

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2024, TWENTIETH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. Tuesday, March 12, 2024 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.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker 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 (24-141)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **March 8, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Moody

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 24	124	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the March 5, 2024 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 24	125	To approve giving the bids to the project manager to provide a recommendation for the foundation work on the communications tower near Arma
Motion 24	126	To approve giving the bids to the project manager to provide a recommendation for the Storage Building

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Motion 24	127	To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas and Crawford County authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 24	128	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 CVB and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Executive Director of CVB Dave Looby, and to reconvene by 10:44 AM
Motion 24	129	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 EMS and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and to reconvene by 11:02 AM
Motion 24	130	To approve the transfer of \$25,000 from Elections budget to the Operating Reserves Fund
Motion 24	131	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 IT Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and IT Director Brandon Spaur, and to reconvene by 11:20 AM
Motion 24	132	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss matters relating to the security of a public body or agency, public building or facility or the information system of a public body or agency, if the discussion of such matters at an open meeting would jeopardize the security of such public body, agency, building, facility, or information system to discuss cyber insurance and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and IT Director Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 11:40 AM
Motion 24	133	To approve the recommendation of IT Director Brandon Spaur and to purchase cyber security insurance from Assured Partners
Motion 24	134	To approve payment of the KCCA membership dues in the amount of \$785.40
Motion 24	135	To approve the use of Home City Grain Inc. for dust control spraying at the price of \$1.45/gallon
Motion 24	136	To adopt Resolution #2024-004, a Resolution in reference to a proposed benefit district which will be subject to special assessment taxes is as follows, to-wit: Lots One (1) through Fourteen (14) in Quail Hollow Subdivision, Crawford County, Kansas
Motion 24	137	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss property purchase and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:00 PM
Motion 24	138	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss contracts and to include the Board of County Commissioners and

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		County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:06 PM
Motion 24	139	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 contracts and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:24 PM
Motion 24	140	To approve a contract with Foley Equipment to purchase three Caterpillar road graders via quote with financing two and purchasing one outright from the Equipment Reserves Fund

### 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 ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

**Item One:** Dr. James Triplett and Mr. Gene Vogler addressed the Commissioners in reference to the SEK Recycling Center, Inc. County Counselor Jim Emerson handed out information on income and expenses of the Recycling Center. Dr. Triplett spoke to the Commissioners. He stated that he is the Vice-Chairman of the Recycling Center and also the Chairman of the Solid Waste Planning Committee. He explained that he is here today to ask for financial assistance as they are having trouble making ends meet at the center. Mr. Gene Vogler, Treasurer of the Recycling Center addressed the Commissioners and discussed the income and expense document that was presented to the Commissioners. He said that the information on the sheet is for 2023. He went through and explained the income amounts relating to commodities and other income and the sources the income came from. He also went through and explained the expenses for the center. Mr. Vogler stated that in 2023 the center had a loss of approximately \$56,000. He said that the year of 2023 was started with a substantial balance and at the end of 2023 there was no money left. He explained that the first two months of 2024 has not been better and have already had a loss of approximately \$10,000. Commissioner Moody asked what the difference was in the 2 years and Mr. Vogler explained that commodities are the same price as 15 years ago and the center is not doing the volume like it was several years ago. Mr. Vogler explained other increases in expenses over the year including payroll and labor costs. He discussed the City of Pittsburg donating \$5,000 a month for the year 2024 if the County agrees to donate the same amount per month for 2024 which was discussed in a Commission meeting in December 2023. He stated that the Commissioners were not ready to make that commitment in December 2023. Dr. Triplett spoke about the relationship between Crawford County and the Recycling Center. He also discussed the large item drop off. He stated that he would like the Commissioners to reconsider the commitment the City of Pittsburg has offered and commit to donating \$5,000 a month to the center. He discussed a federal grant that Pittsburg State University received for economic development which will be used to design a circular economy system around plastics. Mr. Vogler spoke again and stated that the center has approximately \$8,000 in the bank and the payroll due next Tuesday is around \$8,000. Dr. Triplett stated that he will not ask the employees to work without pay and if they cannot pay the employees they will have to shut the center down. Commissioner Wood asked about some salvage

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items that have been sitting in a dumpster at the center for quite a while asked why this material has not been moved, for revenue purposes and also to clean up the site. Mr. Vogler stated that issues with the trucking company, B-3 Construction, is the reasons the material has not been moved. Commissioner Wood would like to meet with the City of Pittsburg about the \$5,000 per month commitment. He said he is not in favor of giving the center \$5,000 a month for all of 2024 but is willing to help out this month. Mr. Vogler stated that someone needs to be recruited to join the facility that is knowledgeable about the recycling business and can help to get the center on its feet. Commissioner Wood asked about applying for grants and Mr. Vogel spoke about some grants that were received. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson to set up a meeting to discuss the Recycling Center with the City of Pittsburg. Commissioner Wood also stated that he will speak with B-3 Construction Co about picking up the salvage material at the facility. Dr. Triplett spoke about grant money in the amount of \$55,000 that the Recycling Center currently has in the bank.. He explained that the funds are for the purchase of a baler but this amount is only ½ of the cost of the baler. He explained that they will lose the \$55,000 grant money if they don't get another \$55,000 to match to purchase the baler by August. Dr. Triplett explained the costs of commodities and hoping the costs will go up.

**On motion (24-142)** of Commissioners Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve giving the SEK Recycling Center Inc an amount of \$5,000 per month for a period of 2 months.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

### MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

**Item One:** Mr. Bill Towery, Environment Director addressed the Commissioners and asked that the Commissioners support the SEK Recycling Center in any way they can as he would hate to see what the county roads would look like without the availability of this facility. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Towery about a tire day and Mr. Towery stated that Zoning Administrator May Smith is currently looking into this issue.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Item One:** Mr. Emerson stated that work sessions for the Commissioners to sign bills and payroll vouchers need to be added to the agenda for mid-month and end of month.

**Item Two:** Mr. Emerson gave an update on the hearing in Topeka that Commissioner Wood and himself attended on Senate Bill #162. He said the hearing went well and there was testimony from a Riley County Commissioner, Riley County Counselor, Representative Ken Collins, and himself in support of the bill. Mr. Emerson explained that the committee has until March 22, 2024 to work the bill out of committee. He explained that remainder of the process for the bill to pass.

### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

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**Item One:** Mr. Greg Stiles from Scotwood Industries addressed the Commissioners. He stated that he would like to speak with the Commissioner about their choice for dust control for this season. Mr. Emerson explained that it was approved on Friday and the bid went to Home City Grain Inc. for dust control spraying at the price of \$1.45/gallon. Mr. Stiles asked the Commissioners if there were aware of the difference in the two companies products. Commissioner Wood stated that there were issues last year with Scotwood Industries and the timing of the spraying. Commissioner Wood said that the spraying was being done more that halfway through the season when the citizens had already paid in advance. Mr. Stiles stated that he knew there were issues last year and he has been in contact with Road & Bridge Coordinator Alyssa Edwards since the beginning of this year about getting the schedule set to be able to spray in late April and early May. Commissioner Wood explained that he has spoken with this road foreman and do not want dust control done until June and explained the reasons why. Mr. Stiles explained the issues with the delays last year. He spoke about Home City Grain and the effectiveness of their product and explained the difference in Home City Grain's product compared to Scotwood Industries' product. Commissioner Moody would like to revisit dust control when Commissioner Blair returns and will contact Mr. Stiles.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**On motion (24-143)** 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 dust control and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:20 PM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:05 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:13 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **FUTURE BUSINESS:**

**Item One: March 19, 2024-** Health Department Director Debra Anthony discussing grants.

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**Item Two: March 22, 2024- 9:00 AM** The Board of County Canvassers will meet to canvass the ballots from the 2024 Presidential Preference Primary Election with the Regular Session commencing immediately after the canvass.

**Item Three: March 22, 2024- 10:00 AM** Public Hearing on land issues within Crawford County to be held on in the Courtroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Courthouse.

**Item Four: March 26, 2024 – 8:00 AM** Work Session to sign March 2024 bills and payroll vouchers.

**Item Five: March 26, 2024 –** Mr. Mike Dallman, Field Operations Supervisor, Kansas Division of Property Valuation addressing PVD Compliance **via Zoom**.

Mr. Emerson explained what will take place during the meeting on March 26, 2024 will PVD.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **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 [March 12, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:17 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

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.**

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**Lisa Lusker**  
County Clerk

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

[Taken BKW 3/14/24 2:00 PM](#)