

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, [SEVENTIETH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, September 4, 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 (20-371) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **September 1, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. 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	362	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 28, 2020 minutes
Motion 20	363	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 health orders and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, County Health Officer Dr. Stebbins, Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Bean, County Health Director Rebecca Adamson, County Health Department Executive Director Michael Ehling and County Public Information Office Samantha Garrett and to reconvene by 11:00 AM
Motion 20	364	To approve the grantees as presented for Round 2 of SPARK Funding with the addition of a \$500 grant for Live Well Crawford County

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Motion 20	365	To open the public hearing on the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets
Motion 20	366	To close the public hearing on the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets
Motion 20	367	To adopt the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets as published
Motion 20	368	To approve the August 2020 Clerk's Report as presented
Motion 20	369	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 road issues and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:50 AM
Motion 20	370	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes under Non-Elected Personnel to discuss insubordination and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:55 AM

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: The Crawford County Health Officers presented an update on COVID-19. County Health Officer Dr. Tim Stebbins stated that as of this morning Crawford County has 462 cases in isolation which includes 71 new positive cases yesterday. He explained that there have been over 40 new positive cases this morning which puts Crawford County at over 500 active cases in isolation. He said that Via Christi Hospital has 3 positive cases, 3 persons under investigation and 1 person on a ventilator not COVID related. He explained that the hospital has adequate capacity and staffing at this time. He stated that Girard Medical Center has 1 positive case in ICU, no persons under investigation and are at 50% capacity and operating well. Dr. Stebbins reported that Pittsburg State University currently has 140 cases in isolation and approximately 650 persons in quarantine. He explained that 4 Greek houses are under quarantine due to positive cases within the organization. He stated that PSU tested 85 persons this week with 53 of those positive. He said that Crawford County EMS has 5 technicians in isolation due to active COVID and several more employees in modified quarantine. He explained that the emergency services are still able to run but it is getting tight. Crawford County Deputy Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean reported on the testing done at Community Health. Dr. Stebbins discussed the testing turn around time and the age groups affected by the virus. He stated that there are 2 long-term care facilities affected by the virus either by positive residents or positive staff. He spoke about the guidelines that long-term care facilities are following and their testing criteria. He explained that the health officials are working closely with these facilities. He also stated that they are working very closely with the schools managing K-12 cases and quarantines and the guidelines through KDHE and the State Board of Education. He spoke about the efforts

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to keep the schools open for in person learning. Dr. Stebbins explained that as of this date there has been no in school transmission of COVID-19.

Dr. Stebbins and Dr. Bean handed out the Crawford County Gating Criteria updated as of 9/4/2020. Dr. Bean explained the criteria for the community and for the schools. Commissioner Moody asked about the number in quarantine in Crawford County at this time and Dr. Stebbins stated that it is approximately 2,000 and the health officials explained this quarantine number. Dr. Stebbins stressed the importance of those identified as quarantines to stay quarantined to help prevent the spread. He explained the quarantine time line and the guidelines through CDC and KDHE.

Dr. Bean stated that where the county and the schools are at right now, the health officials feel that it is appropriate to continue with in person learning and with extracurricular activities with the mitigation strategies. Dr. Stebbins discussed their recommendations to the schools in reference to the extracurricular activities and spacing limitations for spectators and guests.

Dr. Stebbins discussed breaking the chain of transmission for COVID-19. He also discussed employers forcing their employees to come to work despite isolation or quarantine orders and that this is in violation of Kansas State Statutes and it is a Class C Misdemeanor and the Health Officials will enforce this to the extent of their ability through the County Attorney and city attorneys. He discussed the statutes this falls under, KSA 65-129d and KSA 65-129 and that those statutes will be posted on the web site. Commissioner Johnson asked about the protocol for a positive case in the schools and Dr. Stebbins explained what takes place.

Dr. Stebbins presented Local Health Officer Order No. 3 issued September 4, 2020 "Restricted Activities". County Counselor Jim Emerson explained the goals that were set in creating order no. 3. He explained the law enforcement's part in the order. Dr. Stebbins discussed the business restrictions and event center and community events guidelines set out in the order.

On motion (20-372) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve Local Health Officer Order No. 3 on Restricted Activities issued September 4, 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.

On motion (20-373) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting for a period of 5 minutes.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

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The Commissioners called the meeting back to order at 11:05 AM.

Dr. Stebbins discussed “next steps” and explained that “next steps” depend on whether increasing case counts are seen and the community impact.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Crawford County Health Department Director Rebecca Adamson addressed the Commissioners in reference to the County Employee health screening and the possibility of adding COVID antibody testing. Ms. Adamson stated that the price of the antibody testing would be an additional \$65.00 per person. She stated that the screenings will start the first week of October and all screenings will be done at the Health Department or by appointment with the new nurse practitioner if any employee is unable to attend one of the scheduled screening times at the Health Department. She explained that currently the screenings run from \$32 to \$33 per person and the COVID antibody testing would add an additional \$65.00 per employee. The Commissioners agreed that the antibody testing would be beneficial and gave permission for the Health Department to include this testing in the Employee Screening. Ms. Adamson stated that the Sofia Testing Machine has been received and should have 2 boxes of 25 each testing kits in the next week. County Clerk Don Pyle stated that he has received a question via the website about free COVID testing and Ms. Adamson stated that they need to be symptomatic and to contact the Health Department for assistance.

Mr. Michael Ehling, Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Juvenile Services discussed the fears induced by COVID and to seek mental health services if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle stated that Crawford County Fire District #4 is purchasing a smaller grass/structure fire truck and they have enough money in their equipment reserve fund to purchase the truck without the need for financing.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Sheriff Danny Smith addressed the Commissioners and presented a listing of the bids received for 4 new vehicles for the Sheriff's Department. He stated that the bids were awarded to Molle Automotive for the purchase of four 2020 Chevrolet 1500 SSV 4x4 Crew Cab Trucks. He requested the Commissioners approval for Mr. Emerson to look into financing for the trucks. The Commissioners agreed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item One: Commissioner Johnson addressed the CDBG CV Grant Program. Mr. Pyle stated that he has received 8 applications for grant funds. Mr. Emerson will look at the total amounts applied for and the cap amount and readdress on Friday.

Item Two: Commissioner Moody discussed the possibility of a Round 3 of SPARK Funding and Mr. Emerson stated he will check on this.

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Item Three: Commissioner Johnson stated that he will be attending a joint city/county recycling meeting on Tuesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: September 11, 2020 – 9:00 AM Work Session with County Health Officials to discuss Health Officers' roles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: September 7, 2020 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

Item Two: September 8, 2020 – The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled.

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 [September 4, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:35 AM 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 9/1/2020 11:35 AM/amended BKW 9/10/2020 3:30 PM](#)