

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2021, FORTY-SEVENTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, Friday, July 2, 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 (21-199) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **June 29, 2021** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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:

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| Motion 21 | 195 | That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the June 25, 2021 minutes |
| Motion 21 | 196 | To approve the reappointment of Mike Wolownik as delegate for the 2 nd Commission District to the SEK CTEC Board of Directors and authorize the Chairman to sign |
| Motion 21 | 197 | 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 the landfill contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:38 AM |

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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| Motion 21 | 198 | 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 and Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:52 AM |
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UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: Crawford County Health Officer Dr. Tim Stebbins addressed the Commissioners with an update on COVID-19. He gave a report on the new cases for the week and Commissioner Moody was answered that 80% to 90% of the new cases nationally are unvaccinated individuals and that collates well in Crawford County. He reported that currently there are 5 positive cases in the hospital with 2 on ventilators and those are all unvaccinated cases. He explained that there have been 2 positive cases in the hospital in the last few weeks that were vaccinated but had minimal illness and if those cases would not have had comorbidities or age issues they would not have been hospitalized. Dr. Stebbins stated that the vaccine is very effective with the current strain of the virus. He went through the Crawford County Gating Criteria updated Friday, July 2, 2021. He discussed spikes in cases and holiday periods. He also discussed a Celebrating Safely Video that was developed by the Crawford County Health Department in association with the Community Health Centers of SEK and presented the Commissioners with the transcript from the video. Health Director Ms. Teddi Van Kam addressed vaccinations and the number of doses given this week. She gave the statistics on the total number of vaccinations given and the age groups involved. Dr. Stebbins discussed the variants of the virus. Mr. Van Kam stated that the Health Department will be at the Crawford County Fair to offer vaccinations and testing. Executive Administrator Michael Ehling addressed a response of support for the staff at the hospital.

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Ms. Lissa Rhodes addressed the Commissioners and stated that Arma has been working with KDOT on safety issues on the intersection on 69 Highway at the Dollar General Store. She also discussed the accidents that have occurred on Highway 69 north of Arma to the Bourbon County line. She requested billboards on the highway in different locations along the highway to bring awareness to the drivers. She discussed the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Crawford County Sheriff's Department patrolling that stretch of 69 Highway. County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that the billboard issue will need to be discussed with KDOT. Sheriff Smith stated that they have had over 500 traffic stops in that area since October. He discussed designated traffic officers and receiving money from KDOT for the officers to work overtime just for traffic stops.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Mr. Michael Ehling requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

On motion (21-200) 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 20 minutes to discuss County Health Personnel under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Dr. Tim Stebbins, Ms. Teddi Van Kam, Ms. Heidi Moody and Mr. Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 10:53 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 10:33 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:53 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH cont.

Item Two: Mr. Ehling addressed the Commissioners and stated that Dr. Linda Bean will no longer be the Deputy County Health Officer and his recommendation is that Dr. Stebbins be retained on a reduced basis as a medical officer and consulting health officer and Ms. Teddi Van Kam be the Health Officer and Health Director. He explained what Dr. Stebbins' role will be.

On motion (21-201) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve appointing Dr. Tim Stebbins as medical officer and consulting health officer on a reduced time basis and appointing Ms. Teddi Van Kam as the Crawford County Health Officer and Health Director as recommended by Executive Administrator Mr. Michael Ehling.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Item Two: Commissioner Tom Moody requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-202) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss Road & Bridge personnel under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Asphalt Foreman Randy Chiartano and to reconvene by 11:15 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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.

**MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS
MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS
NEW BUSINESS**

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented a Tax Roll Correction, correcting an error in the assessing of Real Estate owned by Mid-America Properties of Pittsburg LLC and to request an abatement from the 2018 and 2019 tax rolls. Mr. Pyle stated that a BTA exemption was granted on this property in the name of Life Changers Church from 2014 and forward as long as the property remained a church but was put back on the tax rolls in 2018 in error when the change in property ownership took place.

On motion (21-203) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Tax Roll Correction, correcting an error in the assessing of Real Estate owned by Mid-America Properties of Pittsburg LLC and to abate the amount of \$12,011.56 from the 2018 tax rolls and the amount of \$12,080.28 from the 2019 tax rolls and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: County Clerk Don Pyle presented the June 2021 Clerk's Report. Mr. Pyle stated that this report summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and bills during the month of June. Mr. Pyle also gave the Commissioners a copy of the May 2021 to June 2021 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 in expenditures.

On motion (21-204) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the June 2021 Clerk's Report as presented.

On a Roll Call Vote.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Mr. Pyle handed out a request he received from the City of Cherokee for assistance with a sewer project for a new store that Pete's Corporation will be building. Commissioner Blair stated that this is a request for funds from the American Rescue Act.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Mr. Emerson stated that final guidance has not yet been received for these funds. The Commissioners will readdress this issue when more information is received.

Item Four: Commissioner Blair discussed the asphalt project on Highway 7 and discussed the collaborative efforts between the city and county employees.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Pyle spoke about the 2022 County Budget and possibly having another work session to discuss the budget with the Commissioners. The Commissioners scheduled a work session on July 9, 2011 immediately after the regular session to address the 2022 County Budget.

Item Two: Commissioner Blair addressed Resolution # 2021-007 on extended hours of Sunday sales for Cereal Malt Beverages.

Item Three: Commissioner Blair addressed the bids on some of the Sewer Districts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Item Three: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client relationship.

On motion (21-205) 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 items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss the landfill contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:53 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 11:38 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:51 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: July 9, 2021 – 9:00 AM Work Session with Blue Cross & Blue Shield Representative Cristy Mitchell to discuss health insurance review.

Item Two: July 9, 2021 – Work Session on 2022 County Budget immediately after the Regular Session.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Three: July 13, 2021 – 9:00 AM Work Session with Ryan Insurance to discuss work comp, property and casualty claims.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: July 5, 2021 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Independence Day Holiday.

Item Two: July 6, 2021 – The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled due to the Independence Day Holiday on Monday.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to adjourn the [July 2, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:53 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 7/02/2021 11:53 AM/amended BKW 7/8/2021 12:30 PM](#)