

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, **SIXTY-EIGHTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, August 28, 2020 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.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance.

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

Vice-Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (20-351) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **August 25, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the August 26, 2020 minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, and
3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.

SIGNING OF MOTIONS

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

Motion 20	347	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 21, 2020 minutes
Motion 20	348	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship to discuss landfill negotiations and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Attorney Mr. Pete Peterson via phone call and to reconvene by 10:45 AM
Motion 20	349	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss IT updates under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners,

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		County Counselor Jim Emerson, IT Director Mr. Jim Vinze and IT Specialist Mr. Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 10:55 AM
Motion 20	350	to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Health Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:06 AM

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean and County Health Dept. Director Ms. Rebecca Adamson addressed the Commissioners with a COVID-19 update. Deputy County Health Officer Linda Bean stated that Crawford County currently has 160 cases in isolation and this is increasing and 550 individuals in quarantine. She said that PSU currently has 85 in isolation and that all of the cases from PSU are not reflected in the county numbers on the KDHE website since KDHE includes them in the numbers for their home county. Dr. Bean stated that these new cases have not impacted the county health care capacity and there is still a lot of available health care and testing capacity. She reported on grades K thru 12 and stated that there are 2 students positive from different schools and 2 staff members positive from different schools. She explained that there are cases in quarantine but she does not have an exact number and most of these quarantines are from outside contacts and not from exposure within the schools but there are a few school contacts. She stated that they are not that concerned with the number of quarantines in K-12 but they are more concerned with cases resulting from positives within the school. She stated that she would say the current situation has a moderate impact on the community and a low impact on the school districts. Dr. Bean stated that she, Dr. Stebbins and Ms. Adamson all felt that the order should be enacted to help contain the current rise in cases before it has a chance to spread much more. Ms. Adamson stated that in the investigation of these new cases there are many more contacts to trace and many potential contacts that the patients do not know. Dr. Bean reviewed the order and explained many of the sections of the order. The Commissioners had a few questions that were answered by Dr. Bean and Ms. Adamson. It was discussed that the Governor's order for masks was still in effect and that the county health still hopes to work with individual businesses on their mitigation plans. The Commissioners asked the audience to present any questions they had.

Mr. Zander Grift stated that the health officers had discussed the potential for the virus to spread and he wanted to discuss some facts that have played out elsewhere. Mr. Grift was concerned that too many restrictions will force some businesses to close which will end up hurting the local economy even more. No one else from the audience commented.

The Commissioners discussed that this order is intended to help people stay well and to keep businesses open. Ms. Adamson stated that the health department has been in touch with some businesses that told them if they had many more employees that were in isolation or quarantine, they would not be able to continue operations. Dr. Bean stated

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that these restrictions are being recommended to keep the potential effects from coming to fruition. Mr. Michael Ehling, Health Dept. Administrator, stated that he hopes local businesses will engage the health dept. in developing and reviewing their strategies for keeping customers safe. Dr. Shawn Naccarato, PSU Chief Strategy Officer, stated that PSU and the Recovery Task Force wanted to let them know that the task force and the university are fully in support of this order and thanked the health officers and the Commissioners for their leadership on this issue. Commissioner Moody had some questions about the seating of patrons and the restrictions on hours for businesses which were answered. Dr. Bean mentioned the importance of personal responsibility in helping to control this virus. The health officers stated that this order can be reevaluated at any time as the numbers and the situation changes. Commissioner Moody was answered that the order language on masks is only for the businesses mentioned and that the governor's order on masks and the recommendations to schools are still in place. There was also a conversation on the enforcement of the order and Sheriff Smith stated that he would get together with city law enforcement personnel and the county attorney to discuss and develop a consistent strategy for enforcement. Dr. Jill Saia-Pile wanted to know how the fines were to be assessed and was that law enforcement would assess those fines. Mr. Zander Grift commented on the mask rules and asked for some clarification on how the dance floor rules could be applied to dancers on stage at a gentlemen's club.

On motion (20-352) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve Local Health Officer Order No. 2 to go into effect at noon on August 28, 2020 and authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners wanted to take a short recess before continuing the meeting.

On motion (20-353) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to take a 5 minute recess.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

Item One: Public hearing on the Crawford County FY 2021 budget.

On motion (20-354) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to open the public hearing on the **Crawford County** FY 2021 budget.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The following appeared in favor of the budget: None

The following appeared in opposition to the budget: None

On motion (20-355) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to close the public hearing on the **Crawford County** FY 2021 budget.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

County Clerk Don Pyle distributed copies of the Crawford County 2020 Budget to the Commissioners and commented that the published budget did lower the mill levy slightly. Commissioner Moody mentioned that the county mill levy has been lowered each of the last four years.

On motion (20-356) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adopt the FY 2021 **Crawford County** Budget as published.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Brittan Brenner, City of Pittsburg Community Development Specialist discussing the 2020 Census. Ms. Brenner stated that there are fewer than 40 days to complete the census and the response has been fairly low and they think it is at least partly due to COVID-19. Ms. Brenner wanted to ask the Commissioners if she could send out materials to residents of the county outside of Pittsburg. There was a discussion of the programs that have their local funding affected by the census count and that it also provides information that determines our representation in federal and state government. Ms. Brenner discussed some of the ways she is putting census information out to the public and was looking for any additional suggestions. Mr. Jay Byers, Pittsburg Assistant City Manager, stated that he is concerned that if we don't have additional responses, the area could show no population growth or show a loss in population. There was a discussion of some other local media outlets that could be used to spread this message. The Commissioners suggested that Ms. Brenner work with Ms. Samantha Garrett, Crawford County Public Information Officer, to discuss other ways to get this material out to other residents.

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

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MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson asked that the Commissioners approve a new VISA purchasing card for County Attorney Reina Probert and cancel the old card for the former county attorney.

On motion (20-357) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve a county credit card with a credit limit of \$2,500 for County Attorney Reina Probert.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding the funds the county will receive from KDOT to repay the county for the work on the relocation of Sewer District #3 sewer lines. Mr. Emerson stated that KDOT is sending this money to the county and it will need to be placed in an account for future use and that he and the County Treasurer felt that it would be good to place these funds in the Road & Bridge Equipment Fund.

On motion (20-358) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the transfer of the funds received from KDOT from the Special Bridge Fund to the Road & Bridge Equipment Reserve Fund.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: County Counselor Jim Emerson presented a Physician Consultant Services Contract between Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Inc. and the County Commission of Crawford County, Kansas. Mr. Emerson that this agreement would be for 3 months with the ability to renew it at that time.

On motion (20-359) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve the Physician Consultant Services Contract between Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Inc. and the County Commission of Crawford County, Kansas and authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

OLD BUSINESS:

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Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding the proposal for human resources services from the Arnold Group. Mr. Emerson stated that this proposal covered the services that were discussed in a Zoom meeting with the Arnold Group. Commissioner Johnson wanted to be sure that this was set up in the manner that was discussed earlier with some services on performance reviews and then other services later.

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding the proposals that Mr. Tim Mikrut had received from local auto dealers for a new vehicle. Mr. Emerson stated that he had a proposal from NRoute Emergency Vehicle Outfitters and that the proposals from the local dealers were more expensive.

On motion (20-360) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Proposal for a 2019 Chevrolet Tahoe in the amount of \$37,179 from NRoute Emergency Vehicle Outfitters.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Commissioner Johnson asked if Mr. Mike Bodensteiner from Greenbush wanted to give an update on the SPARK Funding. Mr. Bodensteiner stated that there are more funds being applied for that are available and he gave them some ideas for ways to get those amounts to agree. It was decided that this will be discussed again, but he wanted to give the Commissioners some ideas on possible ways to reconcile those amounts. They decided to have a work session at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (20-361) of Commissioner Johnson 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 Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:05 PM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:50 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:03 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: September 1, 2020 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on Crawford County Fire District #1, #2, #3 & #4 2021 Budgets.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: The Courthouse in Girard is open to the public from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM until further notice. The Motor Vehicle office at the Judicial Center in Pittsburg will remain closed but residents may use the drop box at the Security Desk at the Judicial Center for motor vehicle and tax payments to be processed at the courthouse.

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 [August 28, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:04 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

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 8/28/2020 12:04 PM/amended DPP 8/31/2020 3:30 PM](#)