

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2021, [SEVENTY-SECOND](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS, **Friday, October 8, 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 Jeremy Johnson served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Bruce Blair were in attendance.

County Clerk Don Pyle and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

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

**On motion (21-325)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **October 5, 2021** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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 21	317	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the October 1, 2021 minutes
Motion 21	318	To recess the Board of Commissioners meeting for 10 minutes
Motion 21	319	To approve the September 2021 Clerk's Report as presented
Motion 21	320	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Mr. Michael Ehling and Ms. Teddi Van Kam and to reconvene by 12:25 PM

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Motion 21	321	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Mr. Michael Ehling and Ms. Teddi Van Kam and to reconvene by 12:46 PM
Motion 21	322	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Mr. Michael Ehling and Ms. Teddi Van Kam and to reconvene by 1:08 PM
Motion 21	323	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 30 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Mr. Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 1:32 PM
Motion 21	324	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 1:48 PM

### UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

#### PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

#### MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

**Item One:** Mr. Harry Humphries of Pittsburg presented a letter and petition on behalf of Laura Washburn to the Commissioners. The letter was in support of the County Commissioners and their efforts to keep our county safe during the pandemic.

Mr. Bert Patrick of Pittsburg spoke to the Commissioners to thank them for their work and to ask that they continue to take the advice of county health officials.

Ms. Ellen Goode of Pittsburg spoke in support of the Commissioners role in protecting the health of her teenage children and the public.

Ms. Chris Hudson of Pittsburg is an area business owner and shared her personal experiences regarding masks, social distancing, and quarantining.

Ms. Naamah Harley, a Girard resident and mother spoke about the harm that can be caused to some children by the use of masks in schools.

Mr. Roger Lomshek of Pittsburg shared some information that he has gathered regarding masking in schools. He asked the Commission if he could work with County Counselor

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Jim Emerson and a few area doctors to modify the county's quarantine policy. Mr. Emerson said he couldn't advise on any decisions because it is a conflict, but he would be happy to review any requests they come up with.

Chairman Johnson said that data collection has been a concern of his and he would like to be able to gather better data in order to make more informed and transparent policy decisions.

Mr. Cory Rader of Girard spoke against masking and about individual freedom.

Cody Ybarra spoke of the helpfulness of community aid initiatives during the pandemic.

**On motion (21-326)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess the Board of Commissioners meeting for 10 minutes.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

The meeting reconvened at 12:01 PM.

### **MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### **MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### **MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson presented the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-FFY2021) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$5,171,66. He explained that this is for the months of July, August and September

**On motion (21-327)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-FFY2021) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$5,171,66 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** Commissioner Blair stated he would like to schedule a work session with the road foremen. He gave a brief update on the current status of work on the county roads. The Commissioners will check with their foreman to see if they will be able to meet for a work session on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM and the Commissioners will readdress this on Tuesday.

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**Item Three:** Commissioner Blair addressed issues with the City of Hepler sewer system. Mr. Pyle handed out a quote for the repairs to the sewer system and the Commissioners discussed using the Jayhawk Wind Farm Revenue to pay for these repairs. Commissioner Blair discussed some of the repairs needed to the sewer system and stated that some of the work can be handled internally. The commissioners discussed that this money had been set aside partially to fund improvements and projects in the area of the wind farm.

**On motion (21-328)** of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Johnson to use the Jayhawk Wind Farm Revenue to pay for the repairs to the City of Helper Sewer System in the amount of \$28,505.00.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

### OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** Commissioner Blair discussed a bid for the work on the approach at the EMS Station 2 that was addressed in Tuesday's meeting. Commissioner Blair and Moody stated that they had people contact them stating they would like to bid on the project. The Commissioners will readdress this issue on Tuesday and give anyone interested an opportunity to bid on the project.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (21-329)** of Commissioner Johnson 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 District Court under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:23 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 12:13 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:22 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

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

**On motion (21-330)** of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more

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than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to address the Health Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:38 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 12:23 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:38 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### FUTURE BUSINESS:

**Item One: October 15, 2021 -- 9:00 AM** Work Session with Mike Bodensteiner of Greenbush regarding the ARPA Funds.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Item One: October 11, 2021** – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of Columbus Day.

### 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 8, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:40 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Johnson 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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**Don Pyle**  
County Clerk

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

Taken by BKW & LL 10/08/2021/amended BKW 10/8/2021 3:21 PM