



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

*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, July 6, 2026**

**3:00 PM**

**Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting**

**Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, K.C.  
Legislative Assembly Area.**

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 Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Sean E. Smith to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on June 29, 2026. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**4 HEARINGS**

Presentation by Cheri Roberts, City Administrator for Buckner, Missouri. She distributed a PowerPoint presentation. Darrel Box, Mayor of Buckner, reiterated the urgent need for funding to help with their major infrastructure needs.

To view details from this section of the journal, click on the link below and select the presentation listed in **Attachments** or view the video of the County Legislative meeting dated Monday, July 6, 2026.

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

The County Legislature interviewed the following candidates who submitted their application and resume for the position on the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority:

Michael Macias and Robert Hepting

Brian Burns indicated he was unable to attend.

Since there were only three candidates, the three names were approved by acclamation. Resolution #22330 was adopted at this time. See page 8 for details.

## 5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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

He introduced Robert Gowens, the first Veterans Services Officer for the new Jackson County Office of Veterans Affairs. He is a Navy veteran who comes to the County from Mississippi, where he worked for the State Veterans Commission. He thanked Legislator Megan Smith for her continued urging to fill this important position.

He read a letter from Dan Hutton, State Ombudsmen for Property Assessment and Taxation. A copy is available online under meeting details for the July 6, 2026 legislative meeting.

He reiterated the need to pass Ordinance #6092, the proposed appropriation of \$15 million in ARPA funding, and urged the legislature to discharge it from committee, have the required public hearing and allow the process to move forward. He appreciated the presentation made by the officials from Buckner because they helped highlight the need to distribute the funds as soon as possible. There was discussion with Chairman Abarca and Legislator Huskey who asked if there was money in the budget to cover all the requests, as well as clarify that the funds are being distributed from the General Fund and are no longer ARPA related. The County Executive said yes to both.

On July 4, 2026 the County Executive signed Executive Order 26-27 DIRECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT ADJUSTMENTS AND THE LEVOTA TAX CREDIT PROGRAM. It solidifies that taxpayers get tax credits, over the next three years, as the solution to the ruling from the State Tax Commission that stated 2023 assessments were illegal and refunds were owed. He also urged the adoption of Ordinance #6089 as the legislative companion to his executive order. There was additional discussion with Chairman Manuel Abarca IV, Vice Chairman Sean E. Smith, and Legislators Charlie Franklin and Megan L. Smith.

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, July 6, 2026.

<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 - 23rd Perfection)*

[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 - 14th Perfection)*

Any questions by legislators for the Sheriff should be sent to the Chairman so he can forward them to the Sheriff. Sean E. Smith, County Legislator asked if the response will only be through written communication. The County Executive said that was his proposal to the Sheriff.

[6089](#)

AN ORDINANCE enacting subsection 2067. Jackson County Code, 1984 relating to tax credits and assessment adjustments.

Chairman Abarca asked about legal opinions sent to the County Legislature in 2025 by the County Counselor's office regarding assessments and tax caps. Bryan Covinsky, County Counselor replied. He said he sent an email to all legislators today regarding Ordinance #6089. Discussion.

Sean E. Smith, County Legislator, summarized the legislation. He said Mr. Hutton has agreed to be on TEAMS for the legislative meeting next week.

Manuel Abarca IV suggested Ordinance #6089 be amended to include Executive #26-27 in the body.

Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, said she would like to move forward with this legislation.

Sean E. Smith assumed the Chair.

[6089](#)

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Manuel Abarca IV, to perfect Ordinance #6089 as amended on June 15, 2026. 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

(PERFECTED)

Comments by Donna Peyton, County Legislator.

[6089](#)

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to adopt Ordinance #6089 as amended, enacting subsection 2067. Jackson County Code, 1984 relating to tax credits and assessment adjustments. 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)

Manuel Abarca IV resumed the Chair.

Phil LeVota applauded the County Legislature for adopting Ordinance #6089.

[6090](#)

A motion was made by Jeanie Lauer, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to approve the Floor Amendment for Ordinance #6090 dated July 6, 2026, to insert the phrase "and awarding a contract for the furnishing of" after the word "Fund", to delete the word "for" after the "of", to delete the words "provided by" and insert the word "to" before the word "Frisbie" and to insert the punctuation and phrase ", as a sole source purchase" all in the heading on page one; to insert the third paragraph "WHEREAS, pursuant to section 1030.1 of the Jackson County Code, the Interim Director of Finance and Purchasing recommends the award of contract for installation services to Frisbie Monuments of Independence, MO as a sole source purchase for the reason that it is the proprietary manufacturer of the needed structure/monument; and," on page one. 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)

[6090](#)

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jalen Anderson to perfect Ordinance #6090. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[6090](#)

A motion was made by Venessa Huskey, seconded by Jeanie Lauer, to adopt the Floor Amendment dated July 6, 2026 for Ordinance #6090, transferring and appropriating \$25,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Park Fund and awarding a contract for the furnishing of installation services to Frisbie Monuments of Independence, MO for use by the Parks + Rec Department, as a sole source purchase. 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)

[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) - 7th. Perfection)*

Whitney Miller, Deputy County Counselor, said she is working with the taxing entities and the KCATA to figure out a legal mechanism. Manuel Abarca IV requested it be completed by the legislative meeting on July 13, 2026.

[6092](#)

AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$15,415,000.00 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 \$15,415,000.00.

*(County Infrastructure & Strategic Planning Committee (Ad Hoc) - 7th. Perfection)*

Chairman Abarca announced there will be a public hearing regarding Ordinance #6092 on Monday, July 13, 2026 during the legislative meeting scheduled to be held in the Independence Legislative Chambers.

[6097](#)

AN ORDINANCE 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.

*(Legislature As A Whole - 6th. Perfection)*

[6099](#)

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 RR (Residential Ranchette).

*(Land Use Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

A motion was made by Charlie Franklin, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to waive the reading of Ordinances #6099 through #6102. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Land Use Committee will have a public hearing regarding the above-mentioned Ordinances on Monday, July 27, 2026 at 2 p.m. in the Kansas City Legislative Assembly Area.

[6100](#)

AN ORDINANCE requesting a conditional use permit (CUP) of AG (Agricultural) zoning district for continuous operation of an agritourism operation associated with the management of an alpaca farm.

*(Land Use Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

[6101](#)

AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 10.05± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RE (Residential Estates).

*(Land Use Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

[6102](#)

AN ORDINANCE amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 25.00± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RR (Residential Ranchette).

*(Land Use Committee - 4th. Perfection)*

[6104](#)

AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$1,000,000.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2026 Anti-Crime Sales Tax Fund to create the Public Safety Education Cost Center Fund and authorizing the County Executive to execute a consulting agreement with TJP Strategies, LLC, of Kansas City, MO, at a cost to the County not to exceed \$1,000,000.00.

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

## 7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None.

## 8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

- [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 - 7th. Meeting)*
- [22304](#) A RESOLUTION 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.  
*(Legislature As A Whole - 4th. Meeting)*
- [22311](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [22312](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the Interim Director of Finance and Purchasing to issue a check in the amount of \$239,121.00 for the purchase of equipment for the City of Buckner.  
*(Public Works Committee - 5th. Meeting)*
- [22313](#) Legislature As A Whole moved to adopt.  
  
Megan L. Smith objected to the Consent Agenda. She said would like to hear about the strategic plan for this organization and was wondering if they had secured any other funding sources.  
  
Manuel Abarca IV said they would invite a representative from Mattie Rhodes next week to address her questions.
- [22313](#) Authorizing the Interim Director of Finance and Purchasing to issue a check in the amount of \$50,000.00 to the Mattie Rhodes Center to fund the creation of a youth employment and community arts pilot program.  
*(Assigned to the Legislature As A Whole.)*
- [22315](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract, with one (1) twelve-month option to extend, for the furnishing of Workday professional services for use by the Information Technology Department to Remy Corporation of Denver, CO, under the terms and conditions of State of Oklahoma contract No. SW1025, as an acquisition from another governmental entity.  
*(Budget Committee - 5th. Meeting)*

- [22323](#) A RESOLUTION directing the County Executive, the Department of Public Works, and all appropriate County departments and agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive framework governing the siting, construction, expansion, and operation of artificial intelligence and high-capacity data center facilities within Jackson County, Missouri, and establishing conditions necessary to protect public infrastructure, utility systems, environmental resources, public safety, and neighboring communities.  
*(Public Works Committee - 4th. Meeting)*
- [22324](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of electronic monitoring services for use by the Jackson County Sheriff's Community Supervision Office, to BI Incorporated of Boulder, CO, under the terms and conditions of OMNIA Partners Contract No. 2022118, an existing competitively bid government contract.  
*(Justice & Law Enforcement Committee - 1st. Meeting )*
- [22327](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [22328](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [22329](#) Public Works Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.
- [22330](#) A motion was made by DaRon McGee, seconded by Venessa Huskey, to insert the names of Michael Macias, Robert Hepting and Brian Burns to Resolution #22330. The motion passed by a roll call vote:  
Yes: 8 - Manuel Abarca IV, Jalen Anderson, Donna Peyton, Megan L. Smith, Venessa Huskey, Charlie Franklin, DaRon McGee and Jeanie Lauer  
Abstain: 1 - Sean E. Smith.
- [22330](#) A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Jeanie Lauer, to adopt Resolution #22330, nominating candidates for appointment to the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority, for a term to expire July 15, 2031. 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)
- [22331](#) Arts & Culture Committee (Ad Hoc) moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

## 9 CONSENT AGENDA

[22311](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twelve-month term and supply contract for the furnishing of personal computers, miscellaneous computer hardware, software, maintenance and professional services for use by various County departments to SHI International Corporation, of Somerset, NJ under the terms and conditions of State of Missouri Contract Number CT220337001, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(ADOPTED)

[22327](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a thirty-six-month term and supply contract, with three (3) twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of fleet fuel cards for use by various County Departments, to Openlane Technology Corporation dba Roadflex of Brooklyn, NY under the terms and conditions of Sourcewell Contract No. 030625-RDFX, an existing competitively bid government contract.

(ADOPTED)

[22328](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with one (1) twelve-month option to extend, for the furnishing of trailer maintenance and repair services for use by various County departments to Croft Trailer Supply of Kansas City, MO under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 26-027.

(ADOPTED)

[22329](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with two (2) twelve-month options to extend, for the furnishing of janitorial supplies for use by various County departments to Hillyard Inc., of Kansas City, MO, Imperial Bag & Paper Co. LLC dba Imperial Dade of Kansas City, MO, and RJ Kool Company of Missouri dba Controlled Environment Products, LLC of North Kansas City, MO under the terms and conditions of Invitation to Bid No. 26-022.

(ADOPTED)

[22331](#) A RESOLUTION authorizing the Director of Finance and Purchasing to issue a check in the amount of \$50,000.00 to the National World War I Museum for the Centennial Gala and Liberty Beacon Tower Lighting Celebration.

(ADOPTED)

Resolutions #22311, #22327, #22328 #22329 and #22331 were moved to the Consent Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Jalen Anderson, seconded by Venessa Huskey, 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**

None.

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

[22333](#)

Authorizing the County Executive to execute Supplemental Agreement No. 3 to Longview Lake Lease No. DACW41-1-87-34 with the United States Secretary of the Army to allow for expansion and remodeling of the concession area within the Longview Club House at the Fred Arbanas Golf Course.

*(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)*

[22334](#)

Awarding a twenty-four-month term and supply contract, with one (1) twelve-month option to extend, for the furnishing of certified lawn mower tractor maintenance and repair services for John Deere equipment for use by the various County departments to Deere & Company of Cary, NC, as a sole source purchase.

*(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)*

**12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

[26-27](#)

**AUTHORITY AND RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Missouri State Tax Commission issued an order requiring that Subclass 1 residential real property assessments for 2023 and 2024 be capped at no more than a 15% increase over the corresponding 2022 assessed value, or the market value of the same property, whichever is lower, with certain exceptions for new construction or improvements; and,

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2025, County Executive Phil LeVota ordered that Jackson County roll back and reduce residential assessments for 2023 and 2024 in compliance with that order, directing that affected residential property values be adjusted accordingly; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of those assessment adjustments, residential property owners whose taxes were initially billed or certified at amounts above the adjusted level are entitled to relief for their overpayment of taxes during the 2023 and 2024 tax years; and,

WHEREAS, issuing that relief as tax credits applied against future tax obligations - rather than as direct refunds - is the appropriate mechanism to make affected taxpayers whole while avoiding the need to recapture funds already distributed to school districts, municipalities, and other taxing jurisdictions; and,

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the County Executive to direct the

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appropriate departments and officials of Jackson County to carry out these assessment adjustments and the resulting tax credit program in an orderly, accurate, and timely manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. **Assessment Adjustments.** The Jackson County Assessment Department is hereby directed to identify all Subclass 1 residential parcels whose 2023 and/or 2024 assessed values exceeded a 15% increase over the corresponding 2022 assessed value, excluding increases attributable to new construction or improvements, and to calculate the corrected assessed value for each such parcel, consistent with the Missouri State Tax Commission's order and any applicable exceptions for atypical residential properties.
2. **Tax Credit Calculation.** The Assessment Department and the Collection Department are directed to jointly calculate the tax credit to which each affected parcel is entitled. The credit shall equal the total difference between taxes initially billed or certified for the 2023 and 2024 tax years and the adjusted lower tax amount, divided into three equal installments to be applied against the property owner's tax obligations for 2025, 2026, and 2027, as applicable.
3. **Application of Credits.** The Collection Department is directed to apply the calculated credits to the tax accounts of all eligible parcels in accordance with the schedule established in Section 2, and to ensure that such credits are clearly reflected on tax statements issued to property owners for the 2026, 2027, and 2028 tax years.
4. **Taxpayer Notification.** The Assessment Department, in coordination with the Office of the County Executive, shall prepare and distribute communications to affected property owners explaining the nature and basis of the credit, the amount applied to their account, and the three-year schedule of application.
5. **Interdepartmental Coordination.** All relevant County departments, including but not limited to the Assessment Department, Collection Department, County Counselor's Office, and Information Technology, are directed to cooperate fully and prioritize the timely and accurate implementation of this Order.
6. **Reporting.** The Assessment Director and Collection Director shall submit a joint status report to the Office of the County Executive within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Order, detailing the number of parcels identified, the total credit amounts calculated, and the implementation timeline.
7. **Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon execution and shall remain in effect until all assessment adjustments and associated tax credits have been fully calculated, applied, and administered.

26-28

I hereby make the following appointments and reappointments to the Housing Resources Commission:

Janet Miles-Bartee is hereby appointed to a new term set to expire 6/30/2029. Ms. Miles--Bartee's resume is attached.

Patricia Turner is hereby reappointed to a successive term set to expire 6/30/2029. Ms. Turner's resume is attached.

Wakisha Briggs is hereby reappointed to a successive term set to expire 6/30/2029. Ms. Brigg's resume is attached.

Rhonda Holman is hereby reappointed to a successive term set to expire 6/30/2029. Ms. Holman's resume is attached.

26-29

I hereby make the following appointments to the Jackson County Senior Services Board:

Susan Culpepper is hereby appointed to a new term, representing District 5, set to expire 6/30/2030. Ms. Culpepper's resume is attached.

Jami Henry is hereby appointed to a new term, representing District 6, set to expire 6/30/2030. Ms. Henry's resume is attached.

26-30

I hereby make the following reappointment to MCPL's Board of Trustees:

Marcie Gragg is hereby reappointed to a successive term set to expire 6/30/2030. Ms. Gragg's resume is attached.

**13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**14 NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Abarca said a closed meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, July 13, 2026 so there will be a Resolution on the agenda next week.

**15 ADJOURNMENT**

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

Meeting adjourned until Monday, July 13, 2026 at 3:00 P.M. at the Eastern Jackson County Courthouse, 308 W. Kansas, Independence, Missouri, Ground Floor, Legislative Chambers.