

AGENDA
Arkansas Legislative Council - Joint Budget Committee Budget Hearings

Thursday, October 15, 2026

9:00 AM

Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sen. Justin Boyd, Co-Chair	Rep. Les D. Eaves, Co-Chair	Rep. Aaron Pilkington
Sen. Stephanie Flowers	Rep. Stephen Meeks	Rep. Les Warren
Sen. Missy Irvin	Rep. Lane Jean	Rep. Jim Wooten
Sen. Ronald Caldwell	Rep. Matthew J. Shepherd	Rep. Cindy Crawford
Sen. Jane English	Rep. Jeff Wardlaw	Rep. Denise Garner
Sen. Alan Clark	Rep. Jon S. Eubanks	Rep. Lee Johnson
Sen. Jimmy Hickey, Jr	Rep. Bruce Cozart	Rep. Nicole Clowney
Sen. Bart Hester	Rep. Stephen Magie	Rep. Andrew Collins
Sen. Scott Flippo	Rep. Mike Holcomb	Rep. Brian S. Evans
Sen. Terry Rice	Rep. David Whitaker	Rep. Tippi McCullough
Sen. Blake Johnson	Rep. Ron McNair	Rep. Joy Springer
Sen. Dave Wallace	Rep. Jack Ladyman	Rep. Howard M. Beaty, Jr.
Sen. Breanne Davis	Rep. Robin Lundstrum	Rep. Ashley Hudson
Sen. Ricky Hill	Rep. Mary Bentley	Rep. Jon Milligan
Sen. Mark Johnson	Rep. Dwight Tosh	Rep. Kendon Underwood
Sen. Greg Leding	Rep. Justin Gonzales	Rep. Steven Walker
Sen. Kim Hammer	Rep. Rick Beck	Rep. Jeremiah Moore
Sen. Dan Sullivan	Rep. Kenneth B. Ferguson	Rep. RJ Hawk
Sen. Clarke Tucker	Rep. DeAnn Vaught	Rep. Ryan A. Rose
Sen. Bryan King	Rep. Marcus E. Richmond	Rep. Chad Puryear
Sen. Matt McKee	Rep. Fred Allen	Rep. Zack Gramlich
Sen. Clint Penzo	Rep. Frances Cavanaugh	Rep. Stetson Painter
Sen. Jim Petty	Rep. Jimmy Gazaway	Rep. R. Scott Richardson
Sen. Joshua Bryant	Rep. Steve Hollowell	Rep. Nick Burkes
Sen. Steve Crowell	Rep. Roger D. Lynch	
Sen. Matt Stone		
Sen. Tyler Dees		
Sen. John Payton		
Sen. Fredrick J. Love		
Sen. Jim Dotson		
Sen. Brad Simon		

A. Call to Order

B. Reports and Communications

1. ALC-JBC Personnel Subcommittee Report dated October 15, 2026
Senator Dave Wallace or Representative Justin Gonzales

C. Presentation of Budget Requests

Institutions of Higher Education Overview

1. Dr. Ken Warden, Commissioner, Arkansas Division of Higher Education
2. Mr. Nick Fuller, Assistant Director of Finance
3. Mr. Henry Rice, BLR Staff – Summary of Institutions Budget Requests for 2027-2029 Biennium

Note: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on the General Assembly's website at www.arkleg.state.ar.us

Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as 'Members and Staff Only'.

Week/ Page	Appropriati on Page	A-Book Page	Budget Analyst
-----------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

1. Department of Agriculture (9901)

Administration & Shared Services

2 / 469

50

Blake Smith

Wes Ward, Secretary

Beef Council – Operations	472
Corn and Grain Sorghum	474
Catfish Operations	476
Rice Research and Promotion	478
Tariff Rate Quota Cash	480
Arkansas Soybean Board Operations	482
Arkansas Wheat Promotion	484
Department of Agriculture	486

2. Department of Agriculture (0400)

2 / 488

50

Blake Smith

Wes Ward, Secretary

Agri Department Operations	493
Animal Health-Disease Control & Eradication Program	496
Animal Health-Egg Grading Program	498
Agri Laboratory Testing	500
Animal Health-Equine Infect Anemia	502
Animal Health	504
Plant Board-Admin/Pest Control	506
Plant Board-Public Grain Warehouse	508
Plant Board-Pesticide Surveillance	510
Plant Board-Apiary	512
Agri Product Marketing Program	514
Plant Board-Pesticide/Plant Regulatory Program	516
Forestry – Operations – Special	518
Forestry – Rural Community Fire Protection – Federal	520
Forestry – Urban Forestry Services – Federal	522
Forestry – Rural Fire Protection Service Loans	524
Forestry – State Forestry Trust Program	526
Forestry – Southern Pine Beetle Protection	528
Forestry – Forest Legacy	530
Forestry – Silvicultural Non-Point Program	532
AR Foresters for the Future Scholarship Program	534
Agri Scholarship Program	536
Operations – Registered Foresters	538
Operations – Veterinary Medical	540
Plant Board Refund/Transfers	542
Food and Nutrition-Child Nutrition Program-Federal	544
Food and Nutrition-Child Nutrition Program-Conference	546
Food and Nutrition-Hunger Coalition	548
Food and Nutrition-CNP-Commodity-Distribution & Salvage Container – Cash	550

Week/ Page	Appropriati on Page	A-Book Page	Budget Analyst
-----------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

Food and Nutrition-Child Nutrition Program – State	552		
Food and Nutrition- Grants Aid Local School Districts and Special Program	554		
Meat Inspection Program	556		
Federal Hog Eradication	558		
Agri Fair Funding Program	560		
Forestry-Rural Fire Protection Program	562		
Meat Inspection Program – General Revenue	564		
Agriculture Cash Operating Fund	566		
Industrial Hemp Research Program	568		

**3. Department of Agriculture – Arkansas
Natural Resources Commission (0455)**

Wes Ward, Secretary

2 / 578

62

Blake Smith

Beaver Eradication Program	582		
Dam Inventory	584		
Water, Waste Disposal, Pollution Abatement	586		
Natural Resources – Operations	588		
Grants and Attorney Services	590		
Flood Insurance Program	592		
Water/Sewer/Solid Waste – State	594		
Water Quality Implementation	596		
Conservation District Grants	599		
Natural Resources – Cash	601		
Construction Asst Revolving Loan Fund Program	603		
Water Research	605		
Water/Sewer/Solid Waste	607		
NonPoint Source Pollution Control Program	609		
Operations – Soil Classifiers Registration	611		
Alliance Landowner Conservation Practices	613		
Water & Sewer Facilities Grant Program	615		
Feral Swine Eradication and Control	617		
Water Use Program	619		
Conservation Technical Assistance	621		
Unpaved Roads	623		

D. Other Business

E. Adjournment