



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

County Legislature

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

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

Monday, July 27, 2020

10:00 AM

Twenty-eighth Regular Meeting

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

Theresa Cass Galvin, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, 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 Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Ronald E. Finley to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on July 20, 2020. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Rachel R. Dwiggens, Partner with BKD, LLC, Bob Crutsinger, Director of Finance, and Cheryl Colter, Assistant Director of Accounting, presented information regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Ms. Dwiggens said the report is prepared by the Finance Department and reviewed by BKD. BKD submits an Independent Auditor's Report on pages 9 – 11. She said the County received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 2018. She said the audit is to obtain a reasonable rather than an absolute assurance of the financial statements and non-compliance. She said there were no deficiencies noted in the document.

Theresa Cass Galvin, Chairman, asked about the County's book balance versus bank balance as reported on page 46 of the report. She said the book balance is reported at \$577 million and the bank balance is reported as \$426 million, a difference of \$151 million. Last year the difference was reported as \$50 million. Ms. Galvin asked why these numbers are three

times from what was reported last year? Cheryl Colter said it most likely is property taxes. Crissy Wooderson, Legislative Auditor, said our annual property taxes are in the range of \$80 million listed on page 22. Ms. Colter said she would check her records and report back to the Legislature.

Discussion.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

None.

County Executive Frank White Jr. was not in attendance.

A copy of the County Executive's veto message dated July 22, 2020 for Ordinance #5374 is available at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4588405&GUID=87B1EBE1-16AE-49C8-833E-B1B5ABAF1C39&Options=ID|Text|&Search=5374>

Theresa Cass Galvin asked for consideration of the veto of Ordinance #5374.

Scott Burnett, County Legislator, said he was disappointed that the County Executive called him a coward in his press release regarding the veto of this ordinance. Theresa Cass Galvin said she respects the County Executive's position on removing the statues. The County Counselor's office prepared an opinion that the County Executive has the authority to remove the statues, but the County Executive issued a statement putting that responsibility on the Legislature. She thinks the best way to listen to the voices of our citizens is by putting this issue on the ballot because the people of Jackson County deserve to have their voices heard.

Dan Tarwater III, County Legislator, said he had condemned the actions related to the killing of George Floyd. He said he falls on the side of democracy and letting the people decide.

Tony Miller, County Legislator, said that this is not a binary choice of one action being wrong and the other being right. Hopefully, we can rally around taking down these statues at the ballot box.

Charlie Franklin, County Legislator, said he has heard both positive and negative comments about taking the statues down, but only positive feedback about putting this issue on the ballot.

Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, said he has experienced more racist comments since this discussion began. We've had a decline in services for our citizens, we have federal agents in our cities, and we do not take this lightly. I hope that all elected officials can rise to these challenges. Equality equity is what we must achieve. I fear that by putting this on the ballot, there will be campaigns to keep them up and campaigns to take them down. The people are trapped in the history they do not understand and cannot be released from it. We must force our brothers and sisters as they are. This is not just about a statue, but how we look and how we act.

Ronald E. Finley, County Legislator, said he agrees that members of the Legislature are present to show consensus, work for positive change, deliberate and try to get to the best decision. He said he has no fear of the ballot. His vote reflects the fact that this is a decision the County Legislature should make. The County Legislature needs to continue to work for change.

Crystal Williams, County Legislator, said she is confused by this when the County Executive has the power to remove these statues. She said she is tired of these positions being weaponized by the Public Information Officer of the County Executive's Office.

[5374](#)

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Jeanie Lauer, to override the County Executive Veto for Ordinance #5374, submitting to the qualified voters of Jackson County, at the general election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, a question authorizing Jackson County to remove the statues of Andrew Jackson at the Jackson County Courthouse located in Kansas City and the Historic Truman Courthouse located in Independence. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 6 - Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

No: 3 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams and Ronald E. Finley

(VETO
OVERRIDEN)

6 PERFECTON OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[5377](#)

AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,000,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 CARES Act Fund to support a regional COVID-19 contact tracing and testing hub and authorizing the County Executive to execute a cooperative agreement with the Mid-America Regional Council and pay other costs necessary in connection with the fight against the ongoing Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

(Legislature As A Whole - 1st. Perfection)

Marlene Nagel, Community Development Coordinator for the Mid-America Regional Council, spoke regarding Ordinance #5377. She said they have been working with area health departments on ways to address COVID-19. They are focusing on a seven-point plan. 1.) establish a regional coordination hub to strengthen the area analytics, 2.) Assist in organizing and deploying testing teams, 3.) Communications to both general audiences and special populations that are at high risk, 4.) Work with community organizations to provide support and encourage at risk populations to be safe, 5.) Address supply chain challenges, 6.) working with commercial laboratories to ensure adequate access, and 7.) Support contact tracing efforts.

Ronald E. Finley asked about the amount of funds planned to be spent in Jackson County. Ms. Nagle said they will be accounting for the funds and utilizing them for the benefit of Jackson County. Caleb Clifford, Chief of Staff, said that this is an investment of funds to provide at least a million dollars in benefit to the County. This will be providing a lead to other area counties to support this effort. Bridgette Shaffer, Director of the Health Department, said this is a supplement to the efforts of the Jackson County Health Department. Theresa Cass Galvin said she is concerned about how this will benefit Jackson County while other counties have not taken this under consideration.

Discussion.

A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Dan Tarwater III, to hold Ordinance #5377 in Legislature as a Whole Committee. The motion passed by a voice vote.

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[20462](#)

A RESOLUTION transferring \$750,000.00 within the 2020 County Improvement Fund to cover the costs of three projects to make critical and mandated repairs in the Jackson County parks system as identified by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

(Legislature As A Whole - 1st. Meeting)

Michele Newman, Director of Parks + Rec and Brian Nowotny, Deputy Director, presented information regarding Resolution #20462. She said these projects are mandated by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The first project is to replace the wastewater treatment facility

at Lake Jacomo. The second and third projects are to repair concrete spillways at Prairie Lee Lake and Lake Jacomo. Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, asked if these projects were budgeted since they were aware these were needed last year. Ms. Newman said they were not included in the budget. Theresa Cass Galvin asked if the engineers with the Public Works department have a budget for this project. Ms. Newman said they have not had full discussions and written reports from the engineers regarding the costs for these repairs.

Discussion.

A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Dan Tarwater III, to hold Resolution #20462 in Legislature as a Whole Committee. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[20463](#)

Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[20464](#)

Anti-Crime Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[20465](#)

A motion was made by Scott Burnett, seconded by Crystal Williams, to adopt Resolution #20465, expressing the support of the Legislature for Jackson County's current masking order relating to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Pandemic and requesting that Missouri Governor Michael L. Parson and U.S. President Donald J. Trump implement similar masking requirements state- and nationwide. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 5 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett and Ronald E. Finley

No: 3 - Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

Abstain: 1 - Charlie Franklin

(ADOPTED)

Crystal Williams said her reason for introducing this resolution is to support the use of masks since we are seeing a surge in our area in COVID-19 cases. This is not meant to be controversial. Theresa Cass Galvin said she respects the mask order that has been made for our area. She believes if we have issues we want the State to take action on, we can reach out to our contacts with the State. She said she believes this is not our place to take a position on an issue that is under the State's control.

Tony Miller said in order for his children to go back to school, wearing a mask is something we can do to help with the process. He said he hates seeing this issue become politicized.

9 CONSENT AGENDA[20463](#)

A RESOLUTION transferring \$20,000.00 within the 2020 Park Fund for unanticipated expenses related to storm clean up.

(ADOPTED)

[20464](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a contract with three twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of data tracking software maintenance for use by COMBAT, to First Call Technologies, LLC, of Kansas City, MO, at a cost to the County in 2020 in the amount of \$39,000.00, as a sole source purchase.

(ADOPTED)

Resolutions #20463 and #20464 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Dan Tarwater III, seconded by Tony Miller, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE[5378](#)

A motion was made by Scott Burnett, seconded by Ronald E. Finley to perfect Ordinance #5378. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[5378](#)

A motion was made by Scott Burnett, seconded by Ronald E. Finley, to adopt Ordinance #5378, appropriating \$58,008.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 Grant Fund and authorizing the County Executive to execute an agreement with the United States Department of Justice in acceptance of a grant awarded by the Office of Justice Programs to the County for the purpose of allowing the purchase of equipment to provide for adequate social distancing in the conduct of registration activities in connection with the fight against the ongoing Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin, Dan Tarwater III, Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

Absent: 1 - Tony Miller

(ADOPTED)

[5379](#) Appropriating \$23,855.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 Federal Forfeiture Fund to provide for the purchase of software packages for use by the Sheriff's Office from an existing term and supply vendor.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

[5380](#) Appropriating \$7,260.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2020 Health Fund to reimburse the City of Independence for unbudgeted plumbing repairs performed by the City at the animal shelter.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[20466](#) Awarding a contract for the furnishing of annual software maintenance for use by the Sheriff's Office to Omnigo Software of St. Louis, MO, as a sole source purchase, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$66,935.00.
(WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR WILLIAMS, CONCURRED BY TARWATER III and ANDERSON.)

[20467](#) A motion was made by Ronald E. Finley, seconded by Tony Miller, to adopt Resolution #20467, supporting the Yes on 2 Healthcare for Missouri initiative on the August 4, 2020 ballot, in recognition and in honor of the Medicaid 23, a group of clergymen who fought for Medicaid expansion in Missouri. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Ronald E. Finley, Charlie Franklin and Dan Tarwater III

No: 2 - Jeanie Lauer and Theresa Cass Galvin

(ADOPTED)

Ronald E. Finley said in 2014 there were 23 clergy and lay people that protested in the Missouri Senate Chamber when the state of Missouri refused to expand Medicaid. This will now be on the ballot on Tuesday and this resolution expresses support for this measure and recognize those 23 people that fought for this for Missouri. Mr. Finley introduced Jim Nunnely, a longtime advocate in the community for health care issues, and invited him to come forward to receive the resolution.

[20468](#) Transferring \$5,000.00 within the 2020 General Fund and authorizing the Prosecuting Attorney to execute a one-month extension to the contract with Zamkus and Associates, LLC, of Jefferson City, MO, for governmental consulting services for use by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, at a cost to the County in the amount of \$5,000.00.
(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

None.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Ronald E. Finley said the community suffered a major loss with the passing of Rosa James last week. She was a community activist and involved in County politics. She was a reading specialist with the Kansas City Public Schools for 36 years before retiring in 1998. She earned appointments to the Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners and the Municipal Judicial Nominating Commission. She also worked as a board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and member of the NAACP executive committee. She also served as the 7th ward Committeewoman for the Jackson County Democratic Committee, she was prominent in voter registration and a leader. He requested a moment of silence to remember her.

Ronald E. Finley announced the distribution of mask program in Jackson County, Missouri as follows:

Wednesday, July 29, 2020 - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Connection Point Church
10500 E State Route 350
Raytown, Missouri 64138

Thursday, July 30, 2020 - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Cable Dahmer Arena
19100 E Valley View Parkway
Independence, MO 64055

Friday, July 31, 2020 - 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Blue Springs High School
2000 NW Ashton Drive
Blue Springs, MO 64015

COVID testing will be available at the following locations:

Wednesday, July 29, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Metro Christian Fellowship Church
2217 High Grove Road
Grandview, MO 64030

Thursday, July 30, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Spirit and Truth Ministries Church
1809 NE Bren Mar Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

Theresa Cass Galvin thanked Ronald E. Finley for his idea to distribute masks as they have had a positive response. She also thanked the Communications Department for advising the community.

Ronald E. Finley thanked Caleb Clifford and the Administration for their support.

Caleb Clifford, Chief of Staff, said Governor Parsons worked with County Executive White and provided masks at no cost to Jackson County.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned until Monday, August 3, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.

Theresa Cass Galvin, Chairman

ATTEST:

Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of the County Legislature