

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2023, **FIRST** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Tuesday, January 3, 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 Tom Moody served as the presiding officer.

Commissioner Bruce Blair was in attendance.

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

Chairman Moody led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (23-001) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **December 27, 2022** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Johnson

The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.

SIGNING OF MOTIONS

The County Clerk presented the following motions for Commissioners' signatures:

Motion 22	466	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 20, 2022 minutes
Motion 22	467	To open the Public Hearing on the 2022 Crawford County Amended Budget
Motion 22	468	To close the Public Hearing on the 2022 Crawford County Amended Budget
Motion 22	469	To approve 2022 Crawford County Amended Budget as published
Motion 22	470	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: Mary E Gebhardt "Gebhardt's Chicken Dinners" PREMISES: 124 N 260th St, Mulberry, KS (For consumption on the premises)

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Motion 22	471	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 ARPA funding and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:35 AM
Motion 22	472	To recess this open session for a period of 5 minutes
Motion 22	473	To approve the allocation as discussed for the large child care centers and donating the ATC building in Girard to SEK-CAP as part of their allocation pending contract approval
Motion 22	474	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 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 11:05 AM
Motion 22	466	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 20, 2022 minutes

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Wayne Gudmonson & Interim Secretary of Transportation Calvin Reed and Mr. Peter Van Sickle from the Kansas Department of Transportation discussed the Highway 160 Expansion. Mr. Gudmonson addressed the Commissioners. Commissioner Moody addressed the trash on Highway 69 north of Arma and asked if the state could assist with this issue. Mr. Gudmonson explained that he will have his superintendent look at the area but stated that the way staffing is and the way priorities are they are trying to maintain white line to white line, but, if possible, will have someone go out and look at the property and possibly help clean up. Commissioner Moody stated that any assistance will be appreciated. Mr. Peter Van Sickle spoke about the “03 Project”, which is the expansion of 160 highway that will connect to the “01 02 Project” which will be the northern half of the new bypass of Pittsburg. Mr. Van Sickle shared with the Commissioners a picture of the proposed map of this new bypass plan. Commissioner Blair asked why the ”03” piece was picked first. Mr. Van Sickle replied that they believe it is the most logical first step of the project. Frontenac Mayor Dave Fornelli and Frontenac resident Stephen Hipfl were in the audience. Mayor Fornelli asked why the state chose this residential road to connect to the new bypass and not Atkinson in Pittsburg. Mr. Hipfl stated that he owns land on 160 and was going to build a house and now is in limbo with what to do. Commissioner Moody asked the rationale of using this road, because the state just paid to widen West McKay Street to help with industrial traffic. County Councilor Jim Emerson mentioned that it was a surprise that this project came up with the new 4 lane highway being built from Ft. Scott to Arma right now. Secretary Reed stated this project has been around since 2000. He stated that they are willing to go back and look at community interest in this project. He stated that the “69

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Highway Association” approached Senator Moran’s office to be involved in the discussion regarding funding allocation for the bypass project. Mr. Hipfl asked if the state would consider making improvements to the existing 4 lanes of Hwy 69. He stated that if they go the route of bypassing 69 Highway to the west, the state will be hurting a lot of businesses. Mayor Fornelli expressed concern that there is no one on the 69 Highway Association that represents Frontenac’s interests. Secretary Reed stated that he is committed to reengaging the study using the existing 4 lanes of 69 Highway through Frontenac for the project.

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker presented the December 2022 Clerk’s Report. She stated that this report summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and bills during the month of December. Ms. Lusker also gave the Commissioners a copy of the November 2022 to December 2022 Clerk’s Report of Changes in Expenditures for comparison. The Commissioners reviewed the reports.

On motion (23-002) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the December 2022 Clerk’s Report as presented.

On a Roll Call Vote.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Johnson

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson presented the contract between Capitol Strategies LLC and Crawford County, Kansas for 2023 for lobbying services. He stated that Crawford County’s contact through Capitol Strategies LLC is Mr. Bill Brady. Mr. Emerson explained that this company has done a great job for Crawford County over the years.

On motion (23-003) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the contract between Crawford County & Capitol Strategies LLC to provide monitoring and reporting representation to Crawford County through the 2023 Legislative Session at a cost of \$15,000 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Johnson

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson presented the ARPA drawdown request for December. He explained the requests included in the drawdown.

On motion (23-004) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the ARPA drawdown request for December.

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Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Johnson

The motion prevailed.

Item Four: Commissioner Blair discussed doing an audit on the ARPA Childcare funding and whether to do it in house or hire an outside agency. The Commissioners will readdress this at a later meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION -

Item One: Commissioner Moody requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (23-005) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 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 11:05 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Johnson

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:45 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:05 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: January 9, 2023 – 10:00 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: January 10, 2023 – The Board of County Commissioner Regular Session is cancelled due to the Reorganization Meeting being held on January 9, 2023.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

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On the motion of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Blair to adjourn the [January 3, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:07 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.

Lisa Lusker
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken BKW 01/03/23 11:07 AM/amended BKW 1/5/2023 8:30 AM](#)