

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2024, [SEVENTY-SIXTH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, October 11, 2024 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 Bruce Blair and Tom Moody 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 (24-433) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **October 8, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

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	430	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the October 4, 2024 minutes
Motion 24	431	To send the proposed conditional land use case for Jason Nutter back to the Planning & Zoning Board with recommendations
Motion 24	432	To approve a purchasing card for Aaron Crozier, Courthouse Maintenance with a credit limit of \$2,500 through GNBank

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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

Item One: Sheriff Danny Smith addressed the Commissioners with an update on Enterprise Leasing. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has 6 patrol vehicles through Enterprise Leasing and the goal is to have 8 vehicles with no plans to go with the full fleet of vehicles. He explained how difficult it is to obtain fleet vehicles and the reasons for going with leasing. He also explained how leasing works with the warranties and maintenance and the costs savings involved. He discussed using Enterprise Leasing fuel cards for a discount on fuel. He stated that the leased vehicles at the Sheriff's Department are Dodge Durangos. Commissioner Wood asked about insuring these vehicles and Sheriff Smith answered that Enterprise takes care of the insurance and it is included in the payments. Sheriff Smith explained that the extra equipment does not come with the vehicles and the equipment has to be ordered through the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Smith answered Commissioner Wood that it was up to Enterprise on how long the vehicles were used by the Sheriff's Department. He discussed the current vehicles owned by the department and the rotation schedule for these vehicles.

Sheriff Smith discussed the issue with the trash trucks on the county roads and not being tarped and the complaints received about this issue. He explained that the area will be patrolled and tickets will be issued to untarped trash trucks.

The Commissioners and Sheriff Smith discussed dangerous intersections and how the Sheriff's Department is involved in study of the intersection and what can be done to make safer. The Commissioners stated that this will be discussed with Sign Foreman Dale Shireman.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson addressed insurance contracts for 2025. He started with the vision insurance through Surency and handed out copies of the contract and rates to the Commissioners. He explained that there was a 3-year price lock with Surency and this is the 3rd year of 3.

On motion (24-434) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the contract with Surency for vision insurance for the county for 2025 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Emerson handed out the contract with Delta Dental for Dental Insurance for 2025. He explained that there is an increase in the administrative rate from \$6.25 per subscriber per month to \$7.00 per subscriber per month beginning January 1, 2025 through

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

December 31, 2025. He stated that this is an annual approval with a 3 year lock on the administrative rate at \$7.00 for 2025, 2026 and 2027. He said that there are no changes to the dental policy from last year except for the administrative rate increase. He spoke about extra benefits the employee is able to buy into.

On motion (24-435) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the contract with Delta Dental for dental insurance for the county for 2025 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Emerson addressed health insurance and handed out the contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. He explained that this is the same plan as last year. He explained the high deductible health plan (HSA program) and the deductibles for this plan. He stated that the final increase for the year was around 4%. He said that there is an administrative contract and stop loss contract. Mr. Emerson explained stop loss coverage and monthly liability cap. He also explained the 3 options for employees.

On motion (24-436) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for health insurance for the county for 2025 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson stated that a check was received from Purple Wave in the amount of \$132,650.00 from the equipment sale.

Item Three: Commissioner Moody addressed the trash along 69 highway and stated that it looks terrible and something needs to be done. Mr. Emerson stated that he spoke to Jeff Fischer from KDOT and also Matt Sanders from Oak Grove landfill about the issue. He stated that an individual filmed a trash truck on the road with an open back and losing trash on the road and this has been turned in to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Wood discussed an issue with a resident that had problems on free dump day that was turned away. Mr. Emerson will follow up on this and check on the guideline for the free dump day at the landfill.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker wanted to remind the public that Tuesday, October 15, 2024 is the last day to register to vote or to make changes to your voter registration. She also stated that Wednesday, October 16, 2024 is the first day advance ballots can be mailed and also early voting begins in the County Clerk's office on that day.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Two: Mr. Emerson presented a letter of support for Building Health Inc. a subsidiary of Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Inc to request funds through the State of Kansas and a copy of the bylaws of Building Health, Inc. He also presented a letter of support for Coordinated Transit District #10 in their application to the Kansas Department of Transportation for assistance. The Commissioners would like to look over the information before making a decision. Mr. Emerson will readdress on Tuesday.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson presented a policy for the Employee Handbook on Organ and Bone Marrow Donation Leave. He went though and explained the details of the policy. The Commissioners decided to table this issue until Tuesday.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson presented a Memorandum of Understanding Between Point Forward and Crawford County regarding the Subaward of the American Rescue Plan Act Recovery Funds. Mr. Emerson requested the Commissioners review this document and will be readdressed on Tuesday.

NEW BUSINESS continued MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Pastor Donnie Talent addressed the Commissioners and stated that he would like to follow up on some questions and documents he had presented on October 1, 2024 in the Commission Meeting regarding Point Forward and Washington LLC. He asked if there has been an update about the questions and concerns he presented that day. Mr. Emerson stated that these documents were passed over to Greenbush and he has not heard any information. Pastor Talent asked if there were any concerns about the questions and documents he presented and Commissioner Wood stated that he did have concerns and Commissioner Moody stated that there will be answers on Tuesday. Pastor Talent addressed questions he had about the Point Forward's application. Pastor Talent questioned why there was not a date or signature on the application and Mr. Emerson stated he would need to look at the application. Commissioner Moody asked Pastor Talent why he was against this project as this is for the kids and Pastor Talent answered that he is not against the project and agreed that it is a great project and is for the kids and he is not against Point Forward and childcare, it is the process. Commissioner Moody stated that this will create a place for kids to go and be safe and parents can feel good because they are leaving their children in a safe place. Pastor Talent stated that he agrees with Commissioner Moody 100%. Pastor Talent stated that it is not known when the application was filled out, asked if it was a supplemental application and discussed this issue. Commissioner Blair stated that this has been discussed over and over and he will repeat that the Commissioners recognized Harmony and Point Forward as the same project and Harmony had an application when the portal was open. He stated that the only reason another application was submitted was because Pastor Talent requested it and the same with the MOU. Commissioner Blair stated this will be discussed further on Tuesday and at the end of the day all he cares about is that this project becomes and stays a childcare facility. Pastor Talent questioned the application not listing a child care provider and Commissioner Blair stated that this also will be discussed on Tuesday as the people that can answer these questions will be present at the meeting. Pastor Talent

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

discussed weekly rates and asked about the facility being leased or donated. He discussed other concerns he had and stated that he feels the Crawford County voters should know the answers to these concerns. Commissioner Blair stated that the Commissioners did the best they could with what the county was given and the Commissioners tried to do every above board. Pastor Talent stated again that it is the process he is questioning. Commissioner Blair stated that the way the money was spent was based off Crawford County voters through a survey and input and the decisions were based off of that. He stated that the people behind Point Forward and Washington school are good people and they are trying to do good things for the community not only with their own money but with money given to them by citizens. Pastor Talent stated that he does not know these people and has never meet them and Commissioner Blair suggested that Pastor Talent meet and visit with the people involved in the project. Pastor Talent said that he would be back on Tuesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (24-437) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss EMS and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:16 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Moody, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:55 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:10 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: October 18, 2024- 8:30 AM Work Session to sign October mid-month bills and payroll vouchers.

Item Two: October 22, 2024- 9:00 AM Work Session with KCAMP and KWORC to discuss insurance.

Item Three: October 22, 2024- 10:00 AM Public Hearing on Vacating a Platted Street located in Delplace Subdivision, Crawford County, Kansas.

Item Four: October 22, 2024- KDOT Representatives discussing US 69 Highway Study.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Five: October 22, 2024- Mr. Mac Young, 11th Judicial District Court Administrator, discussing FY2024 outcomes.

Item: Six: November 15, 2024- 9:00 AM The Board of County Canvassers will meet to canvass the ballots from the 2024 General Election with the Regular Session commencing immediately after the canvass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: October 14, 2024- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Columbus 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 Blair to adjourn the [October 11, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:15 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 BKW 10/11/24 4:00 PM/amended BKW 10/13/24 2:00 PM