Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2026, THIRTY-NINETH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, May 22, 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 Bruce Blair served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker 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 (26-244) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the May 19, 2026 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair
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 26	236	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the May 15, 2026 minutes, and Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 645213 to 645489 dated May 15, 2026 in the total amount of $499,167.75
Motion 26	237	To appoint Roger Horton and Gian Yarbrough to the Explore Crawford County Advisory Board
Motion 26	238	To adopt Resolution #2026-020, a Resolution expanding the hours of

		sale at retail of alcoholic liquor and/or cereal malt beverage in the original package within the unincorporated area of Crawford County, Kansas during the FIFA World Cup Tournament
Motion 26	239	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Sheriff's 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, Sheriff Billy Tomasi, and Sheriff's Department Human Resources/Finance Officer Adam Harrison attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:43 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 26	240	To appoint Chief Deputy Matthew Peters to replace Mr. Stuart Hite on the Southeast Kansas Homeland Security (SEKHLS) council as the Crawford County representative effective June 1, 2026
Motion 26	241	To approve the publication of the Notice of Intent to Vacate a Platted Street in the Original Town of Opolis, Crawford County, Kansas with a public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM
Motion 26	242	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Road and Bridge 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 11:07 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 26	243	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for 30 minutes to discuss IT Department pursuant to the matters relating to security measures, if the discussion of such matters at an open meeting would jeopardize such security measures that protect a public body or agency, public building or facility or the information system of a public body or agency exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(12)(C), and to include the County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and IT Director Brandon Spaur. The open meeting will resume at 11:40 A.M. The motion passed 3-0

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS
MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH
MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES
MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS
MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Emergency Manager Quinton Parsons addressed the Commissioners. He explained they receive the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) every year and stated they have already filled out this application once this year but that an updated signature is being requested. Commissioner Wood asked how much this grant is for and Mr. Parsons answered.

On motion (26-245) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the Emergency Management Performance Grant application and authorizing the Chairman to sign.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair
Nays:
Present but not voting:
Absent or not voting:
The motion prevailed.

Mr. Parsons gave an update on the fires in Western Kansas as well as details regarding the help they provided. He stated he is very proud of their individuals who helped. Commissioner Blair asked what caused the fires and Mr. Parsons answered that the fire began with lightening. Mr. Parsons provided the names of the individuals who helped. Commissioner Wood asked how many years this task force has existed and Mr. Parsons explained. Commissioner Wood asked how they communicated during this fire and Mr. Parsons answered. Commissioner Blair stated he appreciates everything these individuals did. Commissioner Moody and Commissioner Wood thanked them as well. Commissioner Blair stated since it is the 15th Anniversary of the Joplin tornado he asked where people can find a list of tornado shelters and Mr. Parsons stated the Facebook page has a list of public tornado shelters as well as the county website under the Emergency Management tab. Mr. Parsons mentioned several towns do not have a public shelter and gave detail what to do if you do not have a shelter. Commissioner Wood asked if more people have subscribed to the Genasys system and Mr. Parsons confirmed. Commissioner Wood asked if Baker Fire has a tornado shelter and Mr. Parsons confirmed but mentioned it is only for the crew.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated she received a yearly invoice from Tyler Technologies. Commissioner Blair asked which department this belongs to and Ms. Lusker explained. She mentioned it has increased $1,541 from last year's invoice and that the total amount is $27,581.30 with permission needed to pay. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson if he knows anything about this and Mr. Emerson gave information on the invoice. Commissioner Wood asked if departments are using this for accounting and Mr. Emerson explained all departments use this to enter their monthly bills.

On motion (26-246) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve payment of the Tyler Technologies invoice in the amount of $27,581.30.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair
Nays:
Present but not voting:
Absent or not voting:
The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson provided an email from County Appraiser Zach Edwards regarding 2025 and 2026 assessed value. He gave information regarding these numbers. Mr. Emerson mentioned he asked for a list of personal property that will still be taxable

and Mr. Edwards included in the email that those properties include mobile homes, heavy trucks and no highway motor vehicles, commercial and industrial machinery and equipment pre 2007, signs, trailers with GVW over 15,000 pounds, and aircrafts. Mr. Emerson stated hopefully by June 1st they will have an idea on valuations. Commissioner Moody asked if he has any idea how that is looking and Mr. Emerson answered it is up but not up a lot.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson presented an email he received regarding the wrap up of HHW. He stated he wants to do a little bit of investigation before paying the bills but that they have received two final invoices from Clean Harbors. Mr. Emerson explained these are final bills for clean up and stated one is in the amount of $10,177.90 and the other for $12,993.92. Mr. Emerson stated he was told there would be a little extra for battery shipment and another small invoice for utilities and smaller expenses. Commissioner Wood stated he is going to try to go by there today but that he is not understanding why these invoices are so high. Commissioner Moody asked if they should sit on this invoice for now and Commissioner Wood suggested sitting on it until Tuesday.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson stated he had a request for a work session on June 12th at 9:00 AM with Communications Director Tim Mikrut and Sheriff Billy Tomasi and tentatively June 2nd at 9:00 with IT Director Brandon Spaur to discuss Tyler Technologies.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood stated he was going through bills this morning and that there was a bill for $455. He asked about lagoons and water mains and Mr. Emerson explained.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Ms. Lusker stated she wanted to try to get the bigger departments scheduled for budget work sessions. She asked about June 5th and June 9th at 9:00 AM for work sessions and that she will mention which departments will be on those dates at the next meeting.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood stated they were levelling out on Free Kings Highway and that a couple of people got nasty with the road crew. Commissioner Wood stated they eventually had to call the Sheriff's Department. He mentioned he has instructed the crew to not deal with this and to call the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Moody mentioned it is a safety issue and Commissioner Wood mentioned the crew had plenty of signage up as well. Commissioner Moody stated they are only trying to improve the road.

Item Three: Commissioner Blair mentioned quite a bit of 69 Highway has been mowed and that it looks much better. He also stated whoever has picked up the trash did a great job.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (26-247) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Health 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 10:52 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 10:37 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:52 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

On motion (26-248) of Commissioner Blair and second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss legal advice regarding insurance 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 11:08 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 10:53 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:06 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (26-249) 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 Road and Bridge 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 11:18 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 11:08 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:18 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Six: Commissioner Moody stated since it is asphalt season historically, they have adjusted Road and Bridge hours to begin at 6:00 AM instead of 7:00 AM. He asked if that is something the Commissioners would like to continue and Commissioner Wood and Commissioner Blair agreed. Commissioner Moody mentioned it is still an eight-hour day for the workers.

On motion (26-250) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve switching to summer hours for Road and Bridge after Memorial Day.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair
Nays:
Present but not voting:
Absent or not voting:
The motion prevailed.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: May 29, 2026- 9:00 AM Work Session with EMS Department to discuss budget.

Item Two: June 2, 2026- 9:00 AM Work Session with IT Director Brandon Spaur to discuss Tyler Technologies.

Item Three: June 2, 2026- Conservation District Board Chairman Mark Lehman discussing 2027 budget.

Item Four: June 5, 2026- 9:00 AM Work Session to discuss budgets.

Item Five: June 9, 2026- 9:00 AM Work Session to discuss budgets.

Item Six: June 12, 2026- 9:00 AM Work Session with Communications Director Tim Mikrut and Sheriff Billy Tomasi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: May 25, 2026- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

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 May 22, 2026 meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:20 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.
Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair
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.

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Lisa Lusker
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.
Taken RJA 5/22/26 3:40 PM/amended BKW 5/22/26 4:00 PM