



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

# Jackson County Missouri

## JOURNAL

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

### County Legislature

*DaRon McGee (4th) 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),  
Jeanie Lauer (5th), Sean E. Smith (6th)*

**Monday, September 11, 2023**

**3:00 PM**

**Thirty-third Regular Meeting**

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

DaRon McGee, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

**1 ROLL CALL**

Present 9 - DaRon McGee, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. 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 Manuel Abarca IV to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on August 28, 2023. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**4 HEARINGS**

*Resolutions #21393, #21396, #21394 and #21395 were adopted at this time. See pages 7 and 8 for details.*

*Public hearing regarding Ordinance #5785. No one was present to speak for or against Ordinance #5785.*

*Gail McCann Beatty, Director of Assessment, and William Birkle, Senior Appraisal Supervisor with Tyler Technologies, responded to questions regarding the assessment process. Ms. Beatty said there have been 54,537 appeals, representing about 18% of the total parcels in the County. The majority of those are real property. As of Friday, September 8, 2023, there were 27,569 appeals resolved with 26,965 appeals remaining. To put that in perspective, in 2019 there were just over 22,000 appeals and it took them over 18 months to resolve all of those appeals, so they are ahead of their process from 2019. Out of those resolved, 1,935 (about 7%) were*

*withdrawn. Of the remaining, 5,414 were Board of Equalization (BOE) decisions and 20,140 were stipulations or agreements that were reached between the taxpayer and Assessment Department staff.*

*The appeals process is the opportunity for property owners to have a conversation. The Assessment Department continually reviews parcels and will make corrections if staff find mistakes. The newspaper reported an issue with 550 properties with an identical value. This was an issue the Assessment Department was already aware of and in the process of resolving. Some have filed appeals. About 200 of these properties had decreases and those have been approved by the BOE. The taxpayer will receive a notification of that decision and the appeal process will reopen for 30 days for those taxpayers to appeal. There are 150 that are under review because those properties might have an increase. Those will be submitted to the BOE, and those taxpayers will also have the opportunity to appeal within 30 days. This is not a perfect process. Ms. Beatty said this was not a Tyler Technology issue. It was solely her fault. The current process has two systems that do not communicate together. This error occurred when Ms. Beatty pulled some properties out on a spreadsheet to run a formula and accidentally copied a value instead of a formula itself. This was recognized and some were resolved before the June certification. Only 150 of these properties remain under review. This error represents .01% of parcels in the County.*

*Another area of concern has been the physical inspection. This is when Assessment staff went out to neighborhoods. A lot of people received blue cards on their door. Everything is viewed from the exterior of the property. The new state statute says we must offer an interior inspection if the assessed value increased more than 15%. The interior inspection is something separate and is optional. The Assessment Department received about 6,000 requests for interior inspections. Those inspections have been completed.*

*The current challenge is the incredibly large no show rate for people who have filed appeals to the BOE. Almost 50% of appellants are no shows. They have sent notices and they will reschedule those appeals, but the staff needs to know if people are withdrawing their appeals. Appellants will receive a notice of hearing seven to 10 days before the appeal date.*

*Sean E. Smith, County Legislator, asked if any taxpayers appeared among the 5,414 resolved cases. Ms. Beatty said those were taxpayers who waived their right to appear. Mr. Smith said he has concerns with overwhelmed phone lines and other challenges resulting in not every*

*person who wanted to appeal being able to get an appeal filed. Mr. Smith asked for data regarding the number of taxpayers with the \$356,000 number who filed an appeal. Ms. Beatty said 200 of that group did not file an appeal and the County reduced their value.*

*Megan L. Marshall, County Legislator, asked about a constituent who found their hearing time, but that time later disappeared from the system when they called to confirm. Ms. Beatty said some people checking the system online, found their appeal online even though they were not sent notification of the hearing date. The Department found errors in the notice and deleted the hearing before the notice was sent. There was never a notification sent out with that date. If taxpayers believe they see a hearing scheduled, they should check their email to see if there is a notice of hearing. If they don't locate a notice they should call to check to see if a notice was sent.*

*Discussion.*

*Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, said calls and emails to the Legislature on the assessment process have declined, but when the tax bills go out, there will be an uptick in those calls and emails from taxpayers who previously missed their valuation notice. She hopes that when the State Auditor comes to review the assessment process, that everyone will have an open mind to resolving issues with the system.*

*Ms. Beatty said they are continually learning how to make the process better and more responsive. She concedes that there will never be a perfect system that the public will love. There will always be people disgruntled with paying taxes.*

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

*Frank White, Jr., County Executive, was present and had no report.*

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

The Budget Committee recommended do not perfect Ordinance #5774.

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith to perfect Ordinance #5774. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Under Unfinished Business, a motion was made by Megan Marshall, seconded by Sean E. Smith to reconsider Ordinance #5774. The motion passed by a voice vote.

[5774](#)

A motion was made by Sean E. Smith, seconded by Megan L. Marshall, to perfect Ordinance #5774, enacting section 2057., Jackson County Code, 1984, relating to a property tax credit to eligible taxpayers within Jackson County, Missouri, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of Missouri §137.1050 (SB190), with an effective date.. The motion failed by a roll call vote:

Yes: 1 - Sean E. Smith

No: 8 - DaRon McGee, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin and Jeanie Lauer

(FAILED)

[5783](#)

AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$5,597,855.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 County Improvement Fund and awarding a contract for construction services for exterior improvements to the Jackson County Courthouse to Gunter Construction Co., of Kansas City, KS, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 23-037.

*(Budget Committee - 2nd. Perfection)*

[5787](#)

AN ORDINANCE enacting a property tax credit to eligible taxpayers within Jackson County, Missouri, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of Missouri §137.1050 (SB190).

*(Budget Committee - 1st. Perfection)*

**7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES**[5785](#)

Consent Agenda.

[5786](#)

Consent Agenda.

**8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE**

[21381](#) Justice and Law Enforcement Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[21383](#) Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[21387](#) Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

[21388](#) Budget Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

**9 CONSENT AGENDA**

[5785](#) AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$57,030.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 County Improvement Fund and awarding a contract to Federal Supply USA of Waukegan, IL., for the purchase of a dishwasher under the terms and conditions of GSA Contract GS-07F-264-BA, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$57,029.55.

(ADOPTED)

[5786](#) AN ORDINANCE transferring \$160,000.00 within and appropriating \$349,292.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Fund, in acceptance of the 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant awarded to the Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force.

(ADOPTED)

[21381](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract to Shawnee F LLC d/b/a Shawnee Mission Ford, of Shawnee, KS for the furnishing of a 2024 Ford Transit T-350 cargo van, for use by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, under the terms and conditions for State of Missouri Contract No. CC231422005, an existing competitively bid government contract at a total cost to the County in the amount of \$56,364.00.

(ADOPTED)

[21383](#) A RESOLUTION setting out the proposed allocation of the three percent non-medical marijuana sales tax.

(ADOPTED)

[21387](#) A RESOLUTION awarding twenty-four-month term and supply contracts with one twelve-month option to extend for the furnishing of turf chemicals for use by the Parks + Rec Department to Van Diest Supply Company of Webster City, Iowa, Advanced Turf Solutions of Fishers, Indiana, and SiteOne Landscape Supply of Cleveland, Ohio, under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 23-047.

(ADOPTED)

[21388](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Counselor to execute a twelve-month Legal Services Agreement, with two twelve-month options to extend, with the Hardwick Law Firm, LLC of Kansas City, MO, under the terms and conditions of Request for Qualifications No. 23-056, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$100,000.00.

(ADOPTED)

*Ordinances #5785, #5786 and Resolutions #21381, #21383, #21387, and #21388 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.*

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

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

No: 1 - Sean E. Smith

## 10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[5788](#) Appropriating \$63,630.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 Grant Fund, in acceptance of the State of Missouri Drug Courts Coordinating Commission Family Drug Court Program Grant for use by the Family Court Division.

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

[5789](#) Appropriating \$110,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 Assessment Fund to cover the cost of salaries and overtime for the remainder of the 2023 Board of Equalization (BOE) appeals docket.

*(Assigned to the Budget Committee.)*

[5790](#) Appropriating \$10,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2023 Grant Fund in acceptance of funding provided by the Organized Crime Enforcement Task Force for use by the Jackson County Drug Task Force for "Operation Pony Express."

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

## 11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE

[21390](#) Awarding a contract for the furnishing of a Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD SUV for use by the Sheriff's Office to Lou Fusz Motor Company of St. Louis, MO, under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract No. CC222374009, an existing competitively bid government contract, at an actual cost to the County in the total amount of \$40,599.00.  
*(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)*

[21391](#) Laying out the direction for the detainee programming at the new Jackson County Detention Center.  
*(Assigned to the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee.)*

[21392](#) Authorizing the County Executive to execute a Letter of Agreement with the Communications Workers of America, Local 6360, regarding the terms and conditions of the employment of members of its bargaining unit.  
*(Assigned to the Justice and Law Enforcement Committee.)*

[21393](#) A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #21393, recognizing Jerry Morales, former Golden Glove boxer, coach, and referee, for his contributions to our community. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 9 - DaRon McGee, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[21394](#) A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #21394, adopting the Hispanic Heritage Flag created by Missouri artist José Garza as a symbol of Hispanic Heritage Month. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 9 - DaRon McGee, Megan L. Marshall, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Manuel Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer and Sean E. Smith

(ADOPTED)

[21395](#)

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #21395, recognizing the fortieth anniversary of the Kansas City Fiesta Hispana event, to be held September 16, 2023, through September 18, 2023, at Barney Allis Plaza. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

[21396](#)

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Resolution #21396, proclaiming September 15 through October 15, 2023, as Hispanic Heritage Month. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

[21397](#)

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to adopt Resolution #21397, congratulating Steve Roland on the occasion of his 30th Anniversary as an associate in the Jackson County Information Technology Department. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

**12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

*None.*

**13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Megan Marshall asked that Ordinance #5774 be reconsidered at this time. See page 4 for details.

**14 NEW BUSINESS**

*None.*



**15     ADJOURNMENT**

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

*The next legislative meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 3:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.*