

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2016, SEVENTIETH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS Tuesday, September 20, 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 Tom Moody served as the presiding officer. Commissioners Carl Wood and Jeff Murphy were in attendance. County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board. Chairman Moody led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (16-333) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **September 16, 2016** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy 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 16	328	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the September 13, 2016 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners and Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 567851 to 568100 dated September 15, 2016 in the total amount of \$380,689.11
Motion 16	329	To approve a Crawford County Credit card through Girard National Bank with a credit limit of \$2,500 for the Appraiser's Office
Motion 16	330	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Jason VanBecelaere

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Motion 16	331	To appoint Mr. Jason VanBecelaere as Crawford County Emergency Management Director
Motion 16	332	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

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM THE COUNTY LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Mac Young, Community Corrections Administrative Director presenting the Community Corrections Fiscal 2016 Outcomes Report. The report is an overview of the goals and objectives for year 2016. Mr. Young outlined the success rate of offenders which had increased 4% for this year over the previous year as well as the unemployment rate. Commissioner Wood inquired about how the facility approaches encouraging offenders to seek education upon release as well as the possibility of incarcerating those who do not. Mr. Young advised that this is not something that can be forced onto offenders but explained some of the education directives they provide them. He continued to explain the age demographics of offenders and the lower than average unemployment rate of offenders, 22%. Commissioner Wood inquired on the prevalence of potential employers of offenders. Mr. Young advised that there are some and that they staff workforce development trainers. He continued that some can get tax breaks for hiring convicted felons.

Commissioner Murphy brought up a previous discussion about drug courts and asked the Director of his perspective on this topic. Mr. Young advised that Retired Judge Noland started the process of implementing a drug court but that the main obstacle is funding. Commissioner Wood spoke about senate bill 123 and that similar comments had been made with regard to funding to get programs like this to work. Mr. Young expounded on the aforementioned senate bill stating that it is for substance abuse offenders and that the funds are available each year for this program, however drug court is a different concept. Commissioner Murphy inquired about the possibility of these funds to be used for supporting a drug court program. Mr. Young advised that it may be possible but would be limited. Commissioner Murphy advised that it would be better that money on counseling is better spent to make offenders productive versus incarceration. Commissioner Moody inquired on the statistics of the success of drug court. Mr. Young advised that he has spoken to the 31st Judicial District but they cannot provide success rates regarding their drug court which is in its second year of operation. Commissioner Murphy advised that the court in Salina had a 90% success rate. Mr. Young expounded on ways districts have supported the success of their respective drug courts.

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On motion (16-334) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the Kansas Department of Corrections Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan Quarterly and Year End Outcome Report and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Commissioner Murphy discussed the needed maintenance and striping of the Corrections facility parking lot. Commissioner Moody will get with Randy Chiartano to visit the parking lot to see what it needs. Mr. Young also advised he will get another bid on fixing the flooring at the facility. Commissioner Wood asked about the possibility of using fees to support building maintenance. Counselor Emerson advised that it is very limited on what they can impose as fees currently and that the county is responsible for the facilitating it's operation, that it would take a possible legislative act to add in fees for this purpose.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Eldone Bedene, Emergency Manager, discussing the Emergency Manager Performance Grant for 2016 for the amount of \$28,047. The funds have not been disbursed yet and won't be, likely, until the end of the year. Mr. Bedene detailed what these funds can and cannot be used for. He continued to discuss the timeline of when these funds will be distributed and how the department meets the requirements to qualify for the grant.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD NEW BUSINESS

Item One: Counselor Emerson advised that Angie Hadley sent a reappointment to the RJA board that needed Commissioner action. The reappointment request is for Jon Bishop, Pittsburg High School Principal for an additional three year term.

On motion (16-335) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the request for reappointment of Jon Bishop for an additional three year term.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Commissioner Emerson would like the Commission to address several checks that have not been allocated yet. One includes a dividend check for \$18,000. The Commission advised to appropriate it to risk management. Another check for \$5,000 was for a grader rental. Commissioner Wood advised that this was paid out of a different account from the Road and Bridge Department so the Commission advised to put these

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funds back into the respective account to offset that payment. Another check for the construction of buildings and roof for \$168,000 was also presented. The Commission advised to hold the check pending further discussion and decision.

Item Three: Commissioner Murphy advised that he attended an Active Transportation Advisory Board meeting the previous evening and how the meeting went. There was good representation from the cities and they discussed trails for walking and biking that will be built. He advised the top priority will be the Pittsburg-to-Cherokee, Watco trail. The next priority would be a trail from Girard to Farlington Lake.

Item Four: Commissioner Murphy brought up county dump trucks and what will be required to move forward with purchasing trucks. Commissioner Moody spoke with Payne's towing about the matter and will get with them again to discuss finding used dump trucks for the county. Commissioner Wood discussed with the Commission on how to approach bids to acquire dump trucks to avoid too much solicitation by dealers.

Item Five: Commissioner Murphy also discussed the possibility of putting articles up on the county website. He presented suggestions from Brandon Spaur from the IT department on how to approach getting and approving articles to put on website. The Commission would like the articles to be screened by Counselor Emerson before they are posted. Commissioner Murphy also brought up the possibility of starting a Facebook page for the county. Commissioner Moody opposed this suggestion because of the possibility for negative commentary.

Item Six: Commissioner Moody discussed the new paving district in Deer Creek Acres and inquired with Counselor Emerson about prepping road maintenance in this district, which Counselor Emerson consented to.

UNDER THE HEADING OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Commission discussed during the signing of the motions about the concern for the credentials for Jason VanBecelaere, the new Emergency Management Director. Commissioner Wood inquired on how this new Emergency Management Director will act in this role without the appropriate credentials. Departing Emergency Management Director Eldon Bedene advised that the new Director has a period of time after their hire to get the appropriate credential. Mr. Bedene also advised that he would act as an Assistant Director in the interim. The Commission is requesting to schedule a work session on Friday with Mr. Bedene and Mr. VanBecelaere to determine how to approach this situation. The Commission will rescind Motion 16-331 until they approach the matter in the work session.

On motion (16-336) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to rescind Motion 16-331.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

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Item Two: County Clerk Don Pyle made some announcements regarding the upcoming General Election. He advised that voter registration will close on October 18 and that early voting and advance voting mailings will start on October 19. He also announced that there will be advanced voting locations from October 26th through the 30th at the Homer Cole Center and Meadowbrook Mall from the hours of 11am to 7pm except that Sunday, October 30th, which will be noon to 5pm. The County Clerk's Office will be open for early voting from October 19th through November 7th by noon.

Item Three: Commissioner Murphy discussed a tax abatement policy targeted for economic development and if the policy is something the Commission would adopt. Counselor Emerson recommended that there be a policy concerning tax abatements and that the template presented was one that several different counties use as well as cities such as Pittsburg. Commissioner Wood had questions about the proportions of exempted years and amounts businesses need to invest to get the abatements as well as how these categories can be changed. The Commission also discussed what conflicts could arise from not having the charted guidelines as well as having different categories than the cities' policies. Counselor Emerson will research other counties and details to present to the Commission regarding the development of this policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Item One: County Counselor Emerson requested an executive session for a period of not more than 5 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and Rusty Akins.

On motion (16-337) of Commissioner Moody 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 5 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and Rusty Akins.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:16 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:21 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for a period of not more than 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

On motion (16-338) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Murphy to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more

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than 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:22 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:36 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Attorney-Client privilege and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

On motion (16-339) of Commissioner Moody 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 matters that would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:37 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:41 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: September 23, 2016 – 9:00 AM Work session with Eldon Bedene and Jason VanBecelaere

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the [September 20, 2016](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:43 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy and Wood

Nays:

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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 GSRG 9/20/16 11:43 AM/amended GSRG 9/22/16](#)