

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2015, TWELFTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS Friday, February 13, 2015, 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. Commissioners Tom Moody and Jeff Murphy were in attendance. County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board. Chairman Wood led the pledge of allegiance.

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

**On motion (15-046)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Murphy that the consent agenda be approved including:

- 1. Approval of the February 10, 2015 minutes of the Board of Commissioners, and
- 2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 554967 to 555218 dated February 13, 2015 in the total amount of \$267,181.66, and
- 3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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 15	45	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the February 6, 2015 minutes
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- UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS**
- PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS**
- MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC**
- MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS**
- MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**
- MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES**

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### PROCLAMATIONS AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD NEW BUSINESS:

**Item One:** County Clerk Don Pyle regarding a letter from the Chicopee Foundation, Inc. Mr. Pyle stated that the letter thanked the Commissioners for their support of the services provided to the older residents of the Chicopee area through their allocation of funds from the Elderly Fund to help support the Chicopee Community Center.

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding the providers of services for individuals with developmental disabilities in Crawford County. Mr. Emerson stated that he had spoken with representatives of 2 of the 3 providers of these services and that they have tentatively scheduled a meeting for February 24, 2015. There was a discussion of the status of all of these providers and that it will be very difficult to evaluate the services provided to county residents.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Murphy regarding a meeting on February 10 he attended at Heartland Electric that was for the Girard Area Community Foundation leadership. Mr. Murphy stated that he was very impressed with this emerging foundation that is focusing on developing an endowment that will fund grants to organizations in the USD 248 area. Mr. Murphy stated that he felt that this organization could help out several local groups and that they are interested in making a presentation to the Commission in the near future.

**Item Four:** Commissioner Moody regarding an inquiry from one of his residents in regards to a county "Adopt A Road" program. Mr. Emerson stated that the county had such a program several years ago that was run through the Road & Bridge Dept. and that it could easily be reinstated. The Commissioners all thought that it could be very beneficial in maintaining attractive county roads and they would ask citizens to contact Ms. Liz Hart in the Road & Bridge office if they were interested in helping on some portions of county roads.

### UNDER THE HEADING OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** County Clerk Don Pyle regarding the discussion in the work session in regards to the Crawford County General Fund Budget for 2014. Mr. Pyle wanted to be sure that all the Commissioners approved of the plan to only allocate 20% of the payroll expense paid at the end of January of 2015 back to the 2014 Fiscal Year. Mr. Pyle stated that he would then inform all county departments that no more expenses could be charged back to 2014. All the Commissioners agreed that this was the way to proceed.

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding some research that he has been performing in order to collect the outstanding old debts that are owed to the sewer districts in Crawford County. Mr. Emerson stated that he discovered a statute that would allow the county to be able to collect unpaid sewer fees by adding the unpaid fees to the property taxes as a special assessment. There was a discussion of the way that those outstanding fees would be approved as a special assessment through a resolution each year. Everybody felt that this would be a better method than cutting a home's sewer line and then later reconnecting it with reconnection fees to be involved. Mr. Emerson was

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going to send a new letter to each of the users informing them that if there sewer fees are not paid those fees will be added to their property taxes as a special assessment.

**Item Three:** County Counselor Jim Emerson regarding an email from the county lobbyist that discussed that all of the casino proposals would be presented on April 15, 2015. Mr. Emerson stated that this would be an open meeting that would probably be held in Topeka and that there would probably not be any other discussions at the meeting. There was a discussion of some of the casino proposals and that The Morning Sun was going to publish an article that compared all of the proposals for the casino.

**Item Four:** Commissioner Wood regarding the work done on some of the roads recently by employees of all three districts. Mr. Wood stated that these employees were working next to a crew from Westar and that the county employees looked just as good as the employees from Westar. The Commissioners also discussed ordering some shirts for the Road & Bridge crews to wear for summer.

**Item Five:** Commissioner Murphy asked if the county has ever looked at crack sealing on the county roads. Commissioner Wood stated that they had looked at a crack sealing machine and that Mr. Murphy should discuss this with Randy Chiartano. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of working with Pittsburg or Frontenac to use their crack filling machine.

**Item Six:** Commissioner Moody regarding how to work with sewer or water districts or other entities that need to lay a pipeline through a county road. It was discussed that the commissioners may want to discuss this with Road & Bridge employees to develop some sort of protocol on how to evaluate these occurrences.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FUTURE BUSINESS:

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Item One: February 16, 2015** – The Crawford County Courthouse will be closed in observance of Presidents Day.

**Item Two: February 17, 2015** – The Crawford County Commission meeting is cancelled.

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

**Item One:** Adjournment

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**On the motion** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the [February 13, 2015](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at [10:36 AM](#) and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Murphy 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:**

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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 2/13/15 at 10:36 AM, Amended by DPP 2/13/15 at 12:55 PM/amended BKW 02/19/2015 2:33 PM](#)