

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2023, **EIGHTY-SIXTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, November 21, 2023**
**Immediately following the meeting of the Board of
County Canvassers**

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 Carl Wood were in attendance.

Deputy County Clerk Bobbi Wicker and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (23-484) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **November 17, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the November 17, 2023 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

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 23	472	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 14, 2023 minutes and Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 625655 to 625946 dated November 15, 2023 in the total amount of \$411,644.80
Motion 23 CANVASS	473	To Accept the Recommendations of the County Election Officer for the Acceptance and Rejection of Provisional Ballots from the 2023

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		City-School General Election held November 7, 2023 in Crawford County
Motion 23 CANVASS	474	To recess the Board of County Canvassers at 10:18 AM and go into the regular session
Motion 23	475	To approve the purchase of a 2024 Pierce Freightliner Pumper with equipment in the amount of \$426,976.89 for Crawford County Fire District #1 and authorize the Chairman to sign and to authorize County Counselor Jim Emerson to seek financing
Motion 23	476	To approve the contracts with Blue Cross and Blue Shield for health insurance for 2024 and authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 23	477	To approve the Service Agreement with Craw-Kan for Offsite Backup and Office Site Backup storage in the amount of \$760.00 per month and authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 23	478	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 contracts and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:01 AM
Motion 23	479	To approve the Progress Billing #2 from Tri-State Building & Supply Co, Inc. for the Crawford County Health Department Project in the amount of \$58,365.90 and authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 23 CANVASS	480	To reconvene the meeting of the Board of County Canvassers
Motion 23 CANVASS	481	To Accept the Final Results Report of the 2023 City-School General Election held November 7, 2023 in Crawford County

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 ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Daniel Devereaux addressed the Commissioners and stated that he was from the McCune area. Mr. Devereaux voiced his concerns with property taxes, the way the taxes are billed and the consequences if the taxes go unpaid. County Counselor Jim Emerson explained to Mr. Devereaux that the county and all the county officials follow the statutes that are set out in the constitution and if he has issues and wants the process changed, he will need to approach a higher level of government.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Jeremy Johnson addressed the Commissioners and stated that he is the newly elected Chairman for SEK Recycling Inc and he has replaced Dr. Jim Triplett who was the first Chairman appointed to that position and Dr. Triplett held the position for 20 years. Mr. Johnson introduced Mr. Gene Vogler, Treasurer of the Recycling Center and stated that Mr. Vogler will give the Commissioners information on the Household

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Hazardous Waste Program. Mr. Vogler handed out information on the HHW program and went through the information with the Commissioners. He explained the recent history on the program from 2018 thru July thru September 2023 including disposal costs, labor cost, insurance and Crawford County payments received. He also addressed KDHE inspections, information in the KDHE annual reports, reimbursement charge calculation and large item drop-off. Mr. Vogler answered Commissioners Wood's questions on the pick up of the household hazard waste and the costs involved in the pickup. Mr. Emerson spoke about the Regional Solid Waste Authority and the plans for a household hazardous waste regional sight involving 9 counties based in Pittsburg around 2007 or 2008 and that the Regional Solid Waste Authority disbanded and the 9-county project did not progress. There was a discussion on the Solid Waste Plan and that it is set out in the Crawford County Solid Waste Plan that the county must have a HHW program.

Mr. Johnson handed out a packet that outlines a five-year vision for the SEK Recycling Center addressed to the Pittsburg City Commissioners and the Crawford County Commissioners. He explained the documents listed in the packet and stated that the information in the packet is the attempt to move the SEK Recycling Center in a sustainable direction. He spoke about the activities the Center has engaged in and some of the plans the Recycling Board has made to add additional services. He stated that the board has hired a Director of Development to assist with the fundraising, business engagement and membership development. Mr. Johnson stated that the proposal in the packet will also be given to the City of Pittsburg and that the proposal is asking for support in the amount of \$5,000 per month (\$60,000 per year) from both entities for a period of 5 years which the board believes will allow the center to continue current operations while it develops its capacity and moves to long-term sustainability in its operations. Mr. Johnson stated that also included in the packet is a strategic plan that the Recycling Board put together with Greenbush.

Mr. Johnson discussed curb side pickup and stated that the goal is to serve every resident in Crawford County that would like access to curbside pickup but that might not the case right out of the gate and there would probably be a cost involved in the pickup.

Mr. Tim Dawsey, Director of the National Institute for Materials Advancement at Pittsburg State University discussed recycling of plastics and plastic engineering.

Commissioner Blair discussed education and programs for elementary aged children.

Mr. Johnson stated that this information packet will be presented to the City of Pittsburg at the next City Commission meeting on November 28.

There was a discussion on the shortfall of funds in making payroll.

Mr. Jay Byers, Pittsburg Deputy City Manager addressed the Commissioners and spoke about the City of Pittsburg's thoughts on the proposal from SEK Recycling Inc. Mr. Byers introduced Denise Fitzpatrick from Pittsburg's Sustainability Advisory Committee.

Each of the Commissioners expressed their thoughts on the proposal.

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NEW BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson stated that he has a request for a work session on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 to discuss the ARPA Drawdown for November 2023 at 9:30 AM. The Commissioners agreed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson presented the final costs for the replacement of 3 air conditioners at the Health Department including the supplies and labor due to vandalism. The Commissioners agreed to have Mr. Emerson submit the information to EMC for an insurance claim.

Item Three: Commissioner Moody requested that Mr. Emerson send out the grant opportunities from KAC to the City of Mulberry and the City of Arcadia.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood discussed a meeting with Evergy on power line dangers. He stated that the class is scheduled for November 30, 2023 at 9:00 AM at Fire Station #1 in Pittsburg. He said that he needs to know by Tuesday who will be attending.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood stated that he is in the process of purchasing a barrel dump trailer from a local contractor and asked Mr. Emerson the process of negotiating a price. Mr. Emerson advised Commissioner Wood to settle on a price, bring it to the Commissioners for approval and if approved, a check will be issued.

Item Six: Commissioner Wood requested a work session with Communications Director Tim Mikrut to discuss a local vendor. Mr. Emerson will contact Mr. Mikrut.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: 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 (23-485) 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 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss the RJA Remodel contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:55 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:40 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:48 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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Item Two: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

On motion (23-486) 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 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss a Barton County bill and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:59 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:49 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:56 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson presented a change order and final payout from Tri-State Building & Supply Co. Inc. for the RJA Remodel Project.

On motion (23-487) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Change Order and final payout to Tri-State Building & Supply Co Inc in the amount of \$6,670.00 for the RJA Remodel Project.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: November 28, 2023 – 9:15 AM Work Session with Communications Director Tim Mikrut.

Item Two: November 28, 2023 – 9:30 AM Work Session to discuss November 2023 ARPA drawdown.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: November 23 & 24, 2023 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Item Two: November 24, 2023 – The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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Item Three: December 5, 2023 – The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is be canceled due to the KAC Conference.

Item Four: December 5, 6, 7, 2023 – Kansas Association of Counties Conference in Wichita, KS. All three Commissioners may be in attendance.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adjourn the [November 21, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:58 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.

Bobbi Wicker

Deputy County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken BKW 11/21/2023 11:58 AM/ amended BKW 11/27/23 8:05 AM/ amended RJA 11/27/23 11:09AM](#)