

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2020, **SIXTY-FOURTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS, **Tuesday, August 18, 2020 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 Jeremy Johnson were in attendance.

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

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

**On motion (20-335)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **August 14, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 600105 to 600333 dated August 14, 2020 in the total amount of \$438,585.88.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

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 20	328	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 11, 2020 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners and Approval of the August 11, 2020 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers
Motion 20	329	To approve the July 2020 Clerk's Report as presented
Motion 20	330	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 landfill negotiations and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Mr. Pete Peterson via phone call and to reconvene by 11:15 AM
Motion 20	331	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a

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		period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Noxious Weed Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:26 AM
Motion 20	332	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss evaluation process under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:35 AM
Motion 20	333	To recess this open session to hold a work session on the 2021 County Budget and to reconvene at 12:05 PM
Motion 20	334	To approve the Crawford County 2021 Budget for publication with a hearing date set for August 28, 2020 at 10:00 AM

### UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

#### PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

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

**Item One:** County Health Director Rebecca Adamson addressed the Commissioners with a COVID-19 update. She stated that as of yesterday there have been 418 total positive cases in Crawford County and currently there are 26 positive cases in isolation and 76 individuals in quarantine. She said that Via Christi has 2 persons under investigation and no positive cases and Girard Medical Center has no positives or PUIs. Ms. Adamson stated that all 3 new epi nurses have started and she will be notifying the school nurses today which epi nurse has been assigned to their school district. She stated that County Health Officer Dr. Stebbins is inspecting 2 elementary schools in Pittsburg today and that will complete the school inspections. She stated that PSU has all their results in and they had a total of 15 positive cases and 2 cases are already out of isolation. She explained that those are not all Crawford County cases. She stated that they are still working on contact tracing. She discussed the types of testing, testing machines and symptomatic and asymptomatic testing that can be done. Ms. Adamson discussed SPARK Round 2 funding and discussed funding for a mask give away.

#### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

**Item One:** Mr. Mike Bodensteiner with Greenbush addressing SPARK Funding. He spoke about the federal government changing the guidelines on the funding. He also stated that if there are any questions about the funding guidelines, have them call Greenbush and they will assist. He stated that the program has opened up. Ms. Bonnie Houck with Greenbush discussed that the documents that need to be signed by the receiving entities will be made available. There was a discussion of the forms that need to be signed and that the county and Greenbush will need to work together to make sure that all the necessary paperwork is filed with the state and with the recipients. Mr. Bodensteiner stated that the SPARK Round 2 funding will start accepting applications from funding and that we need to be aware of the programs and how to apply for funding.

**Item Two:** Dr. Jim Triplett, Chairman of the Crawford County Solid Waste Management Committee, with an update. Dr. Triplett stated that he has been out of the area on

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vacation for a while and he wanted to discuss the landfill negotiations with the commissioners. He stated that he felt that the commissioners through the Solid Waste Plan and through state statutes have control over any landfill or transfer station operations in the county. Dr. Triplett also stated that the county operating in the landfill still has the lowest tipping fees and rates in the area and that the operator of the landfill has been easy to work with and that he has been a good partner for the SEK Recycling Center.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Item One:** Mr. Tim Lewellan, Short's Trash Service addressed the Commissioners and stated that WCA has been sold and he expressed concerns with the contracts the Commissioners are currently negotiating on the landfill. He and the commissioners felt that this could have a big impact on the current landfill contract negotiations. Mr. Lewellan stated that his firm is looking into a transfer station and that he would like to help in any way he can.

### **MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**Item One:** Mr. Mac Young, District Court Administrator gave an update on the opening of the courts. Mr. Young stated that they have started putting up some barriers to allow hearings to be held and he wanted to know if the funding for the cleaning position would be approved. Mr. Young felt that the courtroom in Girard would be opened first and then they would begin opening the courtrooms one at a time as they get barriers in place. Commissioner Blair felt that they need to go ahead with starting the process of hiring additional personnel. It was discussed that the positions will only be funded by SPARK through the end of the year. The commissioners felt that Mr. Young should proceed with hiring temporary employees for this position and the commissioners wanted to post the positions on the county website.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that he has received a request from Crawford County Coroner Dr. Adam Paoni to raise Deputy Coroner Kenny Yoakum's pay from \$100 per call to \$125.00 per call. Mr. Emerson stated that Mr. Yoakum has been doing this for several years and that the amount paid per call has not changed.

**On motion (20-336)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve increasing Deputy Coroner and Death Investigator Kenny Yoakum's pay from \$100 per call to \$125 per call.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

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**Item Two:** Commissioner Moody stated that the chip and seal has been started on the roads with work being done on Gooding Road.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Blair stated that he would like to discuss some of the items to be placed for sale on the Purple Wave auction site. Mr. Blair stated that he will bring them up later when he has more information.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item One:** County Clerk Don Pyle wanted to make the public aware that a mailing to the public with applications for advance ballots was not initiated by the office of the county clerk. Mr. Pyle stated that the applications has caused some confusion among voters that have already submitted applications for advance ballots for the general election and the office has received several phone calls with questions about the forms. Mr. Pyle wants the public to know that the application forms are valid and if they are submitted to his office they will be processed and that if they receive multiple applications for advance ballots by mail, each voter will receive only one ballot through the mail. Mr. Pyle also stated that his office is working with the Kansas Secretary of State's office to have a couple of drop boxes for ballots by mail placed in the county and that they will have more information on that program as they receive more details. Commissioner Blair was answered that only ballots place in those boxes by the close of the polls on election would be able to be counted.

**Item Two:** County Clerk Don Pyle presented the 2021 proposed budgets for the four Fire Districts in the county. Mr. Pyle stated that the fire chiefs all wanted their mill levies to remain at the same level and that if approved for publication the first date that the hearing could be held is September 1. Commissioner Johnson was answered that in addition to ad valorem or property taxes that are levied, the fire districts receive some motor vehicle taxes that make up the rest of their funding.

**On motion (20-337)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Publication of the Notice of Public Hearing for Fire District Number 1, Fire District Number 2, Fire District Number 3 and Fire District Number 4 with a hearing set for September 1, 2020, at 10:00 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Johnson regarding the CDBG-CV Advisory Committee. Mr. Johnson stated that he would like to get the advisory committee organized to start reviewing applications for CDBG-CV Grant Program. It was discussed that 3 excellent applications for the committee had been received.

**On motion (20-338)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to appoint Heather Spaur, Angela Meyer and Kim Vogel to the CDBG-CV Advisory Committee for Crawford County.

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Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

**On motion (20-339)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to appoint Commissioner Jeremy Johnson to the CDBG-CV Advisory Committee for Crawford County.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

County Counselor stated that the applications for the CDBG-CV grant program are more complicated and that there are some additional requirements for proof of income for employees of the entities applying. Mr. Emerson stated that Ms. Susan Galemore with the SEK Regional Planning Commission is a resource for answering questions that come up about eligibility for the program and that we are currently accepting applications through August 31, 2020.

**Item Four:** Commissioner Blair stated that he had reviewed the three bids received for resealing the roof at the jail with Sheriff Danny Smith. Mr. Blair stated that the highest bid is the best bid for this project because it will make it easier to maintain this roof in the future. Commissioner Moody was answered that they are hoping to get this work completed this fall to keep the rood from deteriorating any further. It was discussed that the reason that the highest bid was recommended is because it has a better warranty and that it will be easier to maintain down the road.

**On motion (20-340)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to accept the bid from Advance Roofing Technologies for Roof Maintenance Work at the Crawford County Jail.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (20-341)** 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 to discuss the Public Information Officer position under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim

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Emerson and County Public Information Officer Samantha Garrett and to reconvene by 11:46 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:35 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:50 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship.

**On motion (20-342)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Johnson 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 landfill negotiations 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 Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:52 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:12 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**OLD BUSINESS(continued):**

**Item Five:** Commissioner Blair wanted to see if the testing could be done on the West Fourth Street Sewer District to see where the rainwater infiltration is coming from.

**Item Six:** County Clerk Don Pyle mentioned that they wanted to have a work session at 9:00 AM on Friday, August 21, with Cristy Mitchell of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas to review the health insurance renewal with the Benefits Committee. Mr. Emerson stated that at about 9:45 AM they would like to discuss the proposal from the Arnold Group.

**UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FUTURE BUSINESS:**

**Item One: August 21, 2020 – 9:00 AM** Work Session with Benefits Committee and Cristy Mitchell of BCBS of Kansas to discuss health insurance renewal and with Randi Ryan to discuss proposal from Arnold Group.

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**Item One: August 28, 2020 – 10:00 AM** Public Hearing on Crawford County 2021 Budget.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Item One:** The Courthouse in Girard is open to the public from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM until further notice. The Motor Vehicle office at the Judicial Center in Pittsburg will remain closed but residents may use the drop box at the Security Desk at the Judicial Center for motor vehicle and tax payments to be processed at the courthouse.

### UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

### MOTION TO ADJOURN

**Item One:** Adjournment

**On the motion** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the [August 18, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:10 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

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 BKW 8/18/2020](#)