

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2023, [SEVENTY-FOURTH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, October 3, 2023 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 Bruce Blair served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**On motion (23-421)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **September 29, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

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 23	405	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the September 26, 2023 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners and, Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 23	406	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2024 Crawford County Budget and the Crawford County FY2024 Budget
Motion 23	407	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2024 Crawford County Budget and the Crawford County FY2024 Budget

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 23	408	To adopt Resolution #2023-019, A Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for the Crawford County FY2024 Budget and to approve the Crawford County FY2024 Budget
Motion 23	409	To approve the Crawford County FY2024 Budget
Motion 23	410	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2024 Crawford County Fire Districts No. 1 & 2 Budgets and the Crawford County Fire District #1, #2, #3 & #4 FY2024 Budgets and FY2024 Special District Budgets
Motion 23	411	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2024 Crawford County Fire Districts No. 1 & 2 Budgets and the Crawford County Fire District #1, #2, #3 & #4 FY2024 Budgets and FY2024 Special District Budgets
Motion 23	412	To adopt Resolution #2023-020, A Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for the Crawford County Fire District #1 2024 Budget
Motion 23	413	To adopt Resolution #2023-021, A Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for the Crawford County Fire District #2 2024 Budget
Motion 23	414	To approve the Crawford County Fire District #1, #2, #3 & #4 FY2024 Budgets and FY2024 Special District Budgets
Motion 23	415	To approve the Letter of Support for General Public Transportation to SEK-CAP, Inc
Motion 23	416	To approve the Kansas Department of Transportation Bureau of Local Projects Project Programming Request for a Crawford County Bridge #35 near Walnut, Kansas
Motion 23	417	To approve the hiring of Ms. Candace Gayoso as Juvenile Court Attorney
Motion 23	418	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss employees and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:55 AM
Motion 23	419	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 ATC contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:10 AM
Motion 23	420	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 Commission and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:18 AM

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

### PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

### MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

### MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

### MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

### NEW BUSINESS

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-422)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair 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 to discuss the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Health Department Director Debra Anthony, and to reconvene by 10:22 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:07 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:20 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

## NEW BUSINESS

**Item One:** County Clerk Lisa Lusker presented the September 2023 Clerk's Report. She stated that this report summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and bills during the month of September. Ms. Lusker also gave the Commissioners a copy of the August 2023 to September 2023 Clerk's Report of Changes in Expenditures for comparison.

**On motion (23-423)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the September 2023 Clerk's Report as presented.

**On a Roll Call Vote.**

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** Mr. Emerson presented the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG FFY2022) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$8,081.00. He stated that this is the first

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

drawdown for the new grant cycle and is for the months of July, August, and September 2023.

**On motion (23-424)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG FFY2022) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$8,081.00 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Three:** Commissioner Blair mentioned that Girard Homecoming is this coming up weekend and that in the past someone has always managed the county cars so that they were not located on the square at that time. He asked Mr. Emerson if he knows who typically takes care of this and it was answered he does not. They discussed that it may be mostly the Appraiser's office and Zoning office vehicles.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** Mr. Emerson wanted to remind the Commission that Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 8:30 AM Memorial Auditorium will be hosting the State of the City Mayor's Breakfast and they will need to RSVP by tomorrow October 4, 2023. He mentioned the event is free but they do ask for an RSVP. Commissioner Blair asked to be marked down and Commissioner Moody said he may be able to attend as well.

**Item Two:** Mr. Emerson mentioned on Friday September 29, 2023 that Mr. Robert Gorentz, Commissioner Wood, and himself reviewed the fence proposals. There were two proposals which included one from Jones Construction for \$6,690 and one from Tri-State Building and Supply Co for \$9,808. He stated they are recommending the low bid from Jones Construction. Commissioner Moody asked if they had compared the fencing details between both parties and if they were the same and Mr. Emerson stated that they were.

**On motion (23-425)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the low bid for fencing at the Road & Bridge District #3 Building from Jones Construction in the amount of \$6,690.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Three:** Mr. Emerson stated the opening of bids for the Health Department remodel and construction was about two months ago now. He stated they have been working with the low bidder who was Tri-State Building and Supply Co to review the proposal and try to lower the cost and they stated it has been successful. Mr. Emerson provided the new

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

total project cost which is \$395,170.00 and that they have paid through a preconstruction contract \$4,699.00 which brings the remaining total of the project to \$390,471.00.

**On motion (23-426)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the revised proposal for the Health Department Remodel Project from Tri-State Building and Supply Co and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Four:** Mr. Emerson discussed the project within the RJA building that involved some plumbing within the center of the building. He mentioned they had thought it would be a bigger project than they had realized in the beginning and that has been proven true. They have a proposal for plumbing and subcontracts as well due to the amount of work that needs to be done. He stated he thinks it will cost them between \$39,000 and \$40,000 by the time it is finished. Mr. Emerson said recommends following through with this project due to the upgrades that have been done previously and how nice the building is, and these problems stemmed from an old septic tank.

**On motion (23-427)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the quote from Richard Gilmore Plumbing for the RJA Building and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Five:** Mr. Emerson stated they had discussed the Kansas Department of Transportation Project Programming Request the previous Friday. He stated they had approved the program request for Bridge #35 near Walnut but had not approved the engineering contract with Cook, Flatt, and Strobel. He mentioned their estimate was \$75,000 and their final contract price is \$68,400. Mr. Emerson explained this is just the bridge work and that the State of Kansas will bid out inspection. He explained to Commissioner Wood that all they are approving at this time is design because State of Kansas bids out the inspection.

**On motion (23-428)** of Commissioner Moody and second of Commissioner Wood to approve the Agreement between Cook, Flatt, and Strobel Engineers, P.A. and Crawford County Kansas for engineering services for the bridge replacement of County Bridge No. 35.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION continued**

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-429)** 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 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss county policies and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, and to reconvene by 10:58 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:38 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:50 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Three:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-430)** 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 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss the Appraiser's Office and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and County Appraiser Zach Edwards, and to reconvene by 11:10 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:50 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:00 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Four:** Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

**On motion (23-431)** of Commissioner Wood 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 legal advice and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, and to reconvene by 11:15 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:12 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

### UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FUTURE BUSINESS:

**Item One: October 6, 2023-** Ms. Becky Gray, Community Health Center of SEK addressing transportation.

**Item Two: October 10, 2023- 9:00 AM** Work Session with Mr. Mike Bodensteiner with ARPA update.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Item One: October 6, 2023-** Manufacturing Day open house at Hicks Corporation from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. More than one Commissioner may be present.

**Item Two: October 9, 2023-** The Courthouse will be closed in observance of Columbus Day.

**Item Three: October 11, 2023-** Mayor's Breakfast at Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium at 8:30 AM. More than one Commissioner may be present.

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

**Item One:** Adjournment

**On the motion** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adjourn the [October 3, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:14 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

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.**

---

**Lisa Lusker**  
County Clerk

◇

**This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.**

[Taken 10/04/2023 RJA 11:30 AM/amended BKW 10/4/23 12:36 PM](#)