

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, **EIGHTY-EIGHTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, November 13, 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 Bruce Blair served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Jeremy Johnson were in attendance.

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

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (20-462) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **November 10, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.
2. Approval of the November 10, 2020 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers, and
3. Authorization of 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 20 CANVASS	456	To approve 526 Provisional Ballots for counting from the 2020 General Election held on November 3, 2020 in Crawford County as recommended by the Crawford County Election Officer
Motion 20 CANVASS	457	To recess the meeting of the Board of Canvassers until the end of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Motion 20	458	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 3, 2020 minutes
Motion 20	459	To approve the October 2020 Clerk's Report as presented

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 20	460	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss COVID-19 under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Sheriff Danny Smith and to reconvene by 10:30 AM
Motion 20 CANVASS	461	To accept the Final Results Report for the 2020 General Election held on November 3, 2020, as presented by the County Election Officer

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: Deputy Crawford County Health Officer Dr. Linda Bean presenting a COVID-19 Update. Dr. Bean informed the Commission that the total number of cases in the county are going up steadily and that the ability to contact trace cases has been stressed due to the state being unable to provide assistance from lack of staffing resources. Dr. Bean informed the Commission that the number of school cases has also increased but due to exposure outside of the school system, not due to in-school transmission. Dr. Bean advised that the positivity rate is the highest it has been. With regard to the mitigation of community spread, Dr. Bean expressed concern for mass gatherings and the potential for increases during the holidays. The Health Officers will present a recommendation to this increased trend of new cases in the near future. The Commission and Dr. Bean discussed potential mitigation strategies that may need to be pursued. The Commission discussed the possibility of a PSA to be released with Public Information Officer Samantha Garrett. Dr. Bean advised that she discussed the possibility of pop-up testing before the holidays with the Healthcare Task Force. Commissioner Blair discussed with Dr. Bean the importance of consistent information being given to the public at the time of testing to better advise individuals after they've been tested what to expect or guidelines to act by. County Clerk Don Pyle discussed rapid testing with Dr. Bean and their use in the county. Commissioner Johnson discussed the possibility of meeting with the Health Officers regarding their recommendations for the holiday by Tuesday's meeting.

Item Two: The Commission spoke with Public Health Director Janice Goedeke by phone. She advised that the mobile testing van has been setup and about the cases taken over by the health department from the KDHE. Commissioner Moody asked if the health dept. could utilize any nursing or biology students from PSU to assist with their case overload. The Director advised that they were unable to access these students this semester but potentially next semester. She spoke also about the difficulty of hiring temporary Epi Nurses. Commissioner Johnson discussed with Director Goedeke and Dr. Bean about testing turnaround time and the logistics of getting testing results.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Pittsburg Deputy City Manager Jay Byers was present as the Co-Chair of the Crawford County Recovery Task Force regarding the mission of the task force and their coordination with the Crawford County Health Officers. Byers discussed the COVID-19

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

mitigation plans of the City of Pittsburg for after the holidays as well as noncompliance of businesses and the impact on the community.

Item Two: Public Information Officer Samantha Garrett discussed the dissemination of mailers and decals from Crawford County United as well as the aforementioned PSA.

Item Three: Crawford County Mental Health Executive Administrator Michael Ehling spoke to the Commission about the effects of stress stemming from the pandemic detailed in a recent podcast he attended. Mr. Ehling also spoke on the quality of the communication infrastructure in the county regarding the pandemic.

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

Item One: Commissioner Moody discussed the KDHE Waste Tire Project Grant with the Commission. They will follow up with Bill Towery to apply for this grant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 30 minutes to discuss the landfill agreement.

On motion (20-463) of Commissioner Blair 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 30 minutes to discuss the landfill agreement as a privileged item in the Attorney-Client Relationship and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:30 AM

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 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:28 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson advised the commissioners about a conversation with County Sewer District Technician Coby Hinton and Zoning Administrator May Smith regarding letters to homeowners that reside on the south side of 4th street in the County Sewer District just west of Pittsburg that informs them of upcoming tests of their connection to the sewer system.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: November 20, 2020 – 1:00 PM Fence Viewing located in Section 3, Township 29, Range 24. All Commissioners may be in attendance.

Item Two: November 24th - 8:30 AM Work session to review and sign November 20th bills and payroll vouchers

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: November 26th & 27th, 2020 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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 [November 13, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:30 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

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.

Don Pyle
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.
[Taken by DP 11/10/2020 10:00 AM/amended GSRG 11/16/2020 11:00 AM](#)