

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2023, TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. **Friday, April 14, 2023 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 Bruce Blair served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker, Deputy County Clerk Bobbi Wicker and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**On motion (23-163)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **April 11, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 621010 to 621343 dated April 14, 2023 in the total amount of \$462,788.97, and
3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair 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 23 | 157 | That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the April 4, 2023 minutes   |
| Motion 23 | 158 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss the Mental Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Mental Health Executive Director Heather Spaur and Mr. Mark Werner and to reconvene by 10:25 AM |

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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| Motion 23 | 159 | To open the Public Hearing on closing and vacating platted streets in the Town of Curran, Crawford County, Kansas                  |
| Motion 23 | 160 | To close the Public Hearing on closing and vacating platted streets in the Town of Curran, Crawford County, Kansas                 |
| Motion 23 | 161 | To adopt Resolution #2023-007, A Resolution on Closing and Vacating Platted Streets in the Town of Curran, Crawford County, Kansas |
| Motion 23 | 162 | To approve the bid from Derfelt Funeral Homes for autopsy transportation services as recommended by County Coroner Dr. Adam Paoni  |

### UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

#### PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

#### MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

#### MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

**Item One:** Mr. Brad Stroud, Executive Director Live Well Crawford County addressed the Commissioners with an update. Mr. Stroud shared details of the Catch My Breath program on anti-vaping in schools; Crossroads program, a drug and alcohol prevention program and other various programs offered by Live Well. Mr. Stroud explained to Commissioner Wood how the Pathways grants work, and discussed other grant opportunities.

#### MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

**Item One:** Ms. Kari Cronister addressed the Commissioners with an update on New Foundations Childcare. She spoke about working with Child Care Aware and forming the Frontenac Childcare Coalition and what the Coalition consists of. She spoke about the drawings for the building and stated that they are waiting on the final plans from Sugar Creek’s architects. She spoke about the Accelerator Grant. Ms. Cronister stated that they are currently working on a fundraising video. She explained to Commissioner Wood that New Foundations has partnered with Sugar Creek and USD 249 and how they each applied for ARPA funds. County Counselor Jim Emerson explained what would take place if one of the organizations pulled out and explained to Commissioner Wood that there have been no funds distributed and a new MOU can be signed. Mr. Emerson stated that the funds have to spent by 2026.

#### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

**Item One:** Mulberry City Mayor Pat Walden addressed the Commissioner in reference to the condition of Alfred Street in Mulberry. Mr. Emerson explained the City of Mulberry has requested that the County help with work on this road and the road is in very bad shape and the county needs to assist the city with. He said that over the years this road has been patched and repatched and now is the time to take care of the situation. He stated that the cost would be approximately \$32,000 to \$40,000 for the repairs. Commissioner Moody stated that he has had Asphalt Foreman Randy Chiartano look at the situation and the estimated cost is for a ½ mile section of road. He discussed using

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

ARPA monies for the repairs. He stated that this would be to patch and put and coating on the road. Mr. Walden discussed the traffic on this road. Commissioner Wood addressed marking this road as a “NO THRU TRUCK” road and it was discussed that possibly this road is already marked with way.

**On motion (23-164)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve giving the City of Mulberry \$40,000 from ARPA funds for repairs to Alfred Rd (650<sup>th</sup> Ave) and have the County do the repairs.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 45 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-165)** of Commissioner Blair 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 45 minutes to discuss the Health Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Health Department Director Debra Anthony and to reconvene by 11:32 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:47 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:23 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### NEW BUSINESS

**Item One:** Mr. Emerson discuss ARPA money and the interest that is earned on those funds. He explained that several months ago the interest rates were really low and the earned interest was not very much. He stated that due to rising interest rates, the County is now earning over \$10,000 a month in interest on the ARPA funds and currently there is \$88,870.84 in interest and that money is growing monthly. He explained that the interest money can be used for ARPA projects or for county use. He stated he will visit with County Treasurer Joe Grisolano and possibly separate the interest money from the ARPA funds. Mr. Emerson stated that he met with Bonnie Houk from Greenbush yesterday and they successfully submitted the County’s ARPA report to the federal government for the year running from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

**Item Two:** Mr. Emerson presented Resolution #2023-009, A Resolution Amending Certain Articles of the Crawford County Subdivision Regulations for Certain Portions of

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Unincorporated Crawford County, Kansas. He explained that this resolution is upon recommendation of Zoning Administrator May Smith and the Crawford County Planning and Zoning Board. He stated that this resolution will allow short plats, which have 4 maximum lots, to have road access off of county roads. He explained that in 2017, it was amended that short plats had to have interior roads and it has stifled development. Mr. Emerson stated that on larger subdivisions and larger plats is it required to have interior roads.

**On motion (23-166)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to adopt Resolution #2023-009, A Resolution Amending Certain Articles of the Crawford County Subdivision Regulations for Certain Portions of Unincorporated Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Three:** Mr. Emerson presented Resolution #2023-008, A Resolution Concerning the Adoption by Reference of the 2023 Nuisance and Dangerous Structures Regulations for Certain Lands Within the Unincorporated Portion of Crawford County, Kansas, Except those Lands Within the Incorporated Cities. Mr. Emerson explained the changes to the resolution.

**On motion (23-167)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to adopt Resolution #2023-008, A Resolution Concerning the Adoption by Reference of the 2023 Nuisance and Dangerous Structures Regulations for Certain Lands Within the Unincorporated Portion of Crawford County, Kansas, Except those Lands Within the Incorporated Cities.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Four:** Mr. Emerson requested that the Commissioners approve the re-appointment of Ms. Marilyn Von Soosten to the SEK Library System Board effective immediately. He explained that this is a 4-year term and the current term ended on April 9, 2023.

**On motion (23-168)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the re-appointment of Ms. Marilyn Von Soosten to the SEK Library System Board effective immediately.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

**Item Five:** Mr. Emerson presented an ARPA draw down request for 3 small child care facilities for \$2,000.00 each.

**On motion (23-169)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the approve the ARPA drawdown request for 3 small child care facilities.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Six:** Commissioner Wood discussed an applicant for large child care ARPA money and this applicant pulling out of the project. Mr. Emerson explained that this issue is in limbo at the current time and clarification will need to be made before any decision can be made. Ms. Cronister asked questions about the number of seats in a child care facility and Commissioner Blair explained that is it based off the number of spaces that the child care facility is licensed to have through KDHE.

**Item Seven:** Commissioner Wood asked about a Highway 69 Association Meeting. Mr. Emerson stated that he called KDOT in Chanute and they do have a meeting scheduled at this time.

**Item Eight:** Commissioner Blair discussed trash bids and making it a yearly or every 2-year process. Commissioner Wood discussed the container at the Freeto Building. Mr. Tim Lewellen from Short's Trash Service explained the bid on that container.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** Mr. Emerson gave an update on NextEra.

**Item Two:** Commissioner Moody discussed the need of a truck in his district. He will have his Foreman and Leadman speak with Shop Foreman Josh Peak after Mr. Peak's work session with the Commissioners on Tuesday.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Wood discussed purchasing a used road tractor. He will discuss this with Mr. Peak in the work session on Tuesday.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item Two:** Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-170)** of Commissioner Blair 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 under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:12 PM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:57 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:03 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Three:** County Appraiser Zach Edwards requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-171)** of Commissioner Blair 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 20 minutes to discuss the Appraiser's Office under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and County Appraiser Zach Edwards and to reconvene by 12:24 PM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 12:04 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:18 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

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

#### **FUTURE BUSINESS:**

**Item One: April 18, 2023 – 9:00 AM** Work Session with Shop Foreman Josh Peak to discuss trucks and equipment.

**Item Two: April 18, 2023 – 10:00 AM** The Board of County Canvassers will meet to canvass the ballots from the 2023 City of Pittsburg Special Question Election with the Regular Session commencing immediately after the canvass.

**Item Three: April 21, 2023 – 9:00 AM** Work Session with Ryan Insurance addressing quarterly loss review.

**Item Four: April 25, 2023 – 9:30 AM** Work Session with Mike Bodensteiner addressing ARPA funding.

**Item Five: April 28, 2023 – 10:00 AM** Public Hearing on vacating platted street & platted alleys in Paul Onelio's Subdivision, Crawford County Kansas.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

### MOTION TO ADJOURN

#### Item One: Adjournment

**On the motion** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adjourn the [April 14, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:19 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair 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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**Lisa Lusker**  
County Clerk

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

[Taken BKW 4/14/2023 12:19 PM/amended BKW 4/17/2023 3:00 PM](#)