

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2016, NINTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS Friday, February 5, 2016, 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 Carl Wood served as the presiding officer. Commissioner Jeff Murphy was in attendance. County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board. Vice-Chairman Wood led the pledge of allegiance.

### UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

**On motion (16-051)** of Commissioner Murphy and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the February 2, 2016 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the February 2, 2016 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers, and
3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.**

### SIGNING OF MOTIONS

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

Motion 16	42	To approve 49 Provisional Ballots for counting and 4 ballots to clarify the voter intent from the 2016 USD 250 Mail Ballot Special Question Election held on January 28, 2016 in Crawford County as recommended by the Crawford County Election Officer
Motion 16	43	To accept the Official Results Report for the 2016 USD 250 Mail Ballot Special Question Election held on January 28, 2016, as presented by the County Election Officer and adjourn the canvass

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Motion 16	44	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the January 29, 2015 minutes
Motion 16	45	To approve the Crawford County Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan for 2016 as presented by Crawford County Noxious Weed Director Ed Fields
Motion 16	46	To approve the 2015 Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report as presented by Crawford County Noxious Weed Director Ed Fields
Motion 16	47	To approve the 2016 Special Alcohol Funds Distribution with \$23,500 awarded to Crawford County Mental Health and \$6,500 awarded to Crisis Resource Center
Motion 16	48	To approve the 2016 Special Parks and Recreation Funds Distribution as discussed
Motion 16	49	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson
Motion 16	50	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, Robert Gorentz, Project Manager and County Counselor Jim Emerson

### UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

#### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

#### MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

**Item One:** Brian Coomes, PEC Engineers, regarding the High Risk Rural Roads Grant Application. Mr. Coomes presented the Commissioners with some information on the grant application and stated that in discussions with the KDOT project manager it was revealed that this work is not allowed to be funded at 100% but would be funded at 90% for grant funds and 10% county match funds. Mr. Coomes then discussed the awards for construction work on some rural roads in the county. Mr. Coomes stated that KDOT has hired one consultant statewide to perform all of the Local Road Safety Plans and that he feels that this will benefit the county since all of the plans will be uniform. It was discussed that this program is scheduled for the construction to be performed in the 2018 federal fiscal year and this will plenty of time to obtain bids and plan the work. Ms. Liz Hart, Road & Bridge Director, discussed that she will coordinate with KDOT to make sure that the county meets their deadlines. Commissioner Wood had some questions about the work schedule and the window for the county to get the brush clearing done. There was a discussion of the mile of road that is share with the City of Pittsburg and that the county will perform the work covered by the grant but that the City of Pittsburg will need to help pay for the overlay that is required at the end of the grant work. It was discussed that Randy Chiartano will communicate with the City of Pittsburg about this project and the overlay work that will be performed at the end.

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**Item Two:** Mr. Brian Coomes, PEC Engineering, and Robert Gorentz, County Projects Manager, regarding the process for developing plans for the replacement of the boiler system in the courthouse. Mr. Coomes stated that in his discussions with their Mechanical Engineering Division it was felt that it would be very difficult to expedite this process in order to be able to replace this system before the end of this heating system. There was a discussion of the steps that would be involved in the design and bidding process for this project. Mr. Coomes stated that PEC would prepare a proposal for the county to consider that would estimate the costs to prepare a design with drawings and specifications so that the project can be sent out to contractors for bids and that there would be no cost for the proposal. Commissioner Murphy felt that engaging an engineer to design the system would provide more assurance and protection for the county. It was discussed that it would be good to see a proposal from PEC and it was felt that the boiler that is in place would remain in operation through the end of this heating season. The Commissioners asked Mr. Coomes to have PEC send them a proposal soon.

### **MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS PROCLAMATIONS AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD NEW BUSINESS**

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding an agreement for an improved railroad crossing on Free King's Highway at the KAMO Grain location. Mr. Emerson stated that this improvement would include gates to stop traffic when a train is crossing or approaching and that this all done with federal transportation funds.

**On motion (16-052)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to approve the agreement between Crawford County, Kansas, the South Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad Company and the Secretary of Transportation for the State of Kansas for Project No. 19 X-2937-01 that includes improvements to a railroad crossing on North Free Kings Highway in Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding a proposal from KDOT for Crawford County to work with them on issues that will impact the construction on Highway 69 from 680<sup>th</sup> Street North to the Bourbon County Line. It was discussed that KDOT will not close this road down at anytime for this project and that there will always be two lanes open for traffic. It was also discussed that this project will still keep all intersections open on the highway and that KDOT wants the county to make sure that any proposed development on this corridor will not conflict with this project or the proposed improvements yet to come.

**On motion (16-053)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to approve an agreement between Michael S. King, Secretary of Transportation, Kansas Dept. of Transportation and Crawford County, Kansas, for Project No. 69-19 KA-1554-

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02 NHPP-A155(402) for the construction of an expressway on Highway 69 from 680<sup>th</sup> Street in Crawford County, Kansas to the Bourbon County Line.

Yeas: Commissioners Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Three:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding a proposal from KDOT for the construction of the Arma Expressway from 680<sup>th</sup> Street in Crawford County south to the Highway 47 Junction. It was discussed that with both of these projects this would make a 4 lane road from Kansas City all the way south to Pittsburg on Highway 69.

**On motion (16-054)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to approve an agreement between Michael S. King, Secretary of Transportation, Kansas Dept. of Transportation and Crawford County, Kansas, for Project No. 69-19 KA-1554-03 NHPP-A155(403) for the construction of an expressway on Highway 69 from 680<sup>th</sup> Street South to Highway 47 in Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Four:** Commissioner Jeff Murphy regarding the possibility of working with the City of Girard on an agreement to allow the county to use one of their bucket trucks. Girard City Administrator Chris Wiener stated that the City of Girard has 3 bucket trucks and that the third truck is kept as a spare and is hardly ever used. Mr. Wiener stated that the city would be willing to enter into an agreement with the county to loan this truck to them with the understanding that it would be returned in the same condition as it was loaned and that any damages due to use by the county would be repaired. Commissioner Murphy felt that this could work but Commissioner Wood was a little concerned about county employees operating this equipment. Mr. Wood would prefer that city employees operate their own equipment but it was discussed that the City of Girard is short-handed at this time and could not supply an operator. It was discussed that there is enough of this work to do that the county may want to look at a lease for this type of equipment. It was discussed that the brush would be burned in a brush pile.

Commissioner Murphy asked Mr. Wiener if he had an update on the property tax lid issue. There was a brief discussion of this issue in the state legislature. There is a lot of concern that this lid will hinder local government's ability to levy enough taxes to fund their government operations. There was discussion of another bill that would prohibit entities from advocating for any questions that might be placed on a ballot. There was also a discussion of some possible changes to the exemptions on the property tax lid.

**Item Five:** Commissioner Murphy regarding the 911 funds that the county receives and how they are spent. Mr. Murphy stated that he had a discussion with some people from the smaller rural fire departments and that they cannot get pagers and radios through

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those 911 funds anymore. Mr. Eldon Bedene stated that the state has begun to limit the uses of the 911 funds and that radios and pagers are not allowed to be purchased with those funds. There was a discussion of the ability of those departments to receive radio communications and that it needs to be determined if it is a lack of towers and repeaters or if it is a problem with the radios that is causing these communications problems. Mr. Wood felt that the county needs to hire someone to work on and evaluate the radios and communications for emergency services in the county. There was a discussion of how the towers and repeaters work together in the county and that it would be good to have a review of the emergency communications systems in the county. Mr. Bedene felt that the commissioners should discuss this with the Sheriff and the 911 Committee.

### UNDER THE HEADING OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** County Clerk Don Pyle regarding the Crawford County Special Alcohol Fund Distributions for 2016. Mr. Pyle stated that the motion that approved the distributions for this year contained amounts that will cause that fund to go over budget for the year and he would request the Commissioners to approve new amounts that will correspond with the amount budgeted for this fund. Mr. Pyle explained that he had not provided the Commissioners with the sheet that shows the actual amounts available for 2016 and they had used the amounts requested which totaled \$30,000 for the year while the amount budgeted was only \$23,500.

**On motion (16-055)** of Commissioner Murphy and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the distribution of Crawford County Special Alcohol Funds for 2016 with Crisis Resource Center of Southeast Kansas to receive \$5,197 and Community Mental Health Center of Crawford County to receive \$18,303 and to Rescind Motion 16-047.  
Yeas: Commissioners Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** County Clerk Don Pyle presenting the January 2016 Clerk's Report. Mr. Pyle stated that it summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and other bills during the month of January. Mr. Pyle also gave the Commissioners a copy of the December 2015 to January 2016 Clerk's Report of Changes in Expenditures for comparison. Mr. Pyle reviewed the changes with the Commissioners and discussed some of the reasons for the changes. The Commissioners wanted to wait until Commissioner Moody returns so that all of them can review this report. There was a discussion of the Risk Management Fund and that it might need to have funds transferred into it.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Murphy showed Commissioner Wood a flashlight that the maintenance department uses and they discussed its use for Road & Bridge.

**Item Four:** Commissioner Wood mentioned that he and Jim Emerson had a good meeting with the Occupational Health Department at Via Christi Hospital. Mr. Wood stated that they discussed some programs that he thinks will work well for the county.

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### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** Commissioner Wood asked for an executive session to discuss personnel issues that involve non-elected personnel.

**On motion (16-056)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, Emergency Management Director Eldon Bedene and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:48 **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 FUTURE BUSINESS:

**Item One: February 9, 2016** – Mr. Ron Albertini, County Surveyor with progress report.

**Item Two: February 9, 2016** – Tim Mikrut & Debra Anthony representing the Wellness Committee.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Item One: February 9, 2016 – 1:00 PM** Back to Work meeting with Jim Harms, EMC Insurance, in the Courthouse.

### UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

**Item One:** Adjournment

**On the motion** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the **February 5, 2016** meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:03 **PM** and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

**The motion prevailed.**

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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.

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**Don Pyle**  
County Clerk

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**This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.**  
Taken by DPP 02/05/2016 at 12:03 PM, Amended by DPP 02/08/2016, at 1:20 PM/amended BKW 02/08/2016 1:38 PM