

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2020, [NINETIETH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, November 20, 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.

Commissioner Tom Moody was in attendance in person and Commissioner Jeremy Johnson was in attendance via Zoom Meeting.

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 (20-471) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **November 17, 2020** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 602265 to 602499 dated November 13, 2020 in the total amount of \$595,646.35, and
3. 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:

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| Motion 20 | 464 | That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 13, 2020 minutes |
| Motion 20 | 465 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss the Health Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Juvenile Services Michael Ehling and Health Department Director Janis Goedeke via telephone and to reconvene by 10:30 AM |

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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| Motion 20 | 466 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney Client Relationship to discuss COVID-19 mitigation and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:05 AM |
| Motion 20 | 467 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the Appraiser’s Office under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and County Appraiser Zac Edwards and to reconvene by 11:22 AM |
| Motion 20 | 468 | 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 landfill negotiations and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:39 AM |
| Motion 20 | 469 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss the IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, IT Director Mr. Jim Vinze and IT Specialist Mr. Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 11:52 AM |
| Motion 20 | 470 | To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the IT Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:01 PM |

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Item One: County Health Officials with a COVID-19 Update. Dr. Stebbins updated the Commissioners on the number of community isolations and quarantines. He explained that there were a few deaths this week but only 1 was a Crawford County resident. He also gave an update on the school isolations and quarantines. Dr. Stebbins discussed schools and winter sports and stated that there were recommendations sent to the Boards of Education and explained some of the recommendations. He stated that the Health Officials are here today with some concerns and probably the most significant concerns throughout this pandemic in respect to Crawford County. He spoke about the impact on the Health Department with illness and the ability to case trace and that KDHE is still overwhelmed as well. Dr. Bean discussed the positivity rate in testing. Dr. Stebbins stated that Ascension Via Christi currently has 17 positive cases and 2 persons under investigation, 6 cases in ICU and 4 COVID patients on ventilators. He stated that the ICU has no capacity available as of this morning. He explained that Girard Medical Center has limited capacity and has 3 positive cases and that both facilities are concerned with staffing shortages. He stated that PSU is releasing today for students to return home but

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

not all are returning home. He discussed concerns with exceeding capacity in local hospitals and limited capability for transfers. Dr. Stebbins stated that the county needs to fully enact and embrace Health Order #3 that was enacted and he would like the County to recommit to the Governor's new order which will say to the community that Crawford County agrees and will fully comply with this order. He discussed an assessment that was requested from all of the medical systems as to where they are currently at and every system has concerns with staffing, PPE and management going forward if this crisis is not mitigated and he knows there are challenging days ahead.

Commissioner Moody requested that County Counselor discuss the Governor's new order #20-68 and Mr. Emerson stated that this order will go into effect next Wednesday. He explained the purpose of the new order and stated that Crawford County did not opt out of the old order. He stated that the main provisions are the same and he read the provisions of the order. Mr. Emerson spoke about enforcement of the order and stated that there are criminal penalties that can be assessed for the violation of isolation and quarantine orders. He also spoke about House Bill 2016 and explained that it only involves civil penalties. He addressed cities and enforcement. Mr. Emerson stated that everyone needs to be on board with an enforcement order before putting one in place and it needs to be done right.

There was a lengthy discussion of the Governor's order and ways to enforce the mask mandate. Dr. Stebbins stated that we have to get control of the danger and the only way to do that is to wear a face mask. He stated that the County needs to allow the business not to be the bad person by having the County install the guidelines. Commissioner Blair asked what the new order changes and Dr. Stebbins stated that it changes nothing except for clearly stating that the Commissioners are in agreement with the order and there are provisions for enforcement. Dr. Stebbins spoke about the health officials and how this is affecting them not only physically but also emotionally and mentally.

The Commissioners and the Health Officers discussed the COVID-19 vaccine.

Sheriff Smith addressed the Commissioners and discussed the enforcement and stated that it is civil and not criminal and he has no authority for enforcement. He stated that his office can help but it has to be within the law. He stated that enforcement of isolation and quarantine orders is within the law.

Dr. Stebbins discussed the statutes and the authority of Health Officials for enforcement.

There was a discussion on getting the Cities and local law enforcement involved and everyone on the same page.

The Commissioners and the Health Officials again discussed the endorsement of the Governor's new order.

On motion (20-472) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to adopt the Kansas Governor's Executive Order #20-68, effective November 25, 2020.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Emerson discussed examples of enforcement and the Commissioners requested that he try and have something prepared by Tuesday.

There was also a discussion on getting the proper information to the citizens that are tested and a having a self-recording data sheet.

The Health Officials discussed prevalence testing.

Dr. Bean explained their recommendations on allowances for who is considered a close contact from a classroom exposure.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS
MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES
MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC
MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS
NEW BUSINESS**

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle stated that there are some extra PPE supplies from the General Election that are available for use.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: November 24, 2020 - 8:30 AM Work session to review and sign November 20th bills and payroll vouchers.

Item Two: November 24, 2020 – 9:30 AM Work Session with 911 Director Tim Mikrut to discuss a tower.

Item Three: December 4, 2020 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on Vacating Platted Alleys.

Item Four: December 8th, 2020 – 1:00 PM Fence Viewing located in Section 3, Township 29, Range 24. All three Commissioners may be in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: November 26th & 27th, 2020 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners scheduled for November 27, 2020 is cancelled.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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 20, 2020](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:05 PM 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 BKW 11/20/2020 12:05 PM/amended BKW 11/23/2020 4:30 PM](#)