

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ALC)

September 18, 2026

The Arkansas Legislative Council met at 9:00 a.m., Friday, August 21, 2026, in Committee Room A of the Big MAC Building, Little Rock, Arkansas. Senate Co-Chair Senator Justin Boyd called the meeting to order and recognized a quorum of members present. Representative DeAnn Vaught was recognized for the morning prayer.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Co-Chair Boyd referred members to the minutes of the last Legislative Council meeting held on March 20, 2026 (Exhibit C) and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Senator Missy Irvin moved that the minutes of the June 19, 2026, meeting of the Legislative Council be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Revenue Report

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Dr. Carlos Silva, Legislative Economist, Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR), to present the July 2026 General Revenue Report (Exhibit D). The General Revenue report for June 2026 is retained in the file. Dr. Silva reported that the collections of Gross General Revenues year-to-date are approximately \$673.62 million, an increase of \$36.8 million, or 5.8% above the \$636.82 million collected last fiscal year-to-date. The Net General Revenue available for distribution of \$601.15 million, increased \$43.7 million, or 7.8% from the \$557.48 million available for distribution in July 2025.

Dr. Silva highlighted the first transfer to Major Hist Rehab under Adjusted General Revenues, as authorized by Act 855 of 2019. He noted that the Cumulative Deviation of the Net General Revenue Available for Distribution exceeds the forecast by approximately \$26.3 million. Dr. Silva also informed members that updates on general revenue collections will be provided regarding Act 989 of 2025 and the collection of reinstatement fees. He added that labor force participation in Arkansas remains positive, even as national participation declines. After questions from members, this concluded the June 2026 General Revenue report.

Report of the Executive Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Co-Chair Eaves to present the report of the Executive Subcommittee (Exhibit E). Co-Chair Eaves reported that the Executive Subcommittee met Thursday, August 20, 2026, and approved waiver requests for cooperative purchasing construction services for the Jonesboro Public School District and the Greenwood School District. This concluded the report of the Executive Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Co-Chair Les D. Eaves moved that the reports of the Executive Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Standing Subcommittee Presentations

Administrative Rules Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Lane Jean to present the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee (Exhibit F.1). Representative Jean reported that the Administrative Rules Subcommittee met on Thursday, August 20, 2026, and filed reports from the Executive, Medical Marijuana, and State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittees. The Subcommittee: filed quarterly reports by the Department of Corrections and the Post-Prison Transfer Board; accepted the recommendations of the Office of Early Childhood concerning the extension of rules pursuant to Act 781 of 2017; received agency updates on outstanding rulemaking from the 2023 Regular Session; and filed agencies monthly written updates on rulemaking from the 2025 Regular Session.

The Subcommittee deferred the DHS Division of Medical Services rule concerning requirements for an acute rehabilitation unit within a hospital and an update to the Medical Utilization Management Program (MUMP) for separate consideration by ALC after the vote on the report. The Subcommittee voted not to approve one rule by the Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board. Two rules were pulled from the agenda prior to the meeting, at the agencies' request. All other rules were reviewed and approved. This concluded the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee.

Representative Lane Jean moved that the reports of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee be adopted, with the exception of the DHS Division of Medical Services rules. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Senator Bart Hester moved to approve the Department of Human Services - Division of Medical Services rule mentioned in the report. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Senator Terry Rice, to present the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee (Exhibit F.4). Senator Rice reported that the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee met on Monday, August 17, 2026, at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Training Center in Mayflower, AR. The Subcommittee heard testimony from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission regarding the training center and discussed the annual Wildlife Management Area/Lake Conservation Permit and permits for hunting on St. Francis River Sunken Lands. This concluded the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Terry Rice moved that the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Ron McNair, to present the report of the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee (Exhibit F.6). Representative McNair reported that the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2026. The Subcommittee heard testimony on the report of Highway Construction Projects of \$10 million or more; reports on Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act; and the quarterly land conveyances report. This concluded the report of the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Ron McNair moved that the report of the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Mary Bentley, to present the report of the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee (Exhibit F.7). Representative Bentley reported that the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee met on Monday, August 17, 2026, to hear testimony on the following: implementation of work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries; denial of Arkansas's Medicaid Expansion Program request; and an update on the Reimbursement Rates Under the Living Choices Assisted Living Waiver.

The Subcommittee met again on Thursday, August 20, 2026, to discuss the consolidation of local workforce development boards and the implications of benefit cliffs. This concluded the report of the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Mary Bentley moved that the report of the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Lottery Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Senator Ricky Hill, to present the report of the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.08). Senator Hill reported that the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee met on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, and reviewed the Miles Partnership, LLC contract. The Subcommittee also heard testimony on the Arkansas Lottery Director's Report and reports from the Arkansas Division of Higher Education. This concluded the report of the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Ricky Hill moved that the report of the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Medical Marijuana Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative RJ Hawk to present the report of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.9). Representative Hawk reported that the Medical Marijuana Oversight Subcommittee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2026. The Subcommittee reviewed the rules governing the application for Issuance and Renewal of Licenses for Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities, Dispensaries, and Processors in Arkansas. This concluded the report of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative RJ Hawk moved that the report of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Stephen Meeks, to present the report of the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee (Exhibit F.10). Representative Meeks reported that the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee met on Thursday, August 20, 2026, and heard testimony from the Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture; Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy; Arkansas Auctioneers Licensing Board; and the Arkansas Motor Vehicle Commission. This concluded the report of the

Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Stephen Meeks moved that the report of the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Jon Eubanks to present the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee (Exhibit F.11). Representative Eubanks reported that the PEER Subcommittee met on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. The Subcommittee received reports, reviewed requests, and approved the following: Various Temporary Appropriations; Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Appropriation requests; Appropriation Transfers; and a Restricted Reserve Fund Transfer. This concluded the report of the PEER Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Jon Eubanks moved to adopt the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Review Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Senator Blake Johnson to present the report of the Review Subcommittee (Exhibit F.12). Senator Johnson reported that the Review Subcommittee met on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, and reviewed: methods of finance; discretionary grants; one ratification; services contracts; and received reports. Item A.1, a revised Method of Finance submitted by the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture, was previously held pending follow-up information received from the agency. The Division of Agriculture has provided the necessary information. This concluded the report of the Review Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Blake Johnson moved that the report of the Review Subcommittee, including Item A.1 from Division of Agriculture, be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Rick Beck, to present the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.13). Representative Beck reported that the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2026. The Subcommittee reviewed and approved the following items: rules regarding Independent Vendor Data Audit Process; Employee Benefits Division Formulary recommendations; medical drugs recommendations; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company contract amendment; United Healthcare contract amendment; and the Crowe Chizek, LLP contract.

The Subcommittee also heard a presentation from the Segal Group regarding Health Insurance Funding and Medical Price estimates. This concluded the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Rick Beck moved that the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee

Co-Chair Boyd recognized Representative Les Warren to present the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee (Exhibit F.14). Representative Warren reported the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, and reviewed requests, continuations, and the reports listed as Items 1-14. Item 7, a request to utilize a position previously frozen through Act 795, required and received approval from the subcommittee. This concluded the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Les Warren moved that the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Review of Communications

Co-Chair Boyd referred members to the communications listed on the agenda as Items H.01 - H.17 and noted that action by Legislative Council was needed for Items H.05; H.06; and H.14(b).

H.05 - Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS), Request to review investment summaries, submitted pursuant to A.C.A §19-69-101.

- a. KKR Diversified Core Infrastructure USD Feeder Fund, L.P. ("DCIF", or the "Fund")
- b. Apollo IG Short Duration Fund, L.P. (the "Fund")
- c. HarbourVest APERS PC Fund, L.P. (the "Fund")

Co-Chair Boyd recognized members for questions, and recognized Ms. Amy Fecher, Director, and Mr. Carlos Borromeo, Chief Investment Officer, APERS, to respond.

After questions, Representative Jack Ladyman moved to file the request from APERS, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.06 - Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS), Request for the Legislative Council's retrospective review of the imminent need partial equity ownership investments, submitted pursuant to A.C.A § 19-11-1303.

- a. Sheridan Capital Partners Fund IV, L.P.

With no questions, Representative Jack Ladyman moved to file the request from ATRS as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.14(b) - Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism (DPHT) - Division of State Parks (DSP), Review of the general revenue allocation by park report, submitted pursuant to § 25-43-1304(d) and (e).

Co-Chair Boyd recognized members for questions, and recognized Mr. Mike Wilson, Assistant Director, and Mr. Marty Ryall, Legislative Director, DPHT, to respond.

After questions, Representative Jack Ladyman moved to file the request from the DPHT - Division of State Parks, as approved. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

There were no questions or requests from members on the remaining reports, which were considered received but no action was taken on them.

New Interim Study Proposals and Interim Resolutions

J.01 - Interim Study Proposal 2025-090, by Senator Bryan King, to terminate the Arkansas Health and Opportunity For Me Program; and to transfer all beneficiaries in the Arkansas Health and Opportunity For Me Program to the Traditional Arkansas Medicaid Program.

Co-Chair Boyd stated without objection, ISP 2025-090 is referred to the Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

J.02 - Interim Study Proposal 2025-091, by Representative Tracy Steele, requesting the Arkansas Legislative Council refer a study to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor regarding the Provision of Coverage for Weight Loss Medications by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program.

Co-Chair Boyd state without objection, ISP 2025-091 is referred to the House Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

J.03 - Interim Resolution 2025-008, by Senator Fredrick Love, requesting the Legislative Council encourage a moratorium on the development and opening of data centers in Arkansas while the state develops standards for data center development to support cities, counties, and other localities.

Co-Chair Boyd stated without objection, IR 2025-008 is referred to the House and Senate Committees on Insurance and Commerce, meeting jointly, for further discussion and recommendation back to the Legislative Council.

Adjournment

At 9:31 a.m., the meeting was adjourned as there was no further business to come before the Legislative Council.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

Senator Justin Boyd
Co-Chair, Senate

Marty Garrity
Executive Secretary