



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

# Jackson County Missouri

## JOURNAL

### 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)*

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

**Monday, March 9, 2026**

**3:00 PM**

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

**2 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited.

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

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jeanie Lauer to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on March 02, 2026. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**4 HEARINGS**

The County Legislature held a **public hearing regarding Ordinance #6069**, repealing and replacing Resolution 22169 dated February 9, 2026 and appropriating \$20,683.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 General Fund and awarding a contract to LCPtracker of Orange, CA, for an additional single software package for use by the Compliance Review Office for non-profit partnership grants, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$20,683.00, as a sole source purchase.

Melinda Bolling, Chief of Compliance for Jackson County, Missouri testified in favor of this Ordinance.

No one else was present to testify, therefore, the public hearing was closed.

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

Phil LeVota, County Executive, was present and gave the following report: On June 1st the KCATA will no longer offer free bus rides for the public, so as per County Executive Order 26-07, he is reinstating the County Bus Pass Program for employees who do not have a parking space.

The County Executive along with UMKC Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal welcomed the new Men's Basketball coach, Mark Tergeon, at an event this afternoon.

Chairman Abarca asked the County Executive about policy changes made for purchases under \$5,000.00 being held up in the Finance Department. Mr. LeVota stated there are no changes to the policies and Monsherry Terrell, Director of Purchasing, is working on enforcing the rules.

Legislator Sean E. Smith asked for an updated Organizational Chart with names added for the listed positions. Mr. LeVota stated he would provide the updated chart.

Legislator Donna Peyton thanked the County Executive and his staff for sending out letters to churches who were concerned about maintaining their non-profit status. She commends him for going above and beyond to make the process simplified and understandable. She received feedback from those who were grateful and felt less anxious about the current process. Phil LeVota responded and added this process will now coincide with the assessment cycle every two years.

Chairman Abarca gave kudos to the County Executive as he relayed a response from someone who mentioned how quick and easy it was for them to file their personal property declaration.

To view details, use the link below and select the video for the March 9, 2026 legislative meeting at <https://jacksonco.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

**6 PERFECTION 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 - 4th. Perfection)*

[6058](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$636,425.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Park Fund for construction services provided by Hartline Construction of North Kansas City, MO for use by the Parks + Rec Department.  
*(Public Works Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

[6059](#) AN ORDINANCE submitting to the qualified voters of Jackson County, Missouri, at the general election to be held on April 7, 2026, a question to amend the Jackson County Charter, with an effective date.  
*(Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

[6064](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 161.00± acre tract from District AGp (Agricultural Planned) to District AG (Agricultural).  
*(Land Use Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to waive the reading of Ordinances #6064 - #6068. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[6065](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 4.87± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).  
*(Land Use Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

[6066](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 10.00± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RR (Residential Ranchette).  
*(Land Use Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

[6067](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 3.05± acre tract from District B (Two Family) to District LI (Light Industrial).  
*(Land Use Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

[6068](#) AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 9.75± acre tract from District LB (Local Business) to District LI (Light Industrial).

*(Land Use Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

The Land Use Committee will hold a public hearing regarding Resolutions #6064 - #6068 on Monday, March 23, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area.

[6069](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to approve the Floor Amendment dated March 9, 2026 for Ordinance #6069, to delete the words "within the" and insert the phrase "from the undesignated fund balance of the" after the amount first listed in the heading on page one. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(ADOPTED)

[6069](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to perfect as amended Ordinance #6069. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[6069](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Ordinance #6069, repealing and replacing Resolution 22169 dated February 9, 2026 and appropriating \$20,683.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 General Fund and awarding a contract to LCPtracker of Orange, CA, for an additional single software package for use by the Compliance Review Office for non-profit partnership grants, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$20,683.00, as a sole source purchase. The motion carried by a roll call vote:

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

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

(ADOPTED)

## 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.

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jeanie Lauer to hold Ordinance #6049. Discussion.

**Ordinance #6049 remains perfected.**

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**8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE**

Sean E. Smith explained the Floor Amendment distributed by Whitney Miller, Chief Deputy County Counselor, for Resolution #22149. He said this amendment was co-authored with the County Executive. He said this resolution is time sensitive because it should have been done in December 2025 but the Legislature did not receive it until January 2026.

Donna Peyton asked if the Deputy Director of Assessment would be addressing the County Legislature regarding this resolution.

Phil Levota explained that Mr. Smith wanted to add some language to the overview that Jackson County sends to the State Tax Commission. He said he will share details regarding the assessment process with the Jackson County Legislature at a later date. Discussion.

Since Exhibit A was not attached to the Resolution distributed, this Resolution was tabled until copies could be made for review by the County Legislature.

After reviewing Exhibit A, a motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to remove from the table Resolution #22149. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[22149](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Donna Peyton, to approve the Floor Amendment dated March 9, 2026 for Resolution #22149, to insert "WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16.7 of the Jackson County Charter gives the Legislature the power to "provide for the assessment, levy, equalization and collection of all taxes... and prescribe a method or system to facilitate the assessment, calculation, extension and collection of taxes" the Legislature has added to this Assessment Maintenance Plan to include specific requirements in EXHIBIT A to this Resolution; now therefore," as the 4th paragraph on page 1; to insert the phrase "and as amended in Exhibit A to this resolution," after the word "Assessment" in the BE IT RESOLVED paragraph on page 2. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

(ADOPTED)

- [22149](#) A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22149, approving the 2026-2027 Jackson County Assessment and Equalization Maintenance Plan. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 8 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer  
Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee  
(ADOPTED)
- [22150](#) A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to discharge Resolution #22150 to the Legislature As A Whole. The motion passed by voice vote.  
(APPROVED)
- [22150](#) A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Donna Peyton, to adopt Resolution #22150 , awarding a thirty-month term and supply contract, with three twenty-four-month options to extend, for the furnishing of information technology products and services for use by various County departments to SHI International Corporation, of Somerset, NJ under the terms and conditions of OMNIA Partners Contract Number 2024056-02, an existing competitively bid government contract. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 8 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer  
Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee  
(ADOPTED)
- [22160](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Counselor to execute a Legal Services Agreement with certain lawyers and law firms at an aggregate cost to the County not to exceed \$50,000.00.  
*(Legislature As A Whole - 1st. Meeting )*
- [22163](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the furnishing of items for resale by the Parks + Rec Department to Dunlop Sports of Dallas, TX, as proprietary purchases.  
*(Public Works Committee - 4th. Meeting)*
- [22165](#) A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by Sean E. Smith, to discharge Resolution #22165 to the Legislature As A Whole. The motion passed by voice vote.  
(APPROVED)

Sean E. Smith said this contract was competitively bid. Phil LeVota said this is for the annual audit of Jackson County and it needs to be adopted as soon as possible.

[22165](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22165, awarding a twelve-month contract, with three twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of independent auditing services for use by the Finance and Purchasing Department to Clifton Larsen Allen, LLP, of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Request for Proposals No. 25-053, at a cost to the County for 2026 not to exceed \$150,000.00. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

(ADOPTED)

[22170](#)

A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the purchase of a deep core aerifier for use by the Parks + Rec Department for the Fred Arbanas Golf Course to Redexim North America, Inc. of Valley Park, MO, under the terms and conditions of invitation to Bid No. 25-055 at a cost to the County not to exceed \$52,541.00.

*(Public Works Committee - 3rd. Meeting)*

[22171](#)

Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22172](#)

A RESOLUTION recognizing honorarium payments to community volunteers who assisted in the evaluation of non-profit grant applications.

*(Legislature As A Whole - 3rd. Meeting)*

A motion was made by Donna Peyton, seconded by Sean E. Smith to adopt Resolution #22172.

Bryan Covinsky, County Counselor, said there may be a conflict of interest regarding this resolution. Manuel Abarca IV asked if there is a conflict. Mr. Covinsky said he would need to look into it.

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to hold Resolution #22172. The motion passed by a voice vote:

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

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

[22175](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month contract, with three twelve-month options to extend, for training, consulting services, and software maintenance on the Mobile Assessor Software for use by the Assessment Department to Woolpert, Inc. of Dayton, OH, as a sole source purchase, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$114,355.00.

*(Finance & Audit Committee - 2nd. Meeting)*

Donna Peyton asked that her name be removed as a sponsor, Sean E. Smith asked that his name be added as a sponsor for Resolution #22175.

Discussion.

[22178](#) Finance & Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22180](#) A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to discharge Resolution #22180 to the Legislature As A Whole. The motion passed by voice vote.

(APPROVED)

[22180](#) A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22180, awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with two twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of LEWeb law enforcement computer information services for use by various County departments to the Regional Justice Information Service (REJIS) Commission of St. Louis, MO, as an acquisition from another governmental entity. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

Absent: 1 - DaRon McGee

(ADOPTED)

[22181](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22183](#) Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22184](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for annual software maintenance for use by the Collection Department to Aumentum Technologies of Niagara Falls, NY, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$642,563.00, as a sole source purchase.

*(Finance & Audit Committee - 1st. Meeting )*

[22186](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22187](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the purchase of two vehicles for use by the Jackson County Drug Task Force to Corwin Motors of Springfield, LLC, of Springfield, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. MC250182 and CC24166201-005, existing competitively bid government contracts, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$99,502.00.

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

[22188](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the purchase of rifles for use by the Sheriff's Office to Clyde Armory, Inc., of Athens, GA, under the terms and conditions of invitation to Bid No. 25-056 at a cost to the County not to exceed \$83,565.00.

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

[22189](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the purchase of a three 2026 Ford Transit T-350 Passenger Vans for use by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Detention Center to Midway Ford Truck Center of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. MC2501182001-MC250182011, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$230,220.00.

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

[22190](#) Finance & Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22191](#) Finance & Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[22192](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Counselor to execute a twelve-month contract, with one twelve-month option to extend, for legal services to Seyferth, Blumenthal, and Harris, LLC., of Kansas City, MO, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$100,000.00 as a sole source purchase.

*(Finance & Audit Committee - 1st. Meeting )*

The County Legislature removed from the table Resolution #22149. See page 5 for details.

## 9 CONSENT AGENDA

[22171](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for the furnishing of two (2) Ford F-600 trucks with installed snowplow packages for use by the Public Works Department to Viking-Cives Midwest of Morley, MO, under the terms and conditions set forth in Sourcewell Contract No. 062222-VCM, an existing, competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$287,050.00

(ADOPTED)

[22178](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Counselor to execute an addendum to the Legal Services Agreement with Cheri Simpkins of Lee's Summit, MO, under the terms and conditions of Request for Qualifications No. 24-060, at a cost to the County of \$600.00 per day not to exceed \$70,000.00.

(ADOPTED)

[22181](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with one twelve-month option to extend, for dump truck repair for use by the Public Works Department to Rush Truck Centers of Kansas City, MO, as a sole source purchase.

(ADOPTED)

[22183](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Executive to execute an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with the City of Oak Grove to provide for the mill and overlay of pavement on the shared portions of Robinson and White Roads, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$121,595.00.

(ADOPTED)

[22186](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a thirty-four month term and supply contract for the furnishing of facility fire suppression systems, equipment, software, and related services for use by the Public Works Department, to Johnson Controls of Staples, MN, under the terms and conditions set forth in Sourcewell Contract No.121024, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(ADOPTED)

[22190](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for annual maintenance of the Manatron recording software for use by the Recorder of Deeds Department to Manatron, Inc., of Chicago, IL, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$106,772.00, as a sole source purchase.

(ADOPTED)

[22191](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve month term and supply contract, with three twelve month options to extend, for the furnishing of t-shirts and wearing apparel for use by various County departments to Exhibit Arts LLC of Wichita, KS, EAIS LLC of Atlanta, GA, and Sew What? LLC of Lee's Summit, MO, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 25-050.  
(ADOPTED)

Resolutions #22171, #22178, #22181, #22183, #22186, #22190 and #22191 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

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

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

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

[6070](#) Appropriating \$64,322.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 General Fund in acceptance of the Missouri Western Interdiction and Narcotics Task Force grant awarded by the Missouri Department of Public Safety.  
*(Assigned to the Justice & Law Enforcement Committee.)*

#### 11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[22193](#) Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature to execute a Consulting Agreement with Marcus Winn of Heartland Communications, LLC, of Kansas City, MO, to provide communication and policy services to the Legislature, at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00  
*(Assigned to the Finance & Audit Committee.)*

[22194](#) Awarding a contract for the purchase of six (6) pontoon boats for use by the Parks + Rec Department to LSK Lebanon, Inc., of Lebanon, MO under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. CC232078005, an existing, competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$209,346.00.  
*(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)*

[22195](#) Authorizing the County Executive to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District to provide access to the regional household hazardous waste centers for the residents of the unincorporated areas of Jackson County, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$27,325.00.  
*(Assigned to the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee.)*

[22196](#) Awarding a ten month term and supply contract with two twelve month options to extend for the furnishing of ammunition for use by various County law enforcement agencies to Bristol Ridge Precision LLC of Warrensburg, MO, Gulf States Distributors, Inc. of Montgomery, AL, Kiesler Police Supply, Inc. of Jeffersonville, IN, Precision Delta Corporation of Ruleville, MS, Sunset Law Enforcement of Ackley, IA, and Doc's Tactical, LLC of Dexter, MO under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. MC260192001, MC260192002, MC260192003, MC260192004, MC260192005 and MC260192006 all existing, competitively-bid government contracts.

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

[22197](#) Awarding a contract for the purchase of a 2026 RAM 2500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4 x 4 vehicle for use by the Sheriff's Office to Corwin Motors of Springfield, LLC, of Springfield, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. MC250182004, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$61,485.00.

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

[22198](#) Authorizing the County Executive to execute a contract with the Jackson County Board of Services for the Developmentally Disabled - EITAS to provide for partial funding of various Parks + Rec Department's Special Population Services Division programs.

*(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)*

[22199](#) Awarding a twenty-four month term and supply contract with two twelve month options to extend for the furnishing of pro shop articles for resale by the Parks + Rec Department to Acushnet/Titleist and FootJoy of Fairhaven, MA, as proprietary purchases.

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

[22200](#) Awarding a contract for the purchase of two (2) 2026 Ford F-150 Police Responder vehicles for use by the Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Unit to CFLR Auto, LLC of Republic, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. MC250182003, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$97,978.00.

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

[22201](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #22201, authorizing the Jackson County Legislature to hold a closed meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026, for the purpose of conducting privileged and confidential communications between itself and the Jackson County Counselor under section 610.021 (1) (18) 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: 9 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Jeanie Lauer

(ADOPTED)

[22202](#)

Authorizing the Jackson County Legislature to execute a Legal Services Agreement with Spencer Fane Law Firm of Kansas City, MO, for legal advise in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, as a sole source purchase.

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

Discussion regarding Resolution #22203.

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Jeanie Lauer, to hold Resolution #22203. The motion **failed** by a roll call vote:

Yes: 0

No: 9 - Manuel Abarca IV, Sean E. Smith, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Jeanie Lauer

[22203](#)

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by DaRon McGee, to adopt Resolution #22203, authorizing the Interim Director of Finance and Purchasing to issue a check in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the purchase of a sponsorship for the 2026 Difference Maker Fireside Chat Luncheon. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

No objection to the consideration of Resolutions #22204 and #22205 - not on printed agenda.

[22204](#)

Authorizing the County Executive to execute Cooperative Agreements with certain outside agencies that provide public health related and other public services to citizens of Jackson County, at an aggregate cost to the County not to exceed \$3,000,000.00.

*(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)*

[22205](#)

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 \$275,000.00 for services to be performed in 2026.

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

## 12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

[26-07](#)

### PURPOSE

This Executive Order establishes Jackson County's Bus Pass and Parking Program, providing eligible County Associates with a choice between a County-provided parking space or a County-purchased monthly bus pass for use on the RideKC transit system.

### BACKGROUND

Parking in downtown Kansas City is limited, and the County recognizes that many Associates may prefer to use public transportation rather than drive a personal vehicle to work. Effective June 1, 2026, the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) will reinstate a \$2 fare on RideKC bus service, ending the fare-free period that began in 2020. In recognition of this change, Jackson County will purchase monthly bus passes on behalf of eligible Associates who elect to use public transit in lieu of a parking space.

### PROGRAM DETAILS

- **Eligibility:** Full-time, part-time, and seasonal Associates whose primary workstation is located in a County facility in downtown Kansas City, Missouri, are eligible to participate.
- **Election:** Eligible Associates may elect either (i) a County-provided parking space or (ii) a County-purchased 31-day bus pass in lieu of a parking space. Elections are made on a calendar-year basis and must be submitted in writing using the process designated by Human Resources. An Associate who elects a bus pass will not be provided with a parking space.
- **Administration:** The Human Resources Department will administer the program through a designated Bus Pass Program Administrator, who will coordinate ordering, distribution, and required purchasing paperwork with the Finance/Purchasing Department. Each department director shall designate a bus pass coordinator to facilitate distribution within their department.
- **Employment Separation:** Upon separation from County employment, an Associate's bus pass will be cancelled. Departmental bus pass coordinators are responsible for promptly notifying the Bus Pass Program Administrator when an Associate separates from the County.

## NEXT STEPS

The Human Resources Department will communicate enrollment procedures, coordinator designation requirements, and deadlines for initial pass elections prior to June 1, 2026. Associates with questions should contact their department's bus pass coordinator or the Human Resources Department directly.

[26-08](#)

I hereby make the following reappointment to the Jackson County Land Trust:

Rachel R. Epler is hereby reappointed to a new term set to expire 3/31/2030. Ms. Epler's resume is attached.

[26-09](#)

I hereby make the following appointment to the Community Mental Health Fund Board:

Randy Rhoads is hereby appointed to a new term set to expire 3/31/2029. Mr. Rhoads' resume is attached.

[26-10](#)

I hereby make the following reappointment to the COMBAT Commission:

Mary Hepting is hereby reappointed to a new term set to expire 3/31/2030. Ms. Hepting's resume is attached.

[26-11](#)

I hereby make the following reappointment to the Children's Services Fund Board:

Megan Browning is hereby reappointed to a new term set to expire 3/31/2029. Ms. Browning's resume is attached.

[26-12](#)

I hereby issue the following guidance:

## Section 1. Purpose

The County Executive recognizes the importance of open and transparent communication between County employees and the County Legislature. This Executive Order reaffirms the County's commitment to accuracy and good faith in all legislative communications, clarifies the role of the County Executive's Office in coordinating those communications, and provides guidance to employees on expectations regarding truthfulness in legislative proceedings.

## Section 2. Guiding Principles

A. County employees are expected to communicate with the County Legislature, its committees, and legislative staff in a truthful, accurate, and good-faith manner.

B. County employees should make reasonable efforts to ensure that information provided in connection with legislative proceedings is complete and not misleading, including:

1. Providing accurate oral and written statements to the County Legislature and its committees;
2. Making good-faith efforts to provide relevant context so that statements are not misleading;
3. Ensuring that reports and documents submitted to the County Legislature are reviewed for accuracy prior to submission.

#### Section 3. Coordination of Legislative Communications

A. Consistent with the structure of the Jackson County Charter, County employees serve under the direction of the County Executive. Formal communications with the County Legislature, including responses to legislative inquiries, reports, and testimony, should generally be coordinated through the County Executive's Office or a designee of the County Executive.

B. This coordination is intended to ensure consistency, accuracy, and appropriate context in the information provided to the Legislature, and to support employees in fulfilling the expectations outlined in Section 2.

C. Nothing in this section is intended to prevent routine, day-to-day professional interactions between County employees and members of the County Legislature or legislative staff. Employees are encouraged to be responsive and collegial in such interactions.

D. When an employee receives a formal request for information or documentation from the County Legislature, the employee should notify his or her department head, who shall coordinate with the County Executive's Office to ensure a timely and accurate response.

#### Section 4. Support and Accountability

Department heads and supervisors are encouraged to foster a culture of transparency and support employees in meeting the expectations outlined in this Order.

#### Section 5. Relationship to Existing Policies

This Executive Order supplements and reinforces the existing Jackson County Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics. Employees are reminded of their ongoing obligations under those policies to act with honesty and integrity in all aspects of their County service, including communications with the County Legislature.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signature.

[26-13](#)

I hereby make the following appointment to the Plan Commission:

Charles Barton is hereby appointed to a new term set to expire 03/31/30. Mr. Barton lives in unincorporated Jackson County and his resume is attached.

### 13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Follow-up regarding 2026 Adopted Budget available online and printed books with tabs.**

The County Executive stated the 2026 Adopted Budget is now available online and the Budget Books with tabs should be ready by the end of the week.

### 14 NEW BUSINESS

**The County Legislature requests all Department Directors to email committee chair and members to provide information regarding legislative items assigned at each meeting, immediately after assignment.**

Chairman Abarca explained the above.

**Report on Detention Center transition.**

County Executive LeVota shared the Ribbon Cutting Event for the new Detention Center will be held Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 10:00 AM. Operations were passed from the construction team to the Corrections and Sheriff's Departments a few weeks ago and they are now involved in training and a new class of corrections officers have just graduated. Diana Knapp, the former Corrections Department Director, left to take a job with the City of Kansas City's new center. A nationwide search is now being conducted to find her replacement.

**Report on Health Insurance Request for Proposal (RFP).**

The County Executive stated that the Director of Purchasing is working diligently and they will have the RFP's ready to send out in a few months.

Chairman Manuel Abarca IV said the list of Ad Hoc Committees were sent to legislators today. He stated he invited members from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce to be advisors to some of the committees.

Closed meeting per Resolution #22201.

The County Legislature recessed for closed session.

The County Legislature reconvened.

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by DaRon McGee, to hold a legislative meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 3 P.M. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Manuel Abarca IV, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Jeanie Lauer

Absent: 2 - Megan L. Smith and Sean E. Smith

## 15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned until Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 3:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.