

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2014, FORTY-NINTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS Tuesday, July 15, 2014, 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 Bob Kmiec served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Kmiec led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (14-176) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the July 11, 2014 minutes of the Board of Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers **550067 to 550316 dated July 15, 2014 in the total amount of \$284,567.12.**

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Kmiec 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 14	174	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the July 8, 2014 minutes
Motion 14	175	To approve the Lease Purchase Agreement between Crawford County Fire District Number Two and Commerce Bank for the purchase of a Fire Truck with payments of \$1,314.05 over a seven year period

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS FOR CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

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Item One: Miners Hall Museum Foundation Executive Committee discussing funding request. Ms. Linda Roberts, Chair of the Miners Hall Museum Foundation Executive Committee, introduced the other members of the committee that were present including Mr. Jerry Lomshek, Vice-Chair, Ms. Phyllis Bitner, Secretary and Mr. B. J. Harris, Director of the Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Ms. Phyllis Bitner discussed the recent programs that have been presented by the museum and the success of those programs. Ms. Bitner stated that the Executive Committee is requesting a quarter (.25) of a mill in the county budget to provide base funding for the programs that are being provided by the museum. Ms. Bitner stated that some studies have shown that for every dollar invested in local museums and attractions the local economy will see a seven dollar return on that investment. Commissioner Moody was answered that the request does not include a breakdown of how the funds will be used but it will be used more as a base of funding to help fund the general operating expenses of the museum. Ms. Bitner explained that even though the museum has been very successful, they still struggle to pay the monthly bills. Commissioner Kmiec was answered that the Miners Hall Museum always encourages visitors to attend the other local museums and there was a discussion of a local directory of museums that is being developed. B.J. Harris, Convention and Visitor's Bureau Director, discussed the importance of all local attractions and facilities in making Crawford County a destination for visitors. Commissioner Kmiec was answered that the CVB has helped with funding a few times in the past but Mr. Harris did not feel that CVB funding was a good fit for long term funding for the museum. The Commissioners stated that they would consider this request as they build the county budget for 2015.

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Request: Funding from the mill levy of .25% of a mill

Reason for Request: To continue to provide educational, historical and economic impact on Southeast Kansas.

Statistics

- Open 6 days a week (300 days a year)
- As of June 30, 2014 (2 years of operation) hosted 18,115 visitors from 48 states and 11 foreign countries

Economic Impact

- Hosted tour buses from many states throughout the country
- 16% stayed in a hotel
- 38% purchased gasoline
- 1% stayed in a campground
- 39% visited other Crawford County tourist attractions
- 61% visited a local restaurant

Results if approved

Governments that support the arts see an average return on investment of over \$7 in taxes for every \$1 that the government appropriates. (AAM statistic).

If the levy were approved, MHM would achieve security for basic operation of the museum. Through its planning process, MHM will conduct a needs assessment of Crawford County residents and focus on increasing tourism and the economic impact provided by the museum.

There are tremendous new opportunities that we would like to provide and in order to complete these objectives, we need the security of funding for operational expenses. We receive wide support from volunteers and donors who provide services and monetary support for many of our special programs and exhibits. However, having the security of funding will allow the Board of Trustees the ability to move forward with our plans with the secure knowledge that the museum will maintain its level of operation.

The museum captures the spirit of the Little Balkans, their work, their families, their dreams and their determination.

Southeast Kansas families today face hardships much like the miners did over 100 years ago. At several schools, over 60 percent of the students receive free or reduced meals, reflecting the lower income of the population.

Request Made by: Miners Hall Museum Foundation, 701 S. Broadway, Franklin, Ks. 66735

Contact Information

- Linda Roberts, Chair 620-347-8578
- Jerry Lomshek, Vice-Chair 620-232-1959
- Phyllis Bitner, Secretary-Treasurer 620-249-9333

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Successes

- One of 6 sites chosen statewide to host the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit "The Way We Work" in 2013. Over 7,000 visitors, of which 2,000 were students, attended the exhibit.
- Promotion of Jefferson Highway. Hosted a tour for the annual convention of the Jefferson Highway National Association..
- Hosted Kansas Humanities Council statewide board of directors (twice) for their quarterly board meeting and a social.
- Hosted Kansas State Historical Society Board of Directors statewide board meeting and social. The State Historical Society will return this fall for another visit and meeting.
- Partnered with SEK Artfest to bring the first art exhibit to downtown Pittsburg
- Provide a location for the Home School Association for meetings and programs for their students.
- Partnered with 12 area businesses and organizations to bring special exhibits to the museum.
- Hosted a concert from Cleveland, Ohio
- Have been approved and have received requests for additional brochures at statewide travel centers.
- Received approval & placement of state highway tourism signage.
- Media throughout the country carried the story of Southeast Kansas and the Smithsonian.
- A New York Times reporter visited the museum and wrote about area attractions, restaurants, organizations, etc. long after the Smithsonian. Our museum sent him to other area attractions and events and a story was written in the New York Times.
- Area media outlets continue to follow our exhibits and our story
- We have a huge following on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest) which spreads those media stories throughout the country.
- Held a well-attended celebration for the Centennial of Miners Union Hall.
- Work in co-operation with other Crawford County tourist sites & museums to promote tourism in the area.
- Working in cooperation with other SEK museums and have produced a directory, a map and brochure. Other museums involved in this project are Chetopa Historical Museum, Mem-Erie Historical Museum, Galesburg Museum, St. Aloysius Historical Site, McCune Osage Township Library & Museum, Oswego Historical Society, Inc. & Genealogy Center, The Parsons Historical Society & Iron Horse Museum, Osage Mission - Neosho County Museum, and Thayer City Museum.
- Provide an ever-growing research center that draws many people to research their family

Impact

- Economic
- Historical
- Educational
- Provide services at no cost to other Crawford County non-profit
- Promote pride & volunteerism
- Provide job opportunity for low income seniors
- Environmental (planting trees, rebuilding wildlife habitat)
- Nationwide media coverage which brings attention to SE Kansas
- Social Media (we have a huge following on a variety of social media outlets)

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Historical Impact

- Miners Hall Museum presents the history of coal mining through permanent and special exhibits. "Coal Camp" (our outdoor interpretive exhibit), was created in 2012 to represent a community in the early 1900's similar to the many mining camps located in Southeast Kansas.
- The Miners House which has had several locations yet has never been restored is an integral part of Coal Camp. The house was donated by Sacred Heart Catholic Church parishioners of Frontenac, KS and moved to the museum site at a cost of \$8,000. The 3-room house is a typical coal camp house for a large mining family with 8-10 children
- Plans are being made to honor the Amazon Army women who made national headlines as they fought for better working conditions for their loved ones.
- Indoor museum exhibits are treasured items which have been donated by area residents and former residents who understand our commitment to following quality preservation practices. They take great pride in knowing their family heirlooms will be preserved and protected for generations.
- The Library/Research Center is well known for providing information to historians, genealogists and families seeking information about the coal camps, coal companies, businesses and families in SE Kansas.

Educational Impact

- The funds will help maintain and improve a wide range of programs and resources used through the schools of Crawford County.
- Miners Hall Museum cooperates with area school districts and non-profit organizations in providing necessary resources to supplement, enhance, develop and improve educational program for youth and adults.
- The museum's partnership with schools enhances positive experiences, which increases learning and involvement with young people, and the feeling of a network of support.
- We continue to work with groups from different schools in Crawford County who are involved with special projects, e.g. videotaping and monthly exhibit.
- We are providing a traveling trunk with lesson plans, video, photos, and artifacts to enhance the curriculum at area schools. The trunk will also be available for adult education as well as a promotional tool to boost tourism.

Adult education & entertainment:

- We provide programs including health and wellness, fine art exhibits and educational presentations at no charge to the public.
- Social events are held at no cost to participants as well as after-hours programs.

Services Provided to Other Area Non-Profits:

- Provide a location for fund raising events for needy families & underprivileged
- Host fund raising events for medical expenses and other special needs
- Hosted or held? Fund raisers for scholarships
- Provide a location for funeral dinners for Crawford County families
- Provide a collection point for food & necessities for needy (Safehouse, Toys for Tots, etc.)
- Partnered with SEK Artfest to bring the first art exhibit to downtown Pittsburg
- Provide a location for meetings at no cost to other non-profits

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Statistics obtained from Harvard University and AAM (American Alliance of Museums)

1. Museums generate real economic impact through employment, tourism, and local spending.
2. Visitors to historic sites and cultural attractions, including museums, stay 53% longer and spend 36% more money than other kinds of tourists.
3. Museums build social capital.
4. Museums develop communities.
5. Museums contribute to social change and public awareness.
6. Museums build human capital.
7. Economic benefits. The potential for museums to attract tourists to an area, stimulate the economy and create employment is great. The professional cohort is also aware of the "branding" that museums can contribute to a community and the potential of museums to attract and generate income.
8. Museums provide the opportunity to experience a sense of belonging around shared collective values.
9. Museums contribute to a sense of local pride as they say "we have something which is unique and valued by others."
10. Museums can make people feel that they belong to a common heritage.
11. Museums give communities a sense of place.
12. Museums provide a place to learn more about the shared experiences that matter to all of us.
13. The "permanency" of museums endows them with significance as the guardians and repositories of that part of the collective memory most valued by communities.
14. Industry professionals and the public agree that museums have significant contemporary impact, and that the combination of these impacts results in increased social and human capital, community building, societal change, public awareness and economic development. The study also reveals that museums impact developing capacity through partnerships, building knowledge through research on collections, developing the skill base of volunteers, attracting income and contributing to the "brand" and image of a community.

Nationwide

1. Governments that support the arts see an average return on investment of over \$7 in taxes for every \$1 that the government appropriates.
2. Museums rank among the top three family vacations
3. Cultural and heritage activities account for over 23% of all domestic trips recorded by the tour and travel industry
4. When making a decision to relocate, businesses factor in access to cultural resources that includes a dynamic museum community, according to research by the National Governors Association.
5. 78% of all U.S. leisure travelers participate in cultural or heritage activities. These travelers—including visitors to museums—spend 63% more on average than other leisure travelers according to data from the U.S. Cultural & Heritage Tourism Marketing Council.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Mr. Greg Hite, Road & Bridge Shop Manager, regarding some decisions on equipment upgrades. There was a discussion of leasing a breaker attachment for the skid loader and mini-excavator for a year at \$1,700. It was discussed that they have had to take out some old concrete culverts with county equipment and it is hard on the excavator to try to break up this concrete. The Commissioners discussed the usage of the skid steer and mini-excavator over the last year. It was decided to lease the mini-excavator for another year and to lease a breaker attachment for one year at \$1,700. The Commissioners decided to continue to lease the same skid loader for another year. There

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was a discussion of the deck on the boom mower and that it should be replaced right away. Mr. Hite also discussed maintenance of radios in the equipment and the Commissioners decided to just purchase a new radio that is needed right now. There was a discussion of some old pieces of equipment that need to be sold and possibly replaced.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Scott Thompson, Class LTD President/CEO presenting Class LTD Budget. Mr. Thompson discussed that their organization relies on funding from the counties where their clients are receiving services. Mr. Thompson stated that funding from the county and the number of clients has remained constant over the last few years but they feel that they may have some more demand for services in the coming year. Mr. Thompson stated that these funds are often used to provide match funding for state and federal grant funds and that they currently serve 109 individuals in the county and they feel that number could grow in the next year. Mr. Thompson mentioned that LTD employs 39 people in Crawford County and that a few other county residents are employed at their headquarters in Columbus. Commissioner Moody was answered that the waiting list for services is a list that the state maintains for individuals that have been approved for services but the state has not approved Medicaid funding for their services and that list is not shared with agencies that provide services. It was discussed that some individuals are on the waiting list for several years and that is very upsetting. Commissioner Wood mentioned that they should reach out to the Project 17 group. The Commissioners thanked them for their request.

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ASSISTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ALONG LIFE'S JOURNEY

1200 Merle Evans Drive • P.O. Box 266 • Columbus, Kansas 66725

Funding Request to Crawford County Commission for 2015

CLASS LTD's mission is to partner with people of all abilities in order for them to discover their potential and shape their own future.

Our Vision is to be in the forefront of innovative, progressive services and advocacy and is committed to partnering with others with similar missions and values.

CLASS LTD is requesting Crawford County Commission to allocate \$150,000 for services for children and adults with developmental disabilities living in this county. We are very appreciative of Crawford County's continued financial support that provides for many needed community disability services.

CLASS LTD has provided much needed services for children and adults with developmental disabilities for more than 35 years. The individuals we work with have grown in independence as a result of our services, therefore less dependent on governmental funding. We have prevented unnecessary institutionalization in a number of situations and worked to keep families together. We assist our clients to find and keep jobs and to live successfully in their community. To continue to obtain these positive outcomes requires a partnership with the County Commission as well as with our state funding sources. The need for county funding includes:

- Subsidy for our transportation services
- Funding for persons who have an intellectual disability but do not meet the state's eligibility criteria
 - Job coaching to find and retain employment
 - In-home supports to remain living in their homes
 - Crisis management
- Local match for state and federal grants, i.e., accessible housing, transportation.
- Infrastructure such as information technology and other equipment and supplies

CLASS LTD's Commitment to Crawford County Commission:

1. Maintain full licensure by Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).
2. Serve or arrange to serve Crawford County citizens with developmental disabilities.
3. Provide services according to individualized lifestyle choices to the extent possible.
4. Obtain an average satisfaction rating from persons receiving services of at least 90%.
5. Provide family members (including siblings) of persons with developmental disabilities the related supports they need and request.
6. Create job opportunities for persons served by CLASS LTD.
7. Expand valued activities to people with developmental disabilities including those who are or becoming elderly that will enhance their quality of life.
8. Promote health and wellness initiatives for staff and persons we serve.

620-429-1212 • 620-429-8724 FAX • classltd.org

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9. Develop and maintain a network of community services for individuals with developmental disabilities by affiliating with, assisting and monitoring all organizations providing such services in Crawford County.

CLASS LTD Crawford County Services:

CLASS LTD provided services to 109 individuals from July 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. It is projected that services will be provided to 117 Crawford County individuals by the end of the next fiscal year.

Waiting List for Crawford County 35 Children and Adults waiting for services

Currently serving: 29 children 86 adults = 115 Total

CLASS LTD Services Has Positive Outcomes:

Satisfaction ratings for 2013:

- 100% Community Employers with CLASS LTD Employment Services
- 98% Families and Guardians regarding CLASS LTD Services
- 100% Individuals receiving Case Management Services
- 83% Individuals receiving Community Employment Services
- 100% Individuals receiving Organizational Employment Services
- 100% Individuals receiving Residential Services

CLASS LTD Contributes to our Communities:

- CLASS LTD employed 38 staff in Crawford County as of June 30, 2014, with cumulative annual wages in excess of \$1.1 million.
- Provides information and referral for families with members with disabilities
- Provides community education on disability issues
- Assists with transition of students to post school life, including jobs
- Makes meeting and training space available to community groups
- Encourages staff members to become involved in community and civic organizations and local government
- Can meet the needs of local employers for workers
- Participate in the Crawford County Coalition
- Clients and staff participate in a variety of community activities
 - Collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House
 - Volunteer for Salvation Army – one individual is on the Board
 - Water flowers at Emero Park
 - Volunteer at Humane Society
 - Wesley House – one individual is on the Board
 - Special Olympics
 - Meals on Wheels
 - InterHab Art Projects
 - Downtown Beautification Committee

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- Cherokee/Crawford County Fair
- PSU Career Fair
- PSU Athletics
- PSU Social Work Program
- Bowling, Softball, and Basketball leagues
- PACE Club sponsored through Self Advocacy Coalition of Kansas
- Eagles
- VFW Women's Auxiliary
- Knights of Columbus Bingo
- American Legion
- YMCA
- Churches
- Sunflowers Kiwanis - Aktion Club
- Schools PTO
- Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce, Little Balkans, and 4th of July
- Disability Mentoring Day
- Natural Ties Program
- Community Blood Drive
- Farmers Market and Community Garden Project
- Four State Farm Show
- Bone Creek Fishing Jackpot Tournament

CLASS LTD Services Locations in Crawford County:

Crawford County Service Center	2928 N. Rouse, Pittsburg
Joplin Street Group Home	1102 S Joplin, Pittsburg
Oak Ridge Triplex	1930 Oakridge Circle, Pittsburg
Quadplex	118 N. Rouse, Pittsburg

CLASS LTD Board of Directors in Crawford County:

Belinda Brumfield	Ann Elliott
Jim Emerson	Mara Frederick

On behalf of the clients, staff and Board of Directors of CLASS LTD, I want to thank you for your continued interest in and support of persons with developmental disabilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Thompson
President/CEO

PROCLAMATIONS AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD NEW BUSINESS:

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle wanted to make sure that all the Commissioners had received an invitation to the City/County Officials Luncheon to be held at the Frontenac Senior Citizens Building at 11:30 AM on October 14, 2014.

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Item Two: Commissioner Moody regarding the Convention and Visitor's Bureau budget request for 2015. It was discussed that it was included in the budget requests and that it increased from \$185,000 in 2014 to \$348,000 in 2015. The Commissioners thought that some of that increase could be used for the Miner's Hall Museum. It was discussed that part of this increase was \$60,000 for the PSU Event Center and that they had added a full time marketing position with the approval of the CVB Board. Commissioner Moody asked that Mr. Harris come to the Commission Meeting on July 22nd or 25th.

UNDER THE HEADING OLD BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle requested an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters involving non-elected personnel.

Item Two: Commissioner Kmiec stated that the Kansas Water Office presentation in Fort Scott on July 11 was very good and that they presented some of the data they have collected but they still have a lot of work to do in preparing a 50 Year Water Plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle requesting an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues that involve non-elected personnel.

On motion (14-177) of Commissioner Kmiec 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 10 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

Yeas: Commissioners Kmiec, Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:09 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:19 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: July 22, 2014, 10:00 AM – Presentation regarding the Crawford County Technical School.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

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On the motion of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to adjourn the [July 15, 2014](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:21 [AM](#) and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Kmiec 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:

Don Pyle
County Clerk

<>

This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

Taken by DPP 7/15/2014 at 11:21 AM, Amended by DPP 7/17/2014 at 12:04 PM/amended BKW 07/17/2014 3:24 PM