

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

August 21, 2026

The Arkansas Legislative Council met at 9:00 a.m., Friday, June 19, 2026, in Committee Room A of the Big MAC Building, Little Rock, Arkansas. House Co-Chair Representative Les D. Eaves called the meeting to order and recognized a quorum of members present. Senator Tyler Dees 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 March 20, 2026 (Exhibit C) and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Senator Justin Boyd moved that the minutes of the March 20, 2026, meeting of the Legislative Council be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Point of Personal Privilege

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senate Co-Chair Senator Ben Gilmore to honor Ms. Lori McDonald, Chief of Staff, Department of Human Services, on her retirement on June 30, 2026, by way of Interim Resolution 2025-006. Ms. McDonald graciously served as a public service professional in state government for twenty-eight (28) years. Co-Chair Eaves also recognized Senator Kim Hammer to present a Senate Citation, a newly minted Senate Coin, and a U.S. flag, to honor Ms. McDonald for her work.

Senator Ben Gilmore moved to adopt Interim Resolution 2025-006, requesting that the Legislative Council honor Lori McDonald for her service to the State of Arkansas upon the occasion of her retirement from the Department of Human Services. 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 May 2026 General Revenue Report (Exhibit D). The General Revenue reports for March 2026 and April 2026 are retained in the files. Dr. Silva reported that the collections of Gross General Revenues year-to-date are approximately \$7.76 billion, an increase of \$323.6 million, or 4.4% above the \$7.44 billion collected last fiscal year-to-date. The Net General Revenue available for distribution of \$6.36 billion, increased \$456.8 million, or 7.7% from the \$5.9 billion available for distribution in May 2025.

Dr. Silva reminded the committee that the Revenue Stabilization Act (RSA) funding for the current fiscal year was set at \$6.49 billion, noting that collections are approximately \$130 million away from the June 2026 RSA target. Additionally, the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) issued an updated revenue forecast from May 2026 updating the projected year-end surplus. The

Cumulative Deviation of the forecasted Net General Revenue Available for Distribution is approximately \$10 million. After further statements by Dr. Silva and no questions from members, this concluded the May 2026 General Revenue report.

Report of the Executive Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Co-Chair Gilmore to present the report of the Executive Subcommittee (Exhibit E). Co-Chair Gilmore (*beginning with a corrected report*) reported that the Executive Subcommittee met several times: Tuesday, April 28, 2026; Monday, May 18, 2026; and Thursday, June 18, 2026, and reports the following actions: reviewed and approved emergency rules for the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education, which were both reported to members and alternates of ALC in accordance with ALC Rules; and approved a waiver request for cooperative purchasing construction services for the Stuttgart School District. By this report the ALC Co-Chairs report emergency actions taken May 18, 2026, as authorized by the Executive Subcommittee concerning a waiver request under Act 929 for Jonesboro Water and Light, as required by ALC Rule 16 (*Report Attachment 1*). Additionally, the Subcommittee recommended committee fund allocations for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY2027) be set at the same levels as Fiscal Year 2026 (FY2026). Fiscal Year 2026 allocations are included with the report (*Report Attachment 2*). Finally, the Subcommittee voted to cancel the regularly scheduled July 2026 ALC meetings, and authorize ALC subcommittees to meet anytime in the month of July to take up items that have imminent need, and give final authority to subcommittees for actions taken during the meetings for the month of July 2026, which shall be reported to ALC at its next regularly scheduled meeting on August 21, 2026. This concluded the report of the Executive Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Co-Chair Ben Gilmore 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 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 Monday, June 15, 2026. Two rules were pulled by the agency, and all other rules were reviewed and approved, as noted in the report.

The Subcommittee met again on Thursday, June 18, 2026, and filed reports from the Executive, Review, and State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittees. The Subcommittee: filed quarterly reports by the Department of Corrections and the Post-Prison Transfer Board; approved two (2) agency requests for exclusion from the reporting requirements for rulemaking; accepted the recommendation of the Division of Career and Technical Education 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. Two (2) rules were pulled by the agency, and one (1) rule was held in the Public Health committees. This concluded the report of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee. Co-Chair Eaves recognized members for questions, and Ms. Courtney Salas-Ford, Chief of Staff, and Mr. Greg Rogers, Chief Fiscal Officer, Department of Education, were recognized to respond.

After questions, Senator Tyler Dees moved that the reports 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 Thursday, June 18, 2026. The Subcommittee heard testimony from the Arkansas State Crime Lab and also heard testimony regarding rapid DNA testing and the backlog of sexual assault test kits. 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 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, June 15, 2026, to hear testimony on the following: workforce implementation and agency integration; Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) waiver requests and WIOA Combined State Plan; an overview of SNAP and Medicaid; and an update on the Reimbursement Rates Under the Living Choices Assisted Living Waiver.

The Subcommittee met again on Thursday, June 18, 2026, to discuss strategies moving forward in the Subcommittee's study of the No Wrong Door Model. 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 Eaves 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, June 16, 2026, and reviewed the Cranford Company Contract and Learfield Inc. Contract. The Subcommittee heard testimony on the Arkansas Lottery Proposed FY2027 Annual Budget and the Arkansas Lottery Director's Report. 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.

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, June 18, 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 Senator Jonathan Dismang to present the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee (Exhibit F.11). Senator Dismang reported that the PEER Subcommittee met on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. The Subcommittee received reports, reviewed requests, and approved the following: Various Temporary Appropriations; Cares Act Appropriations; American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations; Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Appropriation requests; Appropriation Transfers; Restricted Reserve Fund Transfers; State Central Services Deductions; and a Reallocation of Resources.

Senator Dismang made a disclosure regarding PEER agenda items G.1.d and B.1.r (Report Items A.1.r and F.1.d) for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, as he has family that are potential vendors and are likely participants in the Conservation Incentive Program.

This concluded the report of the PEER Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Jonathan Dismang 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, June 16, 2026, and reviewed: proposed procurement law rule changes from the Office of State Procurement; methods of finance; discretionary grants; RFQ requests; ratifications; services contracts; and received regular monthly reports. Additionally, the Subcommittee approved one (1) member disclosure from Representative Andrew Collins. This concluded the report of the Review Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Representative Frances Cavanaugh moved that the report of the Review Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Eaves recognized Senator Jim Petty, to present the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.13). Senator Jim Petty reported the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee met on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. The Subcommittee reviewed and approved the following items that were presented by Mr. Grant Wallace, Director, Employee Benefits Division (EBD), and the Office of Property Risk (OPR): March and April Formulary recommendations; EBD Cell and Gene Therapy Policy updates; UAMS Professional Consultant Services Contract Amendment with the contingency that EBD will return the contract to the SIP Subcommittee if it elects to utilize the optional services therein; USABLE Mutual Insurance Company Contract; ComPsych Contract; proposed State and Public School Employees 2027 Contribution Rates; OPR rules concerning Arkansas School Districts in the State Captive Insurance Program; Denenberg Tuffley PLLC Contract; Sedgwick Claims Management Services Contract; the Actuarial Advantage Contract; Stephens Inc. Contract; and the 2026-2027 State Captive Insurance Rates. The Subcommittee also received an update regarding the UnitedHealth rebid. This concluded the report of the State Insurance Programs Oversight

Subcommittee, and there were no questions.

Senator Jim Petty 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 Senator Breanne Davis to present the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee (Exhibit F.14). Senator Davis reported the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee met on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, and reviewed requests, continuations, and the listed reports. Item 4 of the report, a Reallocation of Resources for the Department of Commerce and Item 21 of the report, a supplemental agenda item for over the max salaries related to merit increases, required and received approval from the subcommittee. This concluded the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee. Co-Chair Eaves recognized members for questions and recognized Ms. Tammy Williams, Chief Fiscal Officer, and Ms. Allison Hatfield, Chief of Staff, Department of Commerce to respond.

After questions, Senator Breanne Davis 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.16 and noted that action by Legislative Council was needed for Items H.03, H.04(a)(b)(c); H.06(c); H.12(b)(c); and H.14(c).

H.03 - Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS), Request to review investment summaries, submitted pursuant to A.C.A §19-69-101.

- a. Partners Group (APERS) Natural State, L.P. (the "Fund")
- b. Pantheon APERS Credit, L.P. (the "Fund")
- c. NB APERS Fund of One, L.P. (the "Fund")

With no questions, Senator Justin Boyd moved to file the request from APERS, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.04 - Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS):

- a. **Request for the Legislative Council's retrospective review of the imminent need partial equity ownership investments, for April 2026, submitted pursuant to A.C.A § 19-11-1303;**
 1. JFL Equity Investors VII, L.P.
 2. Kingswood Capital Opportunities IV, L.P.

With no questions, Senator Justin Boyd moved to file the request from ATRS as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

- b. Request for the Legislative Council's retrospective review of the imminent need partial equity ownership investments for June 2026, submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 19-11-1303;**

- 1. Hybar LLC and Associated Entities

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to file the request from ATRS, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

- c. Request for the Legislative Council's review of partial equity ownership agreements submitted pursuant to A.C.A. §19-11-1302;**

- 1. KKR - ATRS Multi-Strategy Credit Partners, LP
 - 2. Brookfield Credit ATRS Beacon Investment Fund, LP
 - 3. Prime Property Fund, LP
 - 4. Ares Real Estate Secondaries Fund X, LP
 - 5. Blackstone Infrastructure Partners, LP
 - 6. New Enterprise Associates 12, LP

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to file the request from ATRS, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.06(c) - Department of Commerce, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Division of Rural Services, Request to approve funding for the Rural Community Grant Program for FY2026, submitted pursuant to Act 608 of 2025 Regular Session;

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to file the request from the Division of Rural Services, as approved. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.12 - Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism:

- b. Division of State Parks, Request for favorable advice to establish a new state park or make acquisitions of real property for additions to or expansions of existing state parks, submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 22-4-106;**

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to give favorable advice for the request of the Division of State Parks. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

- c. Division of State Parks, Request for approval of Special Maintenance funding appropriation for FY2027 projects, submitted pursuant to Section 20 of Act 148 of 2026.**

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to file the request from the Division of State Parks, as approved. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

H.14(c) - Department of Shared Administrative Services, Office of State Technology, Request to review the proposed new rates of services for FY2027, submitted pursuant to A.C.A. §25-4-119(b)(3)(B).

With no questions, Senator Ben Gilmore moved to file the request from the Office of State Technology, as reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

There were no questions or requests from members on the remaining reports.

Adjournment

At 9:37 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