

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, [SIXTY-NINTH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Tuesday, September 1, 2020 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.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance.

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

Vice-Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (20-362) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the [August 28, 2020](#) minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

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 20	351	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 25, 2020 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners and Approval of the August 26, 2020 minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners
Motion 20	352	To approve Local Heath Officer Order No. 2 to go into effect at noon on August 28, 2020 and authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign
Motion 20	353	To take a 5-minute recess
Motion 20	354	To open the public hearing on the Crawford County FY 2021 budget
Motion 20	355	To close the public hearing on the Crawford County FY 2021 budget
Motion 20	356	To adopt the FY 2021 Crawford County Budget as published
Motion 20	357	To approve a county credit card with a credit limit of \$2,500 for County Attorney Reina Probert

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 20	358	To approve the transfer of the funds received from KDOT from the Special Bridge Fund to the Road & Bridge Equipment Reserve Fund
Motion 20	359	To approve the Physician Consultant Services Contract between Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Inc. and the County Commission of Crawford County, Kansas and authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign
Motion 20	360	To approve the Proposal for a 2019 Chevrolet Tahoe in the amount of \$37,179 from NRoute Emergency Vehicle Outfitters
Motion 20	361	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 and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:05 PM

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: The Crawford County Health Officers presented an update on COVID-19. County Health Officer Dr. Tim Stebbins stated that Crawford County currently has 308 cases in isolation and over 1,000 in quarantine. He explained that the isolation numbers are increasing quickly and are at the point that it has overwhelmed the County Health Department for contact tracing and they have asked for the assistance of KDHE in the management of contact tracing and quarantines. Dr. Stebbins stated that the Health Department is still sending out their own isolation order to all positive cases. He discussed the caseloads of the epi nurses. He explained the issue of current data due to KDHE assisting with the contact tracing.

County Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean stated that Via Christi currently has 5 positive cases, 1 person of interest and no one on a ventilator and the capacity is good. She said that Girard Medical Center has only 1 person of interest and their capacity is good but they are a little strapped on staffing. Dr. Bean said that Pittsburg State University currently has 131 cases in isolation and some of those overlap with the isolation numbers from the Health Department. She stated that PSU is currently getting an additional 20 to 30 new positive cases per day. She explained that there is a little bit of impact on long-term care facilities with one facility in particular really struggling with staffing due to positives and quarantines. Dr. Stebbins stated that last week they went back to the strictest state for all long-term care facilities.

Dr. Stebbins stated that the numbers are challenging and there are some concerns in school systems and PSU and in the community because schools are not being shut down. He explained the 5 categories in the schools' gating criteria and the county is in the red in three of the five categories and discussed this with the Commissioners along with the 2 categories that are in the green. He explained how the Health Officials look at the data and the decisions they make from that data. He stated the most significant number of positives are in the 18 to 25-year-old age group. He explained that they have not seen any person to person cases within the schools but have concerns with students outside of the schools. Dr. Stebbins said that there are other mitigation strategies that the Health Officers have recommended to each of the schools based on concerns for spread

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

particularly with spectator sports and these recommendations were done at the request of the superintendents. Commissioner Moody stated these mitigation strategies are recommendations only and the decisions are up to the superintendents and school boards of each school. There was a discussion of outdoor school activities, social distancing, limiting the number of spectators and protecting the students, participants and visitors. Dr. Stebbins discussed the school gating criteria and stated that it is a recommendation from the State Department of Education but can be impacted by them as local Health Officials. He stated that they want the schools to be able to teach our children safely, for the students to be able to participate in sports safely and have the spectators be able to watch the sports safely and to preserve the safety and health of the public overall. Dr. Stebbins stated that they will speak to the school boards if requested but many school boards are adopting the recommendations as a rule.

County Clerk Don Pyle stated that he has received a question via the email from the live broadcast in reference to testing and Dr. Bean and Dr. Stebbins discussed testing capability and turnaround times. Commissioner Johnson asked about the increases in numbers this weekend and County Health Director Rebecca Adamson stated that on Friday there were 65 new positive cases, 30 on Saturday, 24 on Sunday, 43 yesterday and so far, this morning, 28 new cases. Ms. Adamson stated that the schools are not required by law to report their cases to the public. Sheriff Smith addressed the Commissioners and stated that his department has had no calls on enforcement of the health officer order. There was a discussion of a Zoom meeting today at 2:00 PM with Ms. Adamson and law enforcement. Dr. Stebbins discussed house parties and the operating hour restrictions for bars in the health officer order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Health Officer Dr. Tim Stebbins requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (20-363) 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 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss health orders and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, County Health Officer Dr. Stebbins, Deputy County Health Officer Dr. Bean, County Health Director Rebecca Adamson, County Health Department Executive Director Michael Ehling and County Public Information Office Samantha Garrett and to reconvene by 11:00 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:45 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:00 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

The County Health Officers stated that they will amend the Local Health Officer Order No. 2, specifically the closing times of businesses, and return with changes on Friday. Dr.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Stebbins stated that they are looking at the data each and every day. He discussed the increase in cases and how to stop the chain. Dr. Stebbins & Ms. Adamson discussed with the Commissioners the need for additional help in data entry. Ms. Adamson and Mr. Ehling requested a work session with the Commissioners and the Commissioners scheduled a work session on Friday, September 11, 2020 at 9:00 AM to discuss the Health Officers' roles.

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Mike Bodensteiner from the Southeast Kansas Regional Educational Service Center addressed the Commissioners in reference to SPARK Funding. He stated that they have just completed Round 2 of the SPARK Funding for businesses and not for profits. He stated that there were 59 applications and based on the formula established by the task force there were \$137,750 in total requests and \$121,000 available. He stated that his recommendation is approve the grantees as presented with the addition of a \$500 grant for Live Well Crawford County. Mr. Bodensteiner explained what will take place after the approval from the state.

On motion (20-364) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve the grantees as presented for Round 2 of SPARK Funding with the addition of a \$500 grant for Live Well Crawford County.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

Item One: Public Hearing on Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets.

On motion (20-365) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to open the public hearing on the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Mike Ryan, Chief of Crawford County Fire District #1 addressed the Commissioners and thanked the Commissioners for their support.

The following appeared in favor of the budgets: None

The following appeared in opposition to the budgets: None

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The following appeared to receive answers to questions about the budgets: None

On motion (20-366) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to close the public hearing on the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

County Clerk Don Pyle distributed copies of the Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets to the Commissioners.

On motion (20-367) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Moody to adopt the **Fire District Number One, Fire District Number Two, Fire District Number Three and Fire District Number Four** of Crawford County FY 2021 budgets as published.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented the August 2020 Clerk's Report. Mr. Pyle stated that this report summarizes the total amounts spent by departments for payroll and bills during the month of August. Mr. Pyle also gave the Commissioners a copy of the July 2020 to August 2020 Clerk's Report of Changes in Expenditures for comparison. Mr. Pyle reviewed the changes with the Commissioners and discussed some of the reasons for the changes in expenditures.

On motion (20-368) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve the August 2020 Clerk's Report as presented.

On a Roll Call Vote.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item One: Mr. Pyle stated that the election's office will be receiving 2 secure ballot drop boxes from the state and they should be delivered mid to late October. He stated that October 14, 2020 is the first day that ballots can be sent out by mail and he would like to have them installed as soon as possible to allow voters to utilize them as soon as possible after the ballots are mailed. He requested permission to work with Maintenance Supervisor Robert Gorentz in installing one box at the Courthouse and one at the Judicial Center in Pittsburg possibly with a drive up drop off. He explained that he emailed Mr. Gorentz the specs for the boxes. The Commissioners stated they have no issues with Mr. Gorentz assisting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Item Two: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship.

On motion (20-369) 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 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship to discuss road issues and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:50 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:35 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:44 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (20-370) 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 under Non-Elected Personnel to discuss insubordination and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:55 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Blair

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:45 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:53 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Mr. Pyle showed the Commissioners a short video put together by the City of Pittsburg Information Office Sarah Runyon to promote voting by mail that he would like to put on the county website. The Commissioners viewed the video and had no issues with posting it on the county website.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: September 11, 2020 – 9:00 AM Work Session with County Health Officials to discuss Health Officers' roles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: The Courthouse in Girard is open to the public from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM until further notice. The Motor Vehicle office at the Judicial Center in Pittsburg will remain closed but residents may use the drop box at the Security Desk at the Judicial Center for motor vehicle and tax payments to be processed at the courthouse.

Item Two: September 7, 2020 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

Item Three: September 8, 2020 – The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the [September 1, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:59 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody and Johnson

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.

Don Pyle
County Clerk

Board of Crawford County Commissioners



This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.
[Taken by BKW 9/1/2020 11:59 AM/amended BKW 9/3/2020 1:10 PM](#)