department to Kansas City Ice Cream Co., Inc., of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 26-024.

(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

[22297](#) Awarding a contract for software maintenance and support for ADA compliance for use by the COMBAT Administrative Division of the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office to CivicPlus of Manhattan, KS, as a sole source purchase, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$5,501.00.

(Assigned to the Anti-Crime Committee.)

[22298](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Donna Peyton, to adopt Resolution #22298 honoring the career of Tammy Brown as the Republican Director of the Jackson County Board of Election Commissioners on the occasion of her retirement. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22299](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #22299 authorizing the Jackson County Legislature to hold a closed meeting on Monday, June 8, 2026, 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: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22300](#)

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22300 recognizing Lilia Vargas-Grado on her 75th Birthday. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22301](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #22301 recognizing the 130 Year Celebration for Sacred Heart Guadalupe Catholic Church. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[22302](#)

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22302 honoring the opening of the Media Tech Museum. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

(ADOPTED)

No objection to Resolutions #22303 and #22304 not on printed agenda.

22303

Authorizing the County Auditor to execute a Financial Advisory Services Agreement with an entity of their choice for independent financial advisory and consulting services at a cost to the County not to exceed \$50,000.00.

(Assigned to the Finance & Audit Committee.)

(Resolution 22303 was an add-on, is under review and awaiting a fiscal note.)

[22304](#)

Establishing the Unincorporated Jackson County Fund and directing the County Executive and County Administration to develop policies and procedures for the administration of said fund.

(Assigned to the Finance & Audit Committee.)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

None.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Jeanie Lauer to disapprove County Executive Order 26-21. He stated his reason was the County Executive did not follow the Jackson County Charter when appointing members to the ERHCC Board. He cited Article X, page 25 regarding the nominating committee recommendations. County Executive LeVota expressed his disappointment that Legislator Anderson did not call him before bringing up this matter in the meeting. After much discussion, the County Executive rescinded Executive Order 26-21.

To view details from this section of the journal, click on the link below and select the video of the County Legislative meeting dated June 8, 2026.
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14 NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Abarca stated legislative meetings need to be added to make up for previously cancelled meetings, prior to the outside agency budget hearings. The legislative meetings will be scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on June 23rd and June 24th in Kansas City and June 25th in Independence.

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to schedule three additional legislative meetings as suggested by Chairman Abarca. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

Excused: 1 - Megan L. Smith

The County Legislature recessed for a closed session.

The County Legislature reconvened.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned until Monday, June 15, 2026 at 3:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.