

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2021, TWENTY-THIRD MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:00 AM

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated Chapter 19, Article 2, Section 18 in due and regular session with open doors.

Commissioner Jeremy Johnson served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Bruce Blair were in attendance.

County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (21-100) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the March 30, 2021 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.

SIGNING OF MOTIONS

The County Clerk presented the following motions for Commissioners' signatures:

Motion 21	96	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the March 23, 2021 minutes
Motion 21	97	To approve the use of the Courthouse lawn and the mitigation plan for the Girard Area Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt on April 3, 2021
Motion 21	98	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:35 AM
Motion 21	99	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Road &

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	Bridge Coordinator Alyssa Edwards and to reconvene by 10:50 AM
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UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: Dr. Tim Stebbins, Crawford County Public Health Director, via Zoom link, regarding the recent changes to the statewide mask order. Dr. Stebbins reviewed the county gating criteria for the last week and the first part of the current week and discussed the current number of infections, people in quarantine and people in the hospital with Covid. Dr. Stebbins stated that the governor's reinstatement of the statewide mask order had been rescinded by the legislative council and that any mask orders would have to be put in place by a county board of public health. Dr. Stebbins discussed the recent legislative changes in statutes that govern the state and local abilities to institute restrictions regarding public health. It was discussed that if the county approves a local mask order they can then have action taken against them in district court if a person or business feels that they have been negatively impacted by the mask order. Commissioner Moody was answered that the number of people being vaccinated in the past couple of weeks has slowed even though we have a good supply of vaccine. Dr. Stebbins stated that some residents have started to relax on their mitigation efforts but he feels that we need to keep being very careful until the end of April to try to get more people protected. Dr. Stebbins left the meeting so that he could attend another meeting to discuss ways to encourage more residents to get their vaccinations.

The commissioners asked County Counselor Jim Emerson to discuss the status of a mask order and what the county can do. Mr. Emerson discussed the recent changes in state law and the statewide mask mandate and felt that the county would be very vulnerable to lawsuits if they approve their own mask order. It was discussed that the potential for lawsuits could be a severe strain on county resources and the resources of district court. The commissioners discussed this issue and decided that the Crawford County Board of Health will strongly recommend that all residents follow Covid-19 mitigation procedures and that they continue to wear masks when in public and safe social distancing is not possible through the end of April.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Sheldon Delange, regarding the condition of county roads. Mr. Delange felt that the grader operator could do more good for the rock roads if they lower the blade a little and really work up the road base a little more when they are working on each of the roads. Commissioner Blair stated that the commissioners and their road foremen had a work session earlier to discuss plans on road work for the summer and they discussed the work of the graders on county roads. Mr. Delange thanked the commissioners for their time and for the job that they do.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

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Item One: Mr. Brad Stroud, Director of Live Well Crawford County, with an update on activities of Live Well. Mr. Stroud stated that Live Well has recently been working on a Pathways grant that allowed them to distribute about \$450,000 in grant funds to several groups in the county that are involved with health initiatives. Mr. Stroud discussed the funds that will pay for sidewalks to help residents get to the North Pittsburg Healthcare District using sidewalks and not needing to walk on the edge of the streets. Mr. Stroud also discussed a recent grant that allowed them to give nearly \$15,000 in food and aid directly to the food pantries in the county. He said that this program is also focused on making sure the food available is healthy. Mr. Stroud discussed the issues and grants that they have been working on and he mentioned several times the great work that Matt O'Malley has done on several of these initiatives. Mr. Stroud asked that each commissioner come up with a person to recommend for their board in the near future. Commissioner Moody asked that Mr. Stroud visit them more often to keep the commissioners up to date on Live Well's projects. The commissioners thanked Mr. Stroud for all of his hard work on the Live Well issues.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Commissioner Blair requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-101) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the Sign Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Mr. Dale Shireman, Sign Department Director and to reconvene by 11:15 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:15 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented the March 2021 Clerk's Report. The commissioners asked that Mr. Pyle postpone this until Friday.

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding the minimum bids on the properties to be sold at the Crawford County Tax Foreclosure Sale to be held on April 7. The commissioners reviewed the minimum bids with the County Counselor.

On motion (21-102) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the minimum bids for the properties to be sold at the Crawford County Tax Foreclosure Sale at 1:00 PM at Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium on April 7, 2021.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

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Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Commissioner Moody mentioned that he would meet with Asphalt Foreman Randy Chiartano and discuss laying the asphalt for the salt storage shed. Mr. Blair asked if Mr. Moody would mention that the commissioners want to see a list of the asphalt projects for the summer.

OLD BUSINESS

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: April 6, 2021 – 11:30 AM - Meeting with Community Health at the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas at 3011 N Michigan St, Pittsburg, KS. All three Commissioners will be in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: April 7, 2021 – Crawford County Tax Foreclosure Sale at 1:00 PM at Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium. Information is available online at www.crawfordcountykansas.org.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the [April 6, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 10:37 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed my official seal and submitted these minutes for the approval of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners.

Don Pyle

County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

Taken by [BKW 4/6/2021](#)