

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2026, TWENTY-THIRD MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. Friday, March 20, 2026 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.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance.

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

Vice Chairman Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**On motion (26-137)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **March 17, 2026** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

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 26	132	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the March 13, 2026 minutes
Motion 26	133	To approve the publication of the Notice of Intent to Vacate a Platted Street in the Town of Ringo, Crawford County, Kansas with a public hearing scheduled for Friday, April 17, 2026 at 10:00 AM
Motion 26	134	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 30 minutes to discuss Shop Maintenance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

		the individual employees. The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:03 AM. The Motion passed 2-0
Motion 26	135	To recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss legal advice regarding a property which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, present. The open meeting will resume at 11:13 AM. The motion passed 2-0
Motion 26	136	To recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss haul road which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, present. The open meeting will resume at 11:31 AM. The motion passed 2-0

**UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS  
PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS**

**Item One:** Public Hearing on Vacating a Platted Alley located in the Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas.

**On motion (26-138)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to open the Public Hearing to Vacate a Platted Alley located in the Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**There was no public comment.**

**On motion (26-139)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to close the Public Hearing to Vacate a Platted Alley located in the Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

Mr. Emerson presented Resolution #2026-013, a Resolution closing and vacating a platted alley in the Original Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas, according to the recorded plat thereof. He explained the details to the Commissioners and mentioned it

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

was a landowner's request. Commissioner Moody asked if there was any opposition or concerns and Mr. Emerson answered that there were neither.

**On motion (26-140)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adopt Resolution #2026-013, a Resolution closing and vacating a platted alley in the Original Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas, according to the recorded plat thereof.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

**On motion (26-141)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Maintenance Department pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Courthouse Maintenance Aaron Crozier attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:26 AM. The Motion passed 2-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:06 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:23 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Two:** Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (26-142)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Maintenance Department pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Courthouse Maintenance Aaron Crozier attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:44 AM. The Motion passed 2-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:24 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:40 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH  
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS  
MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES  
MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS  
MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Item One:** Ms. Judy Prince addressed the Commissioners. She stated she sent her proposed revisions to Mr. Joshua Albin and the Zoning Department as recommended by the Commissioners and the revisions have not yet been made. She mentioned she is just wondering if these revisions will be made by the next public hearing on March 26th. Commissioner Wood asked for clarification on what revisions she is discussing and Ms. Prince mentioned she is referencing the grammatical errors that were discovered but that there were also significant problems such as the solar section mentioning wind language like rotors and blades. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Emerson if he can make Mr. Albin aware to go through and correct the revisions and Mr. Emerson stated it is just a rough draft and that they can make the grammatical changes at any time but any technical changes will need to be made by the Zoning Board. Ms. Prince stated the Zoning Board met last night and did not discuss any changes to the grammar at all so she wants to know if it will be done before March 26th. Mr. Emerson stated they can make sure the grammar gets taken care of and that he will visit with Zoning Administrator May Smith, and he asked if Ms. Prince got confirmation that Ms. Smith sent this to Mr. Albin. Ms. Prince explained she provided the revisions to Ms. Smith who stated she would provide them to the Zoning Board and then Ms. Prince sent the revisions to Mr. Albin herself. Commissioner Wood asked if she received a reply from Mr. Albin and Ms. Prince stated she did not. Ms. Prince stated she just thought the revisions would be made and then posted to the Crawford County website but that it is not corrected yet. Commissioner Wood asked Ms. Prince if she received the original information from the first public meeting and Ms. Prince stated she did not and is going by what is posted to the county website. Ms. Prince asked after the public hearing on March 26th if there is any change made to the content or grammar would the public be given access to that information prior to the Board of Commissioners being provided for approval. Commissioner Wood explained it will go through the Planning and Zoning Board before being presented to the Commissioners. Mr. Emerson mentioned it is in draft form until approved by Planning and Zoning Board for recommendation by the Commissioners and that he would believe any revisions would be made public. Ms. Prince stated her question is once the Planning and Zoning Board makes their revisions would there be any lapse of time between the approval and it being presented to the Commissioners that it would be open to the public for review. Mr. Emerson stated he believes there would be time before approval by Commissioners because the Commissioners will have to spend time reviewing. Mr. Emerson also mentioned he is assuming that Mr. Albin will attend the meeting to present and explain the information. Ms. Prince mentioned there are also significant reinforcements that need to be made to make it stronger in the event of a future court case and explained her reasoning. She stated she just does not believe it is strong enough.

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioner Wood discussed projects having to be approved by Planning and Zoning Board before starting and that it also then has to be approved by the Commissioners. Commissioner Wood and Mr. Emerson briefly mentioned zoning. Mr. Emerson mentioned any penalties for zoning violations are set in State statute and the county cannot add penalties because they think it strengthens the document, but that Mr. Albin has to follow State statute as he writes the document. Mr. Emerson stated he can check and make sure penalties are set at the maximum level allowed by State statute. Ms. Prince gave another example she had in mind to strengthen the document regarding switching of ownership of the projects. Commissioner Wood asked for some clarification and Ms. Prince explained she wants things in writing that will hold up in a court of law. Mr. Emerson mentioned the next public hearing would be a good place to give her feedback as well.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Item One:** County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated she received an invitation for the county for the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce banquet on May 7th and she just needs a head count of who would like to attend. Commissioner Moody stated he would like to attend. Commissioner Wood stated he will check his schedule and asked when she needs to know by and Ms. Lusker mentioned to let her know as soon as possible.

**Item Two:** Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson if he can see if Ms. Smith can come up at the end of the meeting for an executive session for 15 minutes and Mr. Emerson confirmed he can check.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** Commissioner Moody stated they have two long time employees retiring being Mr. Robert Gorentz and Mr. Randy Sandberg. He mentioned they have both been great employees for the county, will be surely missed, and that he would like to congratulate them and wish them well. Commissioner Wood stated he would like to agree with this as well. Commissioner Wood mentioned he wishes them well on their futures.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

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

**On motion (26-143)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Maintenance Department pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:11 AM. The Motion passed 2-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:56 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:10 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Four:** Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

**On motion (26-144)** of Commissioner Wood and second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss nuisance which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Zoning Administrator May Smith present. The open meeting will resume at 11:21 AM. The motion passed 2-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Moody

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:11 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:21 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### **UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **FUTURE BUSINESS:**

**Item One: March 24, 2026-** Opening of dust control bids.

**Item Two: March 27, 2026-** Opening of chip and seal oil bids.

**Item Three: April 7, 2026-** The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Item One: March 26, 2026- 5:30 PM** Planning and Zoning Public Hearing located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Crawford County Courthouse.

### **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 [March 20, 2026](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:22 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Wood

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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.**

---

**Lisa Lusker**

County Clerk

◇

**This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.**

Taken RJA 3/23/2026 11:50 AM/amended BKW 3/23/26 12:20 PM