

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2024, **EIGHTY-SIXTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, November 19, 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 Tom Moody and Bruce Blair 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 (24-482) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **November 15, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the November 15, 2024 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers.

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 24	476	To Accept the Recommendations of the County Election Officer for the Acceptance and Rejection of Provisional Ballots from the 2024 General Election held November 5, 2024 in Crawford County
Motion 24	477	To recess the Board of County Canvassers at 9:43 AM and go into the regular session
Motion 24	478	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 12, 2024 minutes, Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 633565 to 633896 dated November 15, 2024 in the total amount of \$416,890.17, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers

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Motion 24	479	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes for legal advice which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice related to the EMS Department with the County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson present. The open meeting will resume at 10:24 A.M. The motion passed 3-0
Motion 24	480	To reconvene the meeting of the Board of County Canvassers at 10:28 AM
Motion 24	481	To Accept the Final Results Report of the 2024 General Election held November 5, 2024 in Crawford County

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 THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Donnie Talent addressed the Commissioners. He stated he is attempting to get clarification on ARPA numbers. He asked how much money Crawford County was awarded in ARPA funds total and Mr. Emerson answered. Mr. Talent asked the date that funding came in to existence and Mr. Emerson answered that it was around 3 and a half years ago but that he does not have the exact date without looking into it. Mr. Talent asked how much Crawford County paid Greenbush to be the administrator of the portal for MOU's and ARPA funding and Mr. Emerson answered. He asked how many total applications were received for ARPA funding and Mr. Emerson stated he did not know. Mr. Talent asked how many MOUs the county approved and Mr. Emerson stated he would have to look into that to provide a number. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Emerson to get this number and provide it. Mr. Talent discussed the formula the Commissioners have referred to with Large Childcare ARPA funding and asked if there is a way he can get a copy of this formula and Commissioner Moody answered that he does not have a copy of this formula. Commissioner Blair stated they may be able to contact Mr. Jeremy Johnson to obtain a copy of the formula. County Clerk Lisa Lusker answered that the page she was given from Mr. Emerson that was from Mr. Johnson's paperwork was the only thing that she had to provide at the time of being asked to provide this information and Mr. Emerson confirmed that is the only form he has as well. Commissioner Blair mentioned Mr. Johnson had an equation in his paperwork that they had used. Mr. Talent asked in all of the MOUs that were created and approved how many of the MOUs did Greenbush oversee and Mr. Emerson asked for clarification on the question as Greenbush helped with the entire process. He asked if he heard correctly last month that Point Forward was able to write their own MOU and Mr. Emerson answered they began with the base MOU from Greenbush and made changes and that Mr. Talent could have made changes as well.

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Item Two: Mr. Joshua Albin addressed the Commissioners. He mentioned he is here to talk about the Comprehensive Plan and the Preliminary Survey. Mr. Albin answered that he has reviewed the survey questions that were proposed to the Commissioners to be added to the survey and that he does have some thoughts regarding these propositions. He stated the survey that was presented to the Commissioner is a fact finding, information gathering survey. Mr. Albin explained the questions are not politically motivated or no specific information being targeted more while the questions that were proposed were all regarding one particular issue. He mentioned all the questions proposed were written very narrowly. Mr. Albin discussed why this survey is written the way that it is. Mr. Albin answered solar and wind energy, while it is a big topic in Kansas, is only a small portion of a Comprehensive Plan. He explained when those questions would be more appropriate to be asked for feedback. Mr. Albin stated in his professional opinion they should not be included in a Preliminary Survey. Commissioner Blair asked a question regarding the comments section of the survey and if people can discuss wind and solar on those areas and Mr. Albin confirmed. Commissioner Wood clarified what the Comprehensive Plan is for and Mr. Albin explained. Commissioner Blair asked to clarify how the survey and Comprehensive Plan tie in to the feedback coming from all local areas and Mr. Albin explained and gave an example. Commissioner Blair asked about the survey and Mr. Albin elaborated on this. Commissioner Wood spoke regarding the survey and problems that the county residents may have with the survey. Commissioner Wood stated he does not believe the survey will have a good outcome unless they make it easily accessible and Mr. Albin discussed. Commissioner Wood asked how to educate people regarding the survey because they will not be able to educate them all and Mr. Albin asked if he at least educated the people that asked him about it. Commissioner Blair stated it will be their job as well to help promote the survey when it is time to fill it out to get as many responses as they possibly can. Mr. Albin stated the more meetings they have about this survey the more time is being wasted that could be used putting together the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Albin stated he hopes everybody that possibly can attend the meeting tonight will be there but that it is not a session to complain about what is or is not on the survey and that it is more educational about why the survey is created the way that it is. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Albin about extending the moratorium and Mr. Albin answered.

Item Three: Ms. Judy Prince addressed the Commissioners and Mr. Albin. She stated wind and solar should be on the survey because it is going to change the way of living for the residents of Crawford County. She stated the Commissioners are doing well keeping the county the way that it is, that she is not looking for massive economic growth in the county because she thinks most of the people of Crawford County would move to Kansas City if they wanted to live in a city setting. She does not want this county to become another Kansas City or Tulsa.

Item Four: Commissioner Blair asked Mr. Albin if they could add additional comment sections on the utility section and Mr. Albin answered.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

NEW BUSINESS

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Item One: Ms. Lusker stated she would like the Commissioners to have the swearing in of Elected and Reelected Officials and Reorganization Meeting on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Emerson if they have historically gone into a Commissioner meeting following this meeting and Mr. Emerson confirmed so they discussed that there would be a Commission meeting that Monday opposed to that Tuesday, January 14th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (24-483) 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 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, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Emergency Management Director Rusty Akins attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:01 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:46 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:59 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (24-484) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody 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, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Communications Director Rusty Akins attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:15 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:15 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

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Item Two: Mr. Emerson discussed KDOT's listening session. He stated this is an important session that they should be at and that KDOT is looking at ways to update and refine their highway project scoring and selection process. Mr. Emerson mentioned this listening session is on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. at the Pittsburg State Overman Student Center.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson stated he had a request for a work session on Friday from Communications Director Tim Mikrut and Sheriff Danny Smith. The Commissioners agreed to have the work session on Friday, November 22nd at 8:30 AM. Commissioner Moody confirmed that anybody is able to come to work sessions and Mr. Emerson confirmed.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson presented a Notice of Intent to Vacate Platted Streets in Friskel and Langgeger's Subdivision. He explained where the streets were located to the Commissioners and discussed the request to vacate. He explained it will be 3 alleys and a street. Mr. Emerson explained the public hearing over this vacate will be on December 13, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

On motion (24-485) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the publication of the Notice of Intent to Vacate Platted Streets located in Friskel and Langgeger's Subdivision, Crawford County, Kansas with a public hearing scheduled for Friday, December 13, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Five: Commissioner Moody mentioned putting a City/County luncheon together. Mr. Emerson mentioned he believed Pittsburg and Frontenac have both looked into having one. Commissioner Moody stated he wants the county to put one together so that Mr. Albin's information can be given to the cities and everyone will be on the same page. Commissioner Wood suggested having this luncheon at the Homer Cole Community Center. Commissioner Wood asked if Commissioner Moody would like Mr. Albin to come to the luncheon and Commissioner Moody stated that would be nice of him. Mr. Albin stated when they set a date he will add it to his calendar.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson discussed the concrete bids for the Arma Tower Site. He explained this is the rebids that have been sent in. Mr. Emerson announced the original low bid was \$8,950 and the revised bids from JT Construction being \$11,220 and from Turnkey LLC being \$10,711. Mr. Emerson states he hates that they have had to wait so long to refigure this project out. Commissioner Wood asked if when the original bid went out would there be any change orders and Mr. Emerson clarified there would be no change orders.

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On motion (24-486) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to accept the low bid from Turnkey LLC of \$10,711 for the Arma Tower Site.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson presented an ARPA Obligation Document. He explained that before the end of the year any funding that has not been obligated becomes obligated. Mr. Emerson discussed the SEK-CAP Girard project and how they will not be able to utilize the \$200,000 and so that money is returning to the county. Mr. Emerson explained this handout of funds to be obligated and gave a breakdown of these funds. Commissioner Moody asked once the funds return to the county is it up to the Commissioners to determine how it is spent and Mr. Emerson confirmed. Commissioner Wood asked about Sugar Creek's project and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked if Sugar Creek will have to tell the Commissioners what they plan on spending the remainder of their funds on by the end of the year and Mr. Emerson explained they will need an updated MOU.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

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

On motion (24-487) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 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, County Counselor Jim Emerson and County Appraiser Zach Edwards attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:44 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:34 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:44 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Three: Commissioner Wood discussed three railroad crossings that are going to be repaired tomorrow.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: November 22, 2024- 9:00 AM Work Session with Honorable Lori A. Bolton Fleming, Chief Judge, 11th Judicial District, and Mac Young, 11th Judicial District Court Administrator, regarding the Judicial Center project.

Item Two: November 22, 2024- 8:30 AM Work session with Communications Director Tim Mikrut and Sheriff Danny Smith to discuss the cloud system.

Item Three: November 22, 2024- Mr. Jeff Edgington, Blue Valley Public Safety, Communications Director Tim Mikrut, Emergency Management Director Rusty Akins and County Grant Writer Gus Brunetti discussing storm sirens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: November 19, 2024- 5:30 PM Public meeting with Mr. Josh Albin to discuss the Comprehensive Plan in the Courtroom, 3rd Floor, 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 [November 19, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:47 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 11/21/2024 10:00 AM/amended BKW 11/21/24 12:15 PM