

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

# Commission Meeting Agenda

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS, **Friday, April 12, 2019, 10:00AM.**

- I. Meeting called to order**
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Business from a previous meeting**
  - a. Approval of consent agenda**
    - i. Consent agenda additions or deletions
      - 1. Approval of the **April 9, 2019** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
      - 2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.
  - b. Signing of motions from the previous meeting**

Motion 19	105	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the April 5, 2019 minutes
Motion 19	106	To approve the purchase of the Nixle 360 Mass Notification System through Everbridge
Motion 19	107	To approve the proposal from Asphalt Paving & Maint. for Recycled Asphalt for 2019
Motion 19	108	To approve closing the Courthouse all day on Friday, April 19, 2019 in observance of Good Friday
Motion 19	109	To appoint Ms. Marilyn VonSoosten as Crawford County representative to the SEK Regional Library System Board effective immediately
Motion 19	110	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 and to include the Board of County Commissioners and to reconvene by 10:46 AM

- III. New Business**
  - a. Scheduled public hearings and opening of announced bids
  - b. Proclamations and orders of the Board
  - c. Messages from the Crawford County Local Board of Health
  - d. Messages from other governmental entities**
    - i. Dr. James Triplett, SEK Recycling Board of Directors Chairman addressing Recycling Center.
  - e. Messages from elected officials
  - f. Messages from appointed officials
  - g. Messages from the public**
    - i. Mr. Travis Klinessmith regarding John Deere motor graders.

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

- h. **New Business**
  - i. Mr. Pyle, County Clerk
  - ii. **Mr. Emerson, County Counselor**
    - 1. Presenting Resolution #2019-010
  - iii. Chairman Moody, Commissioner
  - iv. Mr. Johnson, Commissioner
  - v. Mr. Blair, Commissioner
- IV. **Old Business**
  - a. **Old Business**
    - i. Mr. Pyle, County Clerk
    - ii. Mr. Emerson, County Counselor
    - iii. Chairman Moody, Commissioner
    - iv. Mr. Johnson, Commissioner
    - v. Mr. Blair, Commissioner
- V. **Future Business and Announcements**
  - a. **Future Business**
    - i. **April 16, 2019 – 9:00 AM** Work Session with Shop Foreman Greg Hite regarding equipment needs and issues.
    - ii. **April 16, 2019** – Work Session **immediately after the regular session** with Ollson Associates to discuss land development plan.
    - iii. **April 23, 2019** – Ms. Angie Hadley, Director Restorative Justice Authority presenting FY 2020 Comprehensive and Reinvestment grants.
  - b. **Announcements**
    - i. **April 19, 2019** – The Courthouse will be closed all day in observance of Good Friday.
    - ii. **April 23, 2019** – Student Government Day.
- VI. **Motion for adjournment**

Individuals who wish to have their name listed on the official meeting agenda should please call the County Clerk's Office (620-724-6115) by 12:00 p.m. on the day preceding the meeting at which they wish to appear. Individuals are welcome to appear without their name on the agenda. Advance notification simply makes it easier for the County Clerk's Office to prepare the agenda. Thank you. If you are an individual with special needs, please contact the County Clerk's Office in advance of your attendance at the meeting so any necessary arrangements can be made.

## The Future of Recycling

For nearly 20 years, the SEK Recycling Center has made it its mission to reduce the amount of material being put into the Crawford County landfill. The Recycling Center sees more than 400 people per week, providing service to residents and businesses who care about our future and want to reduce their waste impact on the local environment. But the non-profit, which is in the business of sustainability, is finding that its operational costs have become unsustainable with falling donations and commodity prices. Over the past five years, the income at the recycling center has declined an average of about \$4,300 a year. While commodity prices typically hit a low at the end of each year, they also typically bounce back by February. While that has held mostly true to date, the new normal prices have been lower, and so far this year they have continued to drift lower.

As we have tracked what was happening throughout the country and internationally, it is clear our situation is not unique. A recent webinar, sponsored by the City of Pittsburg's new Sustainability Advisory Committee, on "Saving Recycling: What Local Leaders Need to Know," gave us specific insight into the challenges we face. The webinar focused primarily on large municipalities and large waste management businesses, but addressed the major issues faced by all recycling programs.

It is very clear that we are fortunate in not having a single-stream (everything in one container) system that goes to a mechanical recycling facility (MRF). Which, despite modern technology, does not produce a quality, contamination-free product. Those systems are the ones most impacted by China's Green Fence in 2013 and the National Sword in 2017, which greatly restricted acceptance of contaminated recycled material. Some of this is related to the federal trade policies, but it is also an effort by China's leadership to improve environmental conditions in their country. The end result, however, is a loss of the market for some items that were mostly shipped to China, like # 3 -7 plastics, and a reduced value of others due to oversupply and stockpiling. We typically get a higher price for our materials because our customers bring in clean, well sorted materials for the most part, which we further hand process to insure quality. However, it is also clear that the values of the commodities we handle are declining and insufficient to support our program. Based on commodity prices alone, we are facing a loss of \$6,413 a MONTH! If it weren't for the income from the resale store, service fees, donations, and memberships, we would have closed long ago.

The current model for recycling goes back to the implementation of Subtitle D regulations for landfills in the late 80's and early 90's. At that time, the value of recycled commodities was high and able to sustain recycling programs, but the downward shift in the value of recyclables makes that model no longer sustainable.

Is recycling important to you? If so, we as a community are going to need to rethink what we are doing if we hope to sustain our program. We need to create a new model that includes a combination of some or all of selling more memberships, soliciting more donations, charging

small fees for services, creating more volunteer opportunities for service, generating more business pick-up customers, etc. We are also considering measures like requesting additional support from the City and County. The next to the last action will be to downsize our staff, which will greatly reduce our ability to assist patrons with unloading their materials in the tunnel. The last, unfortunate action will be to close the facility when we can't make our next payroll. We want to hear what YOU think! Share your thoughts with us on our Facebook Page (Southeast Kansas Recycling), and visit [sekr.org](http://sekr.org) for more information on membership. Our mission remains as important today as it did when we began in 2002, and we are asking our community for help to continue to keep Southeast Kansas green.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
GIRARD, KANSAS

RESOLUTION 2019-010

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN EARLY RETIREMENT PROGRAM FOR  
CRAWFORD COUNTY EMPLOYEES.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to K.S.A. §19-101a has the authority to set policies and procedures for County employees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that an early retirement program has the potential to benefit both the retiree and the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Crawford County, Kansas:

Section 1. There is hereby established an early retirement program for all eligible County employees. Eligible employees are defined as follows:

a) Any employee whose total number of years of credited service under the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) and the number of years of attained age is equal or more than 85 as of December 31, 2019;

b) Any employee who is 62 years of age or older and has attained at least 10 service points (rounding allowed) under the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System as of December 31, 2019.

Section 2. Any employee who agrees to participate in the early retirement program will be required to sign a release form, a copy of which is attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and is incorporated herein by reference. In order to be eligible for this program, an eligible employee must sign the appropriate forms no later than June 1, 2019 and retire no later than December 31, 2019.

Section 3. As compensation for accepting the early retirement program the County will pay the costs of maintaining the employee's current level of health and dental insurance for sixty months or until the employee reaches the age of 65

whichever comes first. An employee may choose to delay health and dental insurance benefits under this resolution by providing notice to the Fiscal Clerk's Office at retirement. An employee who has chosen to delay receipt of benefits must give the Fiscal Office at least 30 days' notice to start coverage. Once the employee decides to begin receiving benefits they must be used consecutively. The retiree will be charged the same fee/premium as current employees.

Section 4. The County Early Retirement Program is offered on a voluntary basis only and no eligible employee is required to participate.

Section 5. The Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to comply with this resolution.

Section 6. This resolution is effective as of January 1, 2019.

ADOPTED, APPROVED AND GIVEN, by the Board of County Commissioners of Crawford County, Kansas under our hands at the Courthouse in Girard, Crawford County, Kansas this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

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Tom Moody, Chairman

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Bruce Blair

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Jeremy Johnson

ATTEST:

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Donald P. Pyle, County Clerk

