

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2024, [NINETY-FOURTH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, December 27, 2024 at 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 Carl Wood served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Bruce Blair and Tom Moody were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (24-538) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **December 20, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. 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 24	526	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 17, 2024 minutes, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 24	527	To open the Public Hearing to amend the 2024 Budget for the Crawford County General Fund and Crawford County Fire District #3
Motion 24	528	To close the Public Hearing to amend the 2024 Budget for the Crawford County General Fund and Crawford County Fire District #3
Motion 24	529	To approve the 2024 Crawford County Amended Budget and the Crawford County Fire District #3 Amended Budget as published
Motion 24	530	To approve the intergovernmental agreement between the City of

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		Pittsburg and Crawford County pertaining to the Housing Incentive Program
Motion 24	531	To make it known that the board hereby issues a license to “sell at retail”, cereal malt beverages from the place of business as shown in the application APPLICANT: C & B Investments “Chicken Annies Girard” PREMISES: 498 E 47 Hwy, Girard, Kansas 66743 (For consumption on the premises)
Motion 24	532	To approve the MOU between Crawford County and Greenbush as presented and authorizing the Chairman to sign
Motion 24	533	To approve the ARPA drawdown request for December 2024 as presented
Motion 24	534	To approve the Contract for Services with Crawford County Convention & Visitors Bureau, DBA Explore Crawford County, and the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce as presented and authorizing the Chairman to sign
Motion 24	535	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss individual employees’ performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:09 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 24	536	To approve Resolution #2024-044, a Resolution establishing an early retirement program for Crawford County employees
Motion 24	537	To approve funding an additional \$20,000.00 to Courthouse Maintenance from ARPA funding making a total of \$61,616.00

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Ms. Melisia Rhodes addressed the Commissioners. She stated she is contracted with Shasta Power to represent them in Crawford County and Stafford County. She mentioned Shasta Power is here to stay and that they want to invest in Crawford County. Ms. Rhodes asked the Commissioners to let her know if they know of any groups that are needing money. She mentioned she will be attending city commission meetings and that she would like to share the preliminary survey with the people attending these meetings. Commissioner Moody asked if he heard correctly that Shasta Power will have 200 employees for 2 years and Ms. Rhodes explained that is correct and then there will be about 10 employees after the two years.

NEW BUSINESS

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Item One: Ms. Lusker presented three applications for a 2025 Cereal Malt Beverage License for Jo's One Stop LLC to allow them to sell cereal malt beverages in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the premises, Mary E Gebhardt "Gebhardt's Chicken Dinners", to allow them to sell cereal malt beverages for consumption on the premises, and Kim Brewer "Countryside Golf Course", to allow them to sell cereal malt beverages for consumption on the premises. Ms. Lusker stated that notices have been sent to the Sheriff, Zoning Administrator, County Attorney, and the Township Clerk and there were no objections to the licenses.

On motion (24-539) 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.

APPLICANT: Jo's One Stop LLC

PREMISES: 401 N 69 Hwy, Arma, Kansas 66712

(For sale in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the premises)

APPLICANT: Kim Brewer "Countryside Golf Course"

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

(For consumption on the premises)

APPLICANT: Mary E Gebhardt "Gebhardt's Chicken Dinners"

PREMISES: 124 N 260th St, Mulberry, Kansas 66756

(For consumption on the premises)

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Ms. Lusker stated she received a bill from Kansas Association of Counties for 2025 membership dues in the amount of \$8,459.45. She mentioned she has to have the Commissioners approval for payment. Commissioner Wood asked if Ms. Lusker knew how much the fees were last year and she stated she does not have the exact of what last year was but that it was not much different.

On motion (24-540) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the payment of 2025 County Member Dues to Kansas Association of Counties in the amount of \$8,459.45.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

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Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: EMS Director Randy Sandberg requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (24-541) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance regarding EMS pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employee. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and EMS Director Randy Sandberg attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:24 AM.

The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:14 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:24 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Three: County Counselor Jim Emerson discussed a grant that Crawford County EMS has applied for. He explained what this grant will do for the department and that the Commissioners just need to sign off on the grant application.

On motion (24-542) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services Revolving and Assistance Fund (KRAF) grant application and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson presented Resolution #2024-045, a Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Special Ambulance Reserve Fund to the County Ambulance Special Revenue Fund. Mr. Emerson explained why EMS is wanting to transfer the money and that the amount of money being transferred is \$128,000.00. Commissioner Wood asked where this fund is located and Mr. Emerson explained it is fund number 32. Commissioner Wood asked the balance and Mr. Emerson explained. Ms. Lusker

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mentioned it was discussed during budget time. Commissioner Wood asked how this money is accumulated and Mr. Emerson answered.

On motion (24-543) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve Resolution #2024-045, a Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Special Ambulance Reserve Fund to the County Ambulance Special Revenue Fund.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Five: Mr. Emerson presented the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Family Resource Center and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds. He explained why he is presenting addendums to the MOU. Commissioner Wood asked about the opening dates and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked why it is mentioned that they are not required to submit receipts before receiving reimbursement and Mr. Emerson explained that is old language in the MOUs but that they have been requiring receipts. Commissioner Wood asked how the newspaper knew what a certain project was awarded and it was explained that the amount of funds each large childcare project is getting was determined in 2022. To receive these awarded funds, the project has to submit receipts for a drawdown. ARPA drawdown requests are discussed in public work sessions with the commissioners and approved during the following open session of the commission meetings.

On motion (24-544) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Family Resource Center and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Six: Mr. Emerson presented the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Sugar Creek Packing Company and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds. He discussed some details regarding this addendum. Commissioner Wood mentioned if they have to return this money it does not give the county much time to spend the money. Mr. Emerson mentioned they would have to work with Greenbush if the funds are returned. Commissioner Wood and Mr. Emerson discussed funding regarding slots in the childcare facility. Commissioner Wood asked if Sugar Creek is not the provider do they not funnel funding through New Foundations and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked if they could get them in to a meeting to give an update.

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On motion (24-545) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between Sugar Creek Packing Company and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Seven: Mr. Emerson presented the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between New Foundations and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds. He explained since they are tied to the Sugar Creek project their timelines mirror Sugar Creek's timeline. Mr. Emerson stated he is just waiting on a signature from New Foundations.

On motion (24-546) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between New Foundations and Crawford County regarding the subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Eight: Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Emerson if they have the delivery date of the dump truck and Mr. Emerson answered he has not heard. Commissioner Moody asked if he could check on that.

Item Nine: Commissioner Moody discussed trash on 69 Highway. He asked Mr. Emerson if they could maybe hire someone and possibly have the trash company CARDS Trash Service pay for it as they are causing this trash. Commissioner Moody mentioned there was a couple attempting to pick up some of the trash and he thanks them for that. Commissioner Wood asked if there is any way to shut down the landfill and Mr. Emerson stated he does not believe so. Commissioner Wood stated KDHE is not answering calls on two different numbers. Commissioner Blair discussed maybe getting groups together to clean the highway. Commissioner Moody stated the possibility of having the Sheriff follow them and write them tickets when the trash flies out of the trucks and Commissioner Wood stated he thinks they need a representative from both CARDS and the landfill to come to a meeting. Mr. Emerson stated he will try to contact a representative from CARDS.

Item Ten: Commissioner Wood stated he received a letter from Home Cole Community Center thanking the Commissioners for their support.

Item Eleven: Commissioner Wood asked Commissioner Moody what he found out about the Schulte mower and Commissioner Moody stated his road and bridge crew thought it

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would be good but that they actually had more interest in a different piece of equipment. Commissioner Wood also mentioned he went by John Deere to try to discuss the tractor but that he will have to follow up on that again. Commissioner Moody mentioned the piece of equipment they were more interested in is a Skid Steer. Commissioner Moody asked if they could wait until Friday to decide about the Schulte mower and Commissioner Wood agreed that would be fine. Commissioner Blair asked if they want Foreman Josh Peak to come in and discuss equipment on Friday at 9:30 or 9:00. Commissioner Moody stated work session with Mr. Peak at 9:00 and 9:30 with Mr. Wally Wilson from Ryan Insurance. Later on in the meeting, Mr. Peak responded to Mr. Emerson that he was unavailable on Friday.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson mentioned the work session this morning regarding the \$75,890.63 bill from the county jail. He gave details about what funds they can take this from. Commissioner Blair asked if the Sheriff's Department will have anything in their budget to help with this and Mr. Emerson answered that they will not. Mr. Emerson mentioned the Building Improvement Fund has \$77,000.00 in it and that Maintenance Supervisor Robert Gorentz was hoping to earmark some of that for a large project next year. He also discussed the Operating Reserve Fund having \$400,000.00 in it. Commissioner Moody asked which fund Mr. Emerson recommends and Mr. Emerson stated he will recommend using the Building Improvement Fund to pay it.

On motion (24-547) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to pay the invoice to Mid Central Contract Services in the amount of \$75,890.63 out of the Building Improvement Fund.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood discussed the Miscellaneous account and why people use this for their bill packets. Mr. Emerson stated he can do another thorough look at this account. Ms. Lusker stated that Commissioner Wood is referencing two separate issues. The bill packet marked "Misc & Various" sometimes contains bills sent after bill packets have been submitted to the Fiscal office but because of the timing of receiving extra bill, they weren't included in the department's original packet but still needed to be paid before the next pay cycle. Commissioner Wood agreed that the funds were being taken from the correct department's account but still didn't understand why they were coming out of the Miscellaneous Fund. Ms. Lusker tried to explain that the Miscellaneous Fund and the Misc. bill packet are two separate things., and the Miscellaneous Fund is only being used for items including county insurance, county audits, the comprehensive plan, etc. Mr. Emerson stated he will go through the Miscellaneous Fund again and compile a list of what the fund was used for last year and report back to the commission with the findings. Commissioner Wood asked if the Miscellaneous Fund was over what was budgeted and Mr. Emerson answered that the fund is over budget by \$175,000. Mr.

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Emerson stated that we have tried to bump that up each year but each year the commission cuts it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (24-548) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Emergency Management applicants protected information pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:37 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:17 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 Two: January 3, 2025- 9:30 AM Work session to discuss insurance with Mr. Wally Wilson from Ryan Insurance.

Item Four: January 13, 2025- 9:00 AM Swearing in Ceremony for the Newly Elected County Officials with the Crawford County Board of Commissioners Reorganization Meeting to follow immediately.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: December 31, 2024– 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 no recordings will be done due to software updates.

Item Two: December 31, 2024- The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled.

Item Three: January 1, 2025- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the New Year Holiday.

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UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adjourn the [December 27, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:40 AM 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.

Lisa Lusker
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken RJA 12/30/24 10:00 AM](#)