

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2021, [NINETIETH MEETING](#)

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, December 17, 2021, 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.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Bruce Blair 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 (21-423) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **December 14, 2021** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 610200 to 610504 dated December 15, 2021 in the total amount of \$464,989.25, and
3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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 21	420	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 10, 2021 minutes
Motion 21	421	To approve the request from the Hepler City Library Board for financial assistance in the amount of \$6,424 with funds from the Jayhawk Windfarm Contribution Payment
Motion 21	422	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and to reconvene by 10:28 AM

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

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PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Item One: County Treasurer Joe Grisolano addressed the Commissioners. He stated that the year end audit will take place on January 30, 2021 and the Courthouse will close at 10:00 AM on that day for the audit. He explained that the Motor Vehicle offices in the Judicial Center in Pittsburg and in the Courthouse in Girard will be closed all day on that day. He stated that all offices will re-open at 8:00 AM on Monday, January 3, 2021.

Item Two: Mr. Grisolano discussed the Motor Vehicle Satellite Office in the Judicial Center in Pittsburg. He stated that the office re-opened in July 2021 after closing last year due to COVID-19. He spoke about the convenience fee of \$1.00 per vehicle for all registrations that are processed in that office and that as of January 3, 2022 the convenience fee will be raised to \$2.00 per registration. He also stated that property tax payments can be dropped of at the Judicial Center.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Executive Director of Health, Mental Health & Juvenile Services Mr. Michael Ehling addressed the Commissioners in reference to electronic medical records software for the Health Department and the Mental Health Department. Mr. Ehling discussed the reasons that this software needs to be upgraded to more robust systems and that some of the software would cost about \$30,000 more if we wait until after the first of 2022 to commit to one of these packages.

Ms. Heidi Moody, Financial Analyst for the Health Dept., reviewed 2 quotes that they have for software packages and for some additional laptops and ipads that would be needed to allow many more employees to be linked to the software so that they could enter information directly into the system from places in the field where they are often providing services. Commissioner Johnson was answered that the 2 different companies would be providing demonstrations to show the functionality of their software and that staff will base their recommendations on those demos. Commissioner Johnson also suggested that the CPA that is reviewing ARPA funding requests be given copies of the information on these software packages to get their opinion on whether or not these packages qualify for ARPA funding. The other commissioners and Mr. Emerson thought that this would be a good idea and Mr. Emerson stated that he would get that done.

Ms. Heather Spaur gave the commissioners information on the software packages being considered by the Mental Health Center. Ms. Spaur discussed that the needs of the Health and Mental Health departments are very different and that as they work on being certified as a behavioral health center they will need to meet higher standards for their reporting and the software must help with that process. Ms. Spaur stated that they have negotiated a \$30,000 reduction in the setup fee if the agreement is entered into before the end of the year. She reviewed the software costs, setup costs, security software costs and the costs of additional equipment. There was a discussion of the additional computer needs and if it should require additional IT resources. The commissioners also wanted the CPA to review these proposals to be sure that they qualify for ARPA funds and they wanted to get that done before they approve the purchase.

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MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented applications for 2022 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Kim Brewer “Countryside Golf Course” to allow them to sell cereal malt beverages for consumption on the premises and C & B Investments Inc “Girard Chicken Annies” to allow them to sell cereal malt beverages for consumption on the premises. Mr. Pyle stated that notices have been sent to the Sheriff, Zoning Administrator, County Attorney and the Township Clerk and that they were given 10 days to respond and that no responses had been received.

On motion (21-424) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to make it known that the matter of issuing a license to the applicant(s) listed below was discussed and considered by the Board, and there being no objection filed as provided by law and the Board knowing of no reason why a license should not be issued, the board hereby issues a license to “sell at retail”, cereal malt beverages in broken case lots from the place of business as shown in the application as designated and described on the application as herein before set out, and that the County Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to execute the proper license which shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and the County Clerk of Crawford County, Kansas.

2022 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses

APPLICANT: Kim Brewer “Countryside Golf Course”

PREMISES: 469 E 520th Ave, Pittsburg, KS 66762

(For consumption on the premises)

APPLICANT: C & B Investments Inc “Girard Chicken Annies”

PREMISES: 498 E 47 Hwy, Girard, KS 66743

(For consumption on the premises)

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 (21-425) of Commissioner Moody 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 15 minutes to discuss the 911 Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and 911 Director Tim Mikrut and to reconvene by 10:48 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:33 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:48 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 Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-426) of Commissioner Moody 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 the Health Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Executive Director Mr. Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 11:04 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 10:44 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:00 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: 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 (21-427) 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 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss the Opioid Litigation and Attorney Contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:20 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 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:10 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson presented Resolution #2021-017, a Resolution of Crawford County, Kansas to Approve and Join the Statewide Litigation Regarding the Opioid Epidemic. He stated that Crawford County hired a firm and became involved in the opioid litigation in early 2018. Mr. Emerson explained the lawsuit and the

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resolution and the documents with the resolution. He stated that it is recommended by our council to move forward with the settlement.

On motion (21-428) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to adopt Resolution #2021-017, a Resolution of Crawford County, Kansas to Approve and Join the Statewide Litigation Regarding the Opioid Epidemic and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson discussed a vacancy in one of our county attorneys' contracts. He explained that by law, the county is required to provide an attorney for certain cases and explained some of these cases. He stated that there is an opening due to Meredith Frederick being appointed as a District Court Judge in Cherokee County. He stated that 3 attorneys applied and his recommendation is to have Ms. Amy Ross fill the vacated contract. He stated that this will be a 6 month contract which will automatically renew unless issues arise.

On motion (21-429) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the appointment of Ms. Amy Ross to fill the vacancy of Indigent Attorney for Crawford County.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Four: Commissioner Moody stated that he would like a representative from KDOT attend a meeting to discuss the issue of 160 Hwy crossing US 69 and going west for 2 miles then cutting back south on 200th Street. He said that he would like clarification on KDOT's plans on this issue. Mr. Emerson will contact KDOT. Mr. Moody would like the City of Frontenac to made aware of when KDOT will be present.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Pyle stated that the local legislators are on the agenda for Tuesday and has received confirmation that Senator Richard Hildebrand, Representative Ken Collins and Representative Chuck Smith will be present. He stated that he has also invited city officials to attend. Mr. Emerson stated that Mr. Bill Brady will also be in attendance on Tuesday via Zoom.

Item Two: Commissioner Blair stated that 2 of the snow plows should be here Monday or Tuesday. He also stated that the material for the salt shed has come in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

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Item Four: Commissioner Blair requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-430) 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 the Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:37 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 11:22 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:37 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: December 21, 2021 – Local State Legislators discussing the upcoming 2022 Legislative Session.

Item Two: December 21, 2021 – 9:30 AM Work Session with 911 Director Tim Mikrut.

Item Three: December 28, 2021 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on 2021 Crawford County Budget Amendment.

Item Four: December 28, 2021 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on 2021 Crawford County Fire District #1, Fire District #2, Fire District #3 and Fire District #4 Budget Amendment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: December 24, 2021 – The County Offices will be closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday and the Board of County Commissioners Regular Session is cancelled.

Item Two: December 30, 2021 – The Courthouse will close at 10:00 AM due to the year-end audit and the Motor Vehicle Department in the Courthouse and the Motor Vehicle Department in the Judicial Center in Pittsburg will be closed all day. The Register of Deeds Office will be open until 10:00 AM but will not accept any recordings due to software updates.

Item Three: December 31, 2021 – The County Offices will be closed all day in observance of the New Year's Holiday and the Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners will be cancelled on this day.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

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MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the [December 17, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:41 AM 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.

Don Pyle

County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

Taken by BKW 12/17/2021 11:41 AM/amended BKW 12/20/2021 1:00 PM