

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

March 20, 2026

The Arkansas Legislative Council met at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 20, 2026, in Committee Room A of the Big MAC Building, Little Rock, Arkansas. House Co-Chair Les D. Eaves called the meeting to order and recognized a quorum of members present. Senate Vice Co-Chair Justin Boyd assumed the chair due to the absence of Senate Co-Chair Ben Gilmore. Senator Kim Hammer was recognized for the morning prayer.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Co-Chair Eaves referred members to the minutes of the last Legislative Council meeting held on January 16, 2026 (Exhibit C) and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Senator Jim Dotson moved that the minutes of the January 16, 2026, meeting of the Legislative Council be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Revenue Report

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Dr. Carlos Silva, Legislative Economist, Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR), to present the January 2026 General Revenue Report (Exhibit D). Dr. Silva reported that the collections of Gross General Revenues year-to-date are approximately \$4.78 billion, an increase of \$80.8 million, or 1.7% above the \$4.7 billion collected last fiscal year-to-date. The Net General Revenue available for distribution of \$4.11 billion, increased \$111.8 million, or 2.8% from the \$4 billion available for distribution in January 2025. He explained the increase in casino gaming revenue was due to statutory transfer thresholds rather than actual revenue growth.

Dr. Silva further stated that the Cumulative Deviation is \$160.3 million above the forecast of May 2025, which is an updated forecast from January 30, 2026, Official General Revenue Forecast - FY26/27, provided by DF&A and attached to this report. Dr. Silva highlighted factors influencing revenue including faster-than-expected growth in sales and income taxes, a shift of \$41 million from FY25/26, and \$32 million collected from lottery winners. Changes in fines, penalties, and court costs were attributed to civil penalties and lawsuit settlements. This concluded the January 2026 General Revenue report, and there were no questions.

Report of the Executive Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senate Vice Co-Chair Justin Boyd to present the report of the Executive Subcommittee (Exhibit E). Vice Co-Chair Boyd reported that the Executive Subcommittee met on Thursday, February 19, 2026, and approved a waiver request for cooperative purchasing construction services for Jackson County School District, amending a prior approval from September 2025. The subcommittee also received an update from BLR Director Marty Garrity on the Bureau of Legislative Research's biennial independent audit, which reported no findings. This concluded the report of the Executive Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Vice Co-Chair Justin Boyd moved that the report of the Executive Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Standing Subcommittee Presentations

Administrative Rules Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senator Tyler Dees to present the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee (Exhibit F.1). Senator Dees reported that the Administrative Rules Subcommittee met on Thursday, February 19, 2026. The Subcommittee filed quarterly reports on Administrative Directives from the Department of Corrections and the Post-Prison Transfer Board. The Subcommittee approved one (1) agency's request for exclusion from the reporting requirements for rulemaking. The Subcommittee also accepted the recommendations of the Division of Public-School Academic Facilities and Transportations, concerning the extension repeal rules, pursuant to Act 781 of 2017 and Act 65 of 2021. The Subcommittee received agency updates on outstanding rulemaking from the 2023 Regular Session and filed agencies monthly written updates on rulemaking from the 2025 Regular Session. At the agency's request two (2) rules were pulled from consideration prior to the meeting and moved to the next ALC Administrative Rules Subcommittee meeting. All other rules were reviewed and approved as noted in the report. This concluded the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Tyler Dees moved that the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Representative Dwight Tosh, to present the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee (Exhibit F.4). Representative Tosh reported that the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee met on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, and heard discussion on the Federal Immigration Laws from the Arkansas State Police and Wildlife Management Areas, Duck Season, Flyway Federation, and Boating Laws in Arkansas from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

The Subcommittee met again on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, and heard testimony regarding Pit Maneuver Statistics for 2025 and how recent legislation has impacted these statistics from Arkansas State Police, and the decertification process for law enforcement officers from the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training. This concluded the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Dwight Tosh moved that the report of the Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senator Jane English, to present the report of the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee (Exhibit F.7). Senator Jane English reported that the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee met on Thursday, February 19, 2026, to hear an overview of the status of SNAP and an update on Reimbursement Rates Under the Living Choices Assisted Living Waiver by DHS. The Subcommittee also discussed the final report provided by the Georgia Center for Opportunity. This concluded the report of the Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

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

Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senator David Wallace, to present the report of the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee (Exhibit F.10) Senator Wallace reported that the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee met on Thursday, February 19, 2026, and received reports from various occupational authorization entities in Group 1. This concluded the report of the Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator David Wallace 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 Eaves recognized Representative Jeff Wardlaw to present the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee (Exhibit F.11). Representative Wardlaw reported that the PEER Subcommittee met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. The Subcommittee received reports, reviewed requests, and approved the following: Various Temporary Appropriations; Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Appropriation Requests - there will be an updated spreadsheet sent to members of PEER correcting prior arrear data; and Transfer Requests.

With permission from the chair, Mr. Glen Howie, Director, Arkansas State Broadband Office, was recognized to respond to questions regarding a provider with delinquent local property taxes excluded from the report due to unmet program requirements. With no further questions from members, this concluded the report of the PEER Subcommittee.

Representative Jeff Wardlaw 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 Eaves recognized Representative Frances Cavanaugh to present the report of the Review Subcommittee (Exhibit F.12). Representative Cavanaugh reported that the Review Subcommittee met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, and reviewed the methods of finance, one (1) alternative delivery method construction project; discretionary grants; one (1) ratification; services contracts; and received regular monthly reports. In addition to the regular review items, the Subcommittee received one (1) contract for review from the District Four Tire Removal Program. The

Subcommittee voted to hold any consideration of this contract until the March 17, 2026, subcommittee meeting. This concluded the report of the Review Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Frances Cavanaugh moved to adopt the report of the Review Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Representative Rick Beck, to present the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.13). Representative Beck reported the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee met on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The Subcommittee reviewed the Employee Benefits Division contract with Boston Consulting Group; approved Prescription Formulary Recommendations for December 2025, January 2026, and February 2026; and approved Medical Drug Recommendations for February 2026. 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 Eaves 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, February 18, 2026, and approved all items listed in the report. 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 Eaves referred members to the communications listed on the agenda as Items H.01 - H.12 and noted that action by Legislative Council was needed for Item H.01. A report will be given for Item H.4(a) - Arkansas Insurance Department.

H.04(a) - Department of Commerce, Arkansas Insurance Department, Monthly Status Report on Implementation of Rule 128 and PBM Enforcement.

Co-Chair Eaves recognized members for questions regarding the Navitus Health Solutions' objection to providing data. Mr. Jimmy Harris, Commissioner, AID, and Mr. Daniel Holland, PBM General Counsel, AID, were recognized to respond to member questions.

H.01 - Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS), Request for the Legislative Council's review of partial equity ownership agreements submitted pursuant to A.C.A. §19-11-1302.

- a. Ares Industrial Real Estate Fund, LP
- b. Franklin Park Venture Capital Fund XVI, LP
- c. Franklin Park Co-Investment Fund VII, LP

**Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr., recused himself from voting on this item due to a potential conflict of interest.*

Senator Missy Irvin moved to file the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS) request to review the partial equity ownership agreements, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

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:

Representative Les D. Eaves
Co-Chair, House

Marty Garrity
Executive Secretary