



Office of
Mary Jo Spino
 Clerk of the County Legislature

Jackson County Missouri

JOURNAL

Jackson County Courthouse
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 Kansas City, Missouri 64106
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County Legislature

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

Monday, April 12, 2021

10:00 AM

Thirteenth Regular Meeting

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

Dan Tarwater III, Chairman, called the meeting of the Jackson County Legislature to order.

1 ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Dan Tarwater III, Ronald E. Finley, Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Charlie Franklin, 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 Scott Burnett, seconded by Theresa Cass Galvin to approve the journal of the previous meeting held on March 29, 2021. The motion passed by a voice vote.

4 HEARINGS

Resolutions #20649 and #20645 were adopted at this time. See pages 5 and 6 for details.

Doug Cowan, President and CEO of the Community Services League (CSL), and Jim MacDonald, Chief Community Impact Officer of the United Way of Greater Kansas City, presented information regarding the emergency rental assistance program. Mr. Cowan said CSL opened the application process in both English and Spanish on April 5, 2021. In this first week of operation, they have received 319 inquiries to receive assistance. Mr. Cowan gave an example of a problem identified as a result of a request from a woman for \$28,000 in assistance. Her rent delinquency was \$800 per month for the past year, but the late fees imposed on her account increased her delinquency nearly three-fold. They are providing professional assistance in this situation including attorneys to provide aid to navigate her lease issues. This assistance will

help stabilize the housing situation. In the first week of operation, they have received 319 requests. Of these requests, five percent are from Blue Springs, seven percent from Grandview, 57 percent from Independence, 12 percent are from Kansas City which will be referred to the City of Kansas City program, eight percent from Raytown, six percent from Lee's Summit, and five percent from the remaining smaller cities in Jackson County. The requests so far have been for \$205,000 in utility assistance, averaging \$806 per application, and \$370,000 in rental delinquent assistance, averaging \$1,451 per application. The law allows the payment of current month's rent and two forward months, so \$2,475 is the average request for rental assistance. In more than seven days of the portal being open there have been \$1.2 million in assistance requests. CSL has added nine dedicated staff members to assist with this labor-intensive program. One staff member is bi-lingual. Mr. Cowan said the process is labor intensive to be in compliance with the rules and regulations of the act. Approximately 16 percent of the 319 applications are in some level of eviction process.

Jim MacDonald said United Way is working to prevent evictions for residents that have been sued by landlords for back rent. Generally, tenants do not have legal representation when they are sued for back rent. The \$1.5 million in CARES Act funds is being used to provide legal representation, which typically provides a positive outcome for tenants. This program will help families keep their homes through rental assistance and legal representation. Once a renter is in legal eviction, the process can move quickly and the amount in arrears is beyond what is normally available through traditional assistance programs. This program is in collaboration with Legal Aid of Western Missouri, the Heartland Center for Jobs and Freedom and the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law with seven or eight attorneys working to fight evictions downtown and in Independence. They are able to pay back rent and current rent with the average assistance of about \$3,000.

Charlie Franklin, County Legislator, asked if there are differences in the program for families with children and those without children. Mr. Cowan said they provide assistance to all family situations. Mr. Franklin asked about people who offer to complete the rental assistance application for a fee. Both Mr. Cowan and Mr. MacDonald said they had not heard of situations in which people were being charged a fee to provide the service. The United Way and CSL staff will provide tenants with assistance in completing the application so no one should be paying for that service.

Jeanie Lauer, County Legislator, asked if the funding assistance is given

directly to the tenant. Mr. Cowan said normally the assistance is paid to the utility company or the landlord, but the law does provide in certain circumstances for the funds to be paid directly to the applicant if the landlord refuses to accept direct payment.

Ronald E. Finley, County Legislator, asked about foreclosure assistance. Mr. MacDonald said most funds are allocated for rental assistance, but they have also provided legal assistance in restructuring loans and other issues with foreclosure situations. Mr. Finley asked about aid for people who have a judgment executed. Mr. MacDonald said Legal Aid has been working to identify tenants through courthouse outreach. They have also provided aid in satisfying judgments because the judgment can be a deterrent to being able to find new housing. Judge Dale Youngs, Presiding Judge, said the current CDC moratorium on evictions runs to the end of June 2021.

Discussion.

5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH AND REPORTS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Frank White, Jr., said he was sorry to announce the passing of the Honorable W. Stephen Nixon over the weekend. Judge Nixon had served as a circuit court judge in the 16th Judicial Circuit and as County Counselor from 2011 until 2018. He was a former mayor of the City of Lake Lotawana.

Resolution #20648 was adopted at this time. See page 6 for details.

6 PERFECTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

[5495](#) Land Use Committee moved to perfect.

Tony Miller objected to the Consent Agenda.

[5495](#) A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Jalen Anderson to perfect Ordinance #5495. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[5495](#) A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Ordinance #5495, amending the zoning districts established pursuant to the Unified Development Code by rezoning a certain 1.02± acre tract from District AG (Agricultural) to District RS (Residential Suburban). The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

[5496](#) Land Use Committee moved to perfect.

Tony Miller objected to the Consent Agenda.

[5496](#) A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to perfect the Land Use Committee Substitute dated April 12, 2021 for Ordinance #5496. The motion passed by a voice vote.

(PERFECTED)

[5496](#) A motion was made by Tony Miller, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt the Land Use Committee Substitute dated April 12, 2021 for Ordinance #5496, 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). The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

7 FINAL PASSAGE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

[5494](#) Consent Agenda.

8 RESOLUTIONS IN COMMITTEE

[20642](#) Finance and Audit Committee moved to adopt. Consent Agenda.

9 CONSENT AGENDA

[5494](#) AN ORDINANCE repealing sections 3301., 3302., 3303., 3305., and 3306., Jackson County Code, 1986, relating to property assessed clean energy and enacting, in lieu thereof, eleven new sections relating to the same subject.

(ADOPTED)

[20642](#) A RESOLUTION awarding a contract for annual geographic information systems software maintenance for use by the Information Technology Department to Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., of Redlands, CA, as a sole source purchase, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$58,990.00.

(ADOPTED)

Ordinance #5494 and Resolution #20642 were moved to the Consent

Agenda for adoption.

A motion was made by Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Scott Burnett, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

10 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE[5497](#)

Appropriating \$2,452.00 from the undesignated fund balance of the 2021 Park Fund and authorizing the County Executive to execute an easement in favor of the City of Lee's Summit, MO, to allow for the installation of a permanent sanitary sewer line across a portion of the Rock Island Rail Corridor.

(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

11 INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND ASSIGNMENT TO COMMITTEE[20643](#)

Authorizing the County Counselor to execute an Addendum to the Legal Services Agreement with Evans & Dixon, LLC, of Kansas City, MO, at an actual cost to the County not to exceed \$2,000.00, for services to be performed through December 31, 2021.

(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

[20644](#)

Declaring certain vehicles and equipment items within various County departments as surplus and unusable personal property and authorizing their disposal.

(Assigned to the Finance and Audit Committee.)

[20645](#)

A motion was made by Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #20645, recognizing the first Wednesday of April as the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault's "Start by Believing Day" in Jackson County. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

[20646](#)

A motion was made by Scott Burnett, seconded by Ronald E. Finley, to adopt Resolution #20646, recognizing April 2021 as National County Government Month, an annual celebration of county government. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

[20647](#)

Authorizing the County Executive to execute an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement with the City of Lee's Summit to provide for the mill and overlay of pavement on the shared portions of Ranson Road, at an actual cost to the County in the amount of \$65,500.00.

(Assigned to the Public Works Committee.)

[20648](#)

A motion was made by Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Jalen Anderson, to adopt Resolution #20648, transferring \$1,686,062.00 within the 2021 General Fund to cover costs associated with the replacement and repair of plumbing and mechanical components of the chilled water system at the Downtown Courthouse. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

Dan Tarwater III, County Legislator, asked Troy Schulte, County Administrator, to address resolution 20648. Mr. Schulte said this will put funds in place to handle the emergency repairs to the County Courthouse chilling system to provide air conditioning in the building. Brian Gaddie, Director of Public Works, said the County is undergoing a facilities assessment that will examine all of the County's systems. While this measure will provide a temporary fix to the problem, they expect it will repair the system for about five years. The County's heating and cooling systems are complex and inter-connected. This will buy time in the process of evaluating the whole climate control system.

Dan Tarwater III asked about the emergency declaration related to the Fred Arbanas Golf Course. The golf course is closing for a month to re-sod the greens due to a mistaken application of chemicals last fall. Frank White, Jr. said they have completed the first nine holes. The sod is coming from Colorado so it may be dormant for a few more days.

[20649](#)

A motion was made by Theresa Cass Galvin, seconded by Scott Burnett, to adopt Resolution #20649, honoring the life and achievements of Sister Corita Bussanmas. The motion passed by a roll call vote:

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

(ADOPTED)

12 COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDERS

21-12

Pursuant to chapter 82 of the Jackson County Code, I hereby make the following reappointments to the Jackson County Community Children's Services Fund Board of Directors:

Dr. Robert Bartman, Ed.D. is reappointed as a District 4 member for a new term to expire March 31, 2024.

Brian Kaberline is reappointed as a District 5 member for a new term to expire March 31, 2024.

Ajia Mignon Morris is appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of Rachelle Styles' term, as a District 2 member for a new term to expire March 31, 2024. A copy of Ms. Morris' resume is attached.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

14 NEW BUSINESS

Jeanie Lauer said she has had calls from constituents who need the second dose of the vaccine. She recommended the website vaccinefinder.org.

Theresa Cass Galvin, County Legislator, said a constituent sent an email regarding their appreciation of the County's efforts with the Rock Island Trail Corridor.

Jalen Anderson, County Legislator, asked about the status of the meeting minutes from the Steering Committee. Troy Schulte said they are printing the minutes for the County Counselor's Office review. The minutes will be released to members of the Legislature after the review.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned until Monday, April 19, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. at the Jackson County Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 2nd Floor, Legislative Assembly Area.