

01-23-2026 Minutes

McDonald County Commission—Minutes

January 23rd, 2026

Present:

Bryan Hall - Presiding Commissioner
Jamey Cope - Eastern Commissioner
Rick Lett - Western Commissioner
Jessica Cole - County Clerk

General Business

EMERGENCY MEETING CALLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER SPECIAL MEETING RsMo Section 610.020.4

Commissioners met to discuss the burden placed on Missouri Counties that have forced them to place unneeded ballot language on the April 7, 2026 Municipal Election.

To bring to matter what is the language? This is a trickling effect from a recent special fall State legislative session that passed Senate Bill 3.

Missouri Senate Bill 3 imposed yet again another unfunded mandate on counties. The law requires counties to place ballot language on the April 2026 election regarding property tax limits, without providing any state funding to cover the administrative or election costs, yet again. McDonald County is not taking a position for or against the ordinance itself; the concern is the burden and compressed timeline imposed by the State. This mandate comes at the same time counties are already working to implement SB 190 (Senior Tax Credit), another costly, state-required program with no funding attached. Failure to place the required ballot language would put Missouri Counties in violation of Missouri law, leaving counties with no practical option but to comply. Commissioners legal counsel assisted them in drafting up the ordinance and ballot language to remain compliant.

Ballot language will appear as follows:

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MCDONALD COUNTY, MISSOURI,
THIS 26 DAY OF January 2026.

Shall the County of McDonald exempt eligible taxpayers from certain tax increases on eligible taxpayers' primary residence above the liability incurred during the initial credit year?

YES NO

If you are in favor of the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "YES". If you are opposed to the question, place an "X" in the box opposite "NO".

ADJOURN

Commission will reconvene on January 26th, 2026

SIGNATURES

