

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2021, [FIRST MEETING](#)

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, [Tuesday, January 5, 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 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.

Chairman Blair led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (21-001) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the [December 29, 2020](#) minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

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	528	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 22, 2020 minutes
Motion 20	529	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss Health Department Personnel under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Executive Administrator for Health, Mental Health and Juvenile Services Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 10:40 AM
Motion 20	530	To make it known that 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 2021 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses APPLICANT: "Jo's One Stop LLC" PREMISES: 401 N 69

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		Hwy, Arma, KS 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, KS 66762 (For consumption on the premises) APPLICANT: Mary E Gebhardt “Gebhardt’s Chicken Dinners” PREMISES: 124 N 260th St, Mulberry KS 66756 (For consumption on the premises)
Motion 20	531	To approve the Convention and Visitors Bureau 2021 Proposed Budget
Motion 20	532	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss the Noxious Weed Director position and the IT Director position under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:10 AM

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

Item One: Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean gave the Commissioners a brief update on COVID-19. She discussed the new cases and the number of individuals tested. She also discussed the positivity rate. She informed the Commissioners of the number of people in isolation and in quarantine, the number of total deaths and the number of long-term facilities currently affected. Dr. Bean discussed the school criteria. She stated that there will a Zoom call tomorrow with the Health Officials and the local superintendents to review the criteria and give updates on the current situation and what should take place in the second semester. She discussed hospital capacity and the number of COVID-19 patients in each hospital and the number of Monoclonal Antibody Infusions that have been done. She stated that they are continuing to vaccinate. She said there have been a lot of questions about vaccinations moving to the second wave and they received information from KDHE yesterday that stated they are not prepared yet to move to the second phase and will let the partners know when more information becomes available. Mr. Moody was answered that only one shipment of vaccines has been received and are still in the process of allocating the doses to other counties. County Health Director Janis Goedeke stated that the 2nd allocation should be received next week. Commissioner Johnson asked about Kansas being last in the percentage of people being vaccinated and Dr. Bean and Ms. Goedeke explained this issue. Ms. Goedeke discussed what could take place when the vaccine is available to the community.

Ms. Goedeke gave an update on the Health Department and testing. She also gave an update on the Well Health Screening with testing and positivity rates and updated the Commissioners on the Mobile Testing Unit.

Mr. Michael Ehling, Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Juvenile Services addressed the Commissioners. He discussed some observations he has seen in the community. He also discussed some pastoral care he did in ICU at Ascension Via Christi and that he observed the hospital workers in the ICU unit and stated that what they do is absolutely stunning and he would like the community to express appreciation to the

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health care workers and the excellent job they do for the patients, their families and to the entire community.

Mr. Ehling gave an update on the Health Department. He stated that Crawford County has been blessed with the solid leadership that we have had during this pandemic. He explained that the positions of leadership have all been temporary. He stated that he is thankful for Dr. Stebbins and Dr. Bean being allowed to serve in their capacities during this time. He explained that Dr. Stebbins and Dr. Bean have maintained their full-time jobs along with being the Crawford County Health Officer and Crawford County Deputy Health Officer and it has been hard to handle their responsibilities. Mr. Ehling stated Dr. Stebbins has agreed to stay on as Health Officer until the end of June. He explained that as of today Dr. Bean will step away from the position of Deputy Health Officer but will remain as a medical advisor to the Health Department and the County Board of Health. He said that Ms. Goedeke will be staying on as a consultant in the Health Department. Mr. Ehling announced that Ms. Teddi Van Kam will be the new Deputy Health Officer and Interim Health Department Director for Crawford County. He gave some background information on Ms. Van Kam.

Dr. Bean thanked the Commissioners and everyone at the Health Department for allowing her to serve as the Deputy Health Officer and for trusting her during this time. She said that she has enjoyed working with everyone. She stated that this has been a wonderful experience and looks forward to working with the team. She said she has a lot of confidence in Ms. Van Kam and said they have a wonderful working relationship. The Commissioners thanked Dr. Bean for her hard work.

Ms. Goedeke stated that it is a privilege to be a resident of Crawford County and to have the support of the Commissioners which a lot of counties do not have. She said that the working relationship between Dr. Stebbins and Dr. Bean has been remarkable and a model across the state. She stated that it has been a privilege to be back at the health department. She commended Ms. Van Kam on the work she has done at the Health Department and stated that she will be an excellent Deputy Health Officer and Health Department Director and looks forward to continuing to work with her as a consultant.

Ms. Van Kam addressed the Commissioners and stated that she is excited for this opportunity and thanked Mr. Ehling, Dr. Bean, Dr. Stebbins and Ms. Goedeke. She stated that she is looking forward to the new challenge and appreciates the opportunity to serve as Deputy Health Officer and interim Health Department Director. The Commissioners stated that they look forward to working with her.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Wallace Wilson, Ryan Insurance addressed the Commissioners in regard to insurance renewals. He presented the Commissioners with 2021-2022 Insurance Proposal. He went through the proposal with the Commissioners and explained any changes in coverages and the premiums. He went through the loss percentages. Mr. Wilson discussed vehicle coverages and deductibles and the reasons for raising the comprehensive deductibles. He discussed work comp coverages and a Nurse on Call

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program that EMC is requesting Crawford County participate in to lower losses. He explained what the program entails. The Commissioners will readdress at a later date.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented the December 2020 Clerk's Report. Mr. Pyle stated that this report summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and bills during the month of December. Mr. Pyle also gave the Commissioners a copy of the November 2020 to December 2020 Clerk's Report of Changes in Expenditures for comparison. Mr. Pyle reviewed the changes with the Commissioners and discussed some of the reasons for the changes in expenditures.

On motion (21-002) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the December 2020 Clerk's Report as presented.

On a Roll Call Vote.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that tomorrow the next to the last report is due to the state on the SPARK Funding and there will be one more wrap up report due in February. He said that Mr. Mike Bodensteiner will be here on Friday.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson stated that 911 Director Tim Mikrut has requested a work session with the Commissioners on January 15, 2021 at 9:30 AM to discuss a tower project in the northeastern part of the county.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Appraiser Zach Edwards requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-003) 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 10 minutes to discuss the Appraiser's Office under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and County Appraiser Zach Edwards 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.

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The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:10 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:20 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Pyle stated that on Monday, January 11, the swearing in of the newly elected officials will take place at 9:15 AM and Judge Loy will be here to do the swearing in ceremony. The regular session will commence at 10:00 AM.

Item Two: Commissioner Moody stated that he would like Mr. Rusty Akins, Emergency Management Director to give an update at the meeting on January 8, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

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

On motion (21-004) 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 Early Retirement under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:38 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 11:23 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:38 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: Commissioner Jeremy Johnson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-005) 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 IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and IT Specialist Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 11:55 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 11:40 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:48 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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Item Four: Commissioner Bruce Blair requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-006) 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 10 minutes to discuss IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:59 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 11:49 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:59 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Five: Commissioner Bruce Blair requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-007) 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 10 minutes to discuss the IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and IT Specialist Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 12:11 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 12:01 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:11 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Six: Commissioner Tom Moody requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-008) 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 10 minutes to discuss IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:21 PM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

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The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 12:11 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:20 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: January 11, 2021 – 9:15 AM Swearing in Ceremony for the Newly Elected County Officials with the Crawford County Board of Commissioners Reorganization Meeting to follow immediately.

Item Two: January 15, 2021 – 9:30 AM Work Session with 911 Director Tim Mikrut to discuss tower project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: January 12, 2021 – The Board of County Commissioner Regular Session is cancelled due to the Reorganization Meeting being held on January 11, 2021.

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 [January 5, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:22 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.

Don Pyle
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

Taken by BKW 1/05/2021 12:22 PM/amended BKW 1/7/2020 1:15 PM