

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2020, [SIXTY-FIRST MEETING](#)

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS, **Friday, August 8, 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 Jeremy Johnson served as the presiding officer.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance.

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

Vice-Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

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

**On motion (20-312)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **July 31, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

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 20	309	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 90 minutes to conduct interviews for the Public Information Officer under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, County Health Director Rebecca Adamson and candidates for the position of PIO and to reconvene by 10:00 AM
Motion 20	310	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the July 28, 2020 minutes
Motion 20	311	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 Emerson and County Health Director Rebecca Adamson and to reconvene by 11:30 AM

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## UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

### PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

### MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

**Item One:** Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean addressed the Commissioners with a COVID-19 update. She stated that as of Wednesday, the KDHE website reported 392 total cases in Crawford County which is up only 1 case from Monday. She explained that they do expect those numbers to increase when updates are posted today. Ms. Bean stated that Via Christi has 1 positive case, 2 pending test results and no one in ICU or on a ventilator and Girard Medical Center has no positives and no pending cases. She reported that the Health Department has 80 pending tests and has had 2 positives. She explained that the trend in Crawford County has gone down over the last 4 weeks. Dr. Bean said that currently there are 17 cases in isolation and 75 in quarantine in the county. She discussed a long term care facility that has been testing residents and employees due to an exposure but have had no positive cases so far. She stated that PSU has begun return to school testing and reported on the number of tests they have done. She discussed the testing for residential dorm living and stated that County Health Officer Dr. Stebbins issued a letter to Pittsburg State University ordering that all incoming students to residence halls at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas be tested for COVID-19 via available test administered by Pittsburg State University health officials on their arrival for check-in to the residence hall and students who opt out of testing are mandated to a 14 day quarantine to assure public safety in the community and listing the reasons for the order. Commissioner Johnson addressed testing of students involved in athletics in the university and Dr. Bean stated that she will follow up on this issue. Commissioner Johnson discussed the local school districts reopening plans and the transmission levels and Dr. Bean discussed the level of impact on the community, transmission levels and how every situation can be totally different. She stated that she, Dr. Stebbins and Health Department Director Rebecca Adamson can work on a plan for transmission levels and indicators but it has to be flexible and Ms. Adamson stated that it can explain how they evaluate each situation with examples. Commissioner Johnson also discussed the new PIO position and he would like to have detailed reports available to the public. Dr. Bean stated that they have also been looking into data in age groups. Dr. Bean discussed the Crawford County Return to School Order and County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that after additional research and talking to other counties, the overall approach from most counties is that if the school districts are wanting the Commissioners to overturn the Governor's Executive order then a request in writing needs to be submitted to the Commissioners from the school districts and he explained local control. He stated that the guidance can still be given out. Commissioner Moody stated that the decisions are up to the school boards. The Commissioners decided to table the approval of the recommendations of the back to school order. Commissioner Johnson addressed the metrics and Dr. Bean explained that these metrics are reviewed by the health officers several times daily. Dr. Bean also reported on the rapid testing equipment.

**On motion (20-313)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Crawford County Health Department Order 20-01 Order for Testing for incoming students to residence halls at Pittsburg State University.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** Ms. Adamson reported on the Health Department and the applications for the nurse positions that were advertised and the positions that have been filled. She discussed the epi nurses that will be assigned to each school district.

### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

**Item One:** Mr. Mike Bodensteiner from SEK Regional Education Service Center Greenbush addressed the Commissioners in reference to SPARK funding. He stated that the work session held at 9:00 AM this morning was very productive. Mr. Bodensteiner discussed an issue with the applications for home-based businesses with less than 3 employees and suggested the Commissioners establish a supplemental grant program under the SPARK's umbrella for these businesses. He suggested that the Commissioners open the applications back up with different criteria to allow for these home-based businesses and accept applications for the grant program until a week from today. Commissioner Johnson asked about an allocation amount for this program and Mr. Bodensteiner stated that to be safe \$30,000 should be sufficient and discussed the number of businesses that would qualify under the new program.

**On motion (20-314)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Supplemental Grant Program under the SPARK umbrella for home-based business with less than 3 employees.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

The Commissioners scheduled a work session at 9:00 AM on Monday, August 10, 2020 with Mr. Bodensteiner of Greenbush to discuss SPARK funding.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

**Item One:** Public Hearing to vacate a platted street in Katie Add to Dunkirk. Mr. Emerson explained where the street is located. He explained that it is a portion of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and the property on both sides of the street is owned by the same person.

**On motion (20-315)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to open the Public Hearing on vacating a platted street in Katie Add to Dunkirk.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

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There was no one present for public comment.

**On motion (20-316)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to close the Public Hearing on vacating a platted street in Katie Add to Dunkirk.

Yeas: Commissioners and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

Mr. Emerson presented Resolution #2020-012, A Resolution Vacating a portion of platted 6<sup>th</sup> Street in the Katie Add to Dunkirk, Crawford County, Kansas.

**On motion (20-317)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to adopt Resolution #2020-012, A Resolution Vacating a portion of platted 6<sup>th</sup> Street in the Katie Add to Dunkirk, Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

### **MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### **MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC**

### **MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Item One:** County Clerk Don Pyle stated that he will present the Clerk's report on Tuesday.

**Item Two:** Mr. Pyle stated that his office is currently processing Provisional Ballots and there are also some ballots received by mail that are postmarked on or before Election Day. He explained that there are approximately 163 provisional ballots and explained some of the reasons why the ballots are provisional. He stated that the canvass is scheduled for 9:00 AM on Tuesday, April 11, 2020. He discussed the importance of the voters keeping their registration up to date.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Johnson discussed the position of Public Information Officer and the duties that will be involved in this position. Mr. Emerson stated that the applicant that was chosen will start on August 17, 2020 and can attend the Commission meeting on August 18 to discuss duties.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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**On motion (20-318)** of Commissioner Johnson 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 computer security under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, IT Director Mr. Jim Vinze and IT Specialist Mr. Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 11:10 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:55 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:10 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FUTURE BUSINESS:

**Item One: August 10, 2020 – 9:00 AM** Work Session with Mr. Mike Bodensteiner to discuss SPARK funding.

**Item Two: August 11, 2020 – 9:00 AM** Canvassing of the ballots from the 2020 Primary Election with the Regular Session commencing immediately after the canvass.

#### 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 7, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:15 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

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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**Don Pyle**  
County Clerk



**This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.**  
[Taken by BKW 8/07/2020 11:15 AM/amended BKW 8/10/2020 12:15 PM](#)