

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2016, [SIXTY-THIRD](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS [Tuesday, August 23, 2016, 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 Tom Moody served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Carl Wood and Jeff Murphy were in attendance.

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

Chairman Moody led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (16-288) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the [August 19, 2016](#) minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

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 16	280	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 16, 2016, minutes of the Board of Commissioners and Authorizing the Chairman to Sign the Previous Week's Vouchers.
Motion 16	281	To approve the Agreement between the Secretary of Transportation, Kansas Department of Transportation and Crawford County, Kansas for Project No. 19 C-4856-01 Roadside Improvements and Pavement Marking.
Motion 16	282	To approve the \$19,714.78 purchase of an Upgraded Network Firewall, funded by Technology Funds from the County Treasurer, Clerk, and Register of Deeds.
Motion 16	283	To adopt the Firearm Policy and to add this Policy to the County Employee Handbook.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 16	284	To adopt Resolution #2016-019, a Resolution Establishing the Operating Hours of the Courthouse and the working hours of Courthouse Employees.
Motion 16	285	To approve the completion of the Insurance Document for the Emergency Medical Services Department.
Motion 16	286	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss matters that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.
Motion 16	287	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 5 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

**UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS
CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS**

Item One: Public hearing on the Crawford County FY 2017 budget.

On motion (16-289) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to open the public hearing on the **Crawford County** FY 2017 budget.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The following appeared in favor of the budget: None

The following appeared in opposition to the budget: Mr. Ronald Strahan, Crawford County Resident addressed the Commission. Mr. Strahan stated he wanted to thank the Commissioners for their frugality with the mil levy over the last ten years but is concerned about the 1.5 mil increase this year. The Commissioners discussed the increase with Mr. Strahan and the reasoning for the increase.

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

On motion (16-290) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to close the public hearing on the **Crawford County** FY 2017 budget.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The members of the Board entered into the following discussion of the proposed Crawford County FY 2017 budget: None

Mr. Pyle distributed copies of Resolution #2016-020, A Resolution Expressing the Property Taxation Policy of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners with respect to financing the 2017 Annual Budget for Crawford County, Kansas and there was a discussion of the reasons that a resolution is needed for the county budget. Mr. Pyle answered some questions Mr. Wood had on debt service.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-020

A resolution expressing the property taxation policy of the Crawford County Commission with respect to financing the annual budget for 2017

Whereas, K.S.A. 79-2925b, as amended, provides that a levy of property taxes to finance the 2017 budget of Crawford County exceeding the amount levied to finance the 2016 budget of Crawford County, as adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for calendar year 2015, be authorized by a resolution adopted in advance of the adoption of a budget supported by such levy; and

Whereas, K.S.A. 79-2925b, as amended, also provides that current year revenue that is produced and attributable to the taxation of (1) new improvements, (2) increased personal property valuation other than increased valuation of oil and gas leaseholds and mobile homes, and (3) property which has changed in use shall not be considered when determining whether revenue produced from property tax has increased from the preceding year; and

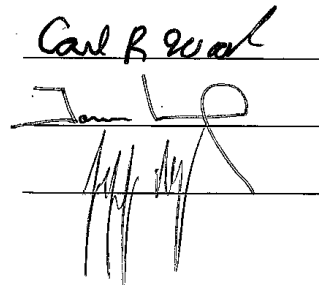
Whereas, Crawford County provides essential services to its citizens; and

Whereas, the cost of providing these services continues to increase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Crawford County Commission that a levy of property taxes in support of the 2017 budget exceeding the amount levied in 2016, as adjusted pursuant to K.S.A. 79-2925b, as amended, is hereby approved.

Adopted this 23rd day of August, 2016 by the Crawford County Commission.

Crawford County Commission



The image shows three handwritten signatures on horizontal lines. The top signature is 'Carl R Wood'. The middle signature is 'Don Pyle'. The bottom signature is 'Murphy'.

County Clerk Don Pyle distributed copies of the Crawford County 2017 Budget to the Commissioners.

On motion (16-291) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to adopt Resolution #2016-020, A Resolution Expressing the Property Taxation Policy of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners with respect to financing the 2017 Annual Budget for Crawford County, Kansas.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Bob Clement, Benefit Consultant with Gallagher & Co. discussing health insurance. Mr. Clement handed out a presentation and reviewed the presentation with the Commissioner. He explained that his company did an evaluation of the County's self funded medical plan and the dental plan and looked at the competitiveness of the County's existing plan and look at alternatives that some of the neighboring communities are using. Mr. Clement stated that he also included the early release of the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal. He explained the marketing results and explained reference based pricing. Mr. Clement spoke about the self funded medical and dental insurance the County currently has with Blue Cross and Blue Shield and the stop loss coverage and how critical this coverage is. Mr. Clement said that the County currently has a very large ongoing claim right now and due to that no other insurance carriers want to take on that risk at this time. He stated that their findings are that the County should finalize with Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage for 2017 as soon as possible. Mr. Clements went over the rest of the presentation. Mr. Rick Pfeiffer discussed with the Commissioners about Mental Health and that his department will not be included in the County's health and dental insurance in the upcoming year. A discussion was held on the Blue Cross and Blue Shield renewal rates.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Clement for his presentation.

Executive Summary

Introduction

Crawford County currently sponsors employee benefits coverages for their full time employees. Current benefits include group life, dental and health through Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas. The group life insurance is on a fully insured plan, while the dental and medical is under a self-funded arrangement. The pharmacy and stop loss coverages are included within the medical program. Last year, the dental plan was removed from the stop loss coverage, which was appropriate since it is very unusual to have that product included into the aggregate attachment factor. These coverages are on a January 1 renewal basis. Gallagher Benefit Services has been retained to assist in the wellness program for the County and also to provide monthly financial reports to the County.

Cost estimates and Renewal Offers

Gallagher Benefit Services was directed to market the medical, dental along with a voluntary vision plan.

Medical Insurance - Within the medical marketing, the direction was to look at a third party administrator (TPA) with a benefits structure similar to the current plan, along with a Reference Based Pricing option, similar to what the City of Pittsburg is offering to its employees. We have attached a section within this presentation which gives a high level overview of Reference Based Pricing.

Dental Insurance- Dental insurance generally is driven by the service of the vendor and the provider network available to the employees. Our marketing effort developed reputable vendors, Ameritas and Delta Dental of Kansas. Both of these vendors provide a significant amount of savings of fixed costs to the county. Both of the quotes are on a self-funded arrangement which duplicates what is currently in place with BC/BS of Kansas. As mentioned earlier, the dental coverage was removed from the aggregate stop loss factor, since dental claims are much more predictable than medical claims year over year.

Life Insurance- Currently the basic life plan is included within the medical program. We did not market this plan yet, but are confident that you can save money with other national vendors. Historically, medical plans included basic life plans as their offering, but most plans now have carved out the life insurance benefits due to competitive pricing.

Vision Insurance -- The vision coverage is on a voluntary basis and is underwritten by a few different national vendors. There are typically no participation requirements with an entity of your size.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Summary

BC/BS of Kansas has delivered an Early Final renewal. Based upon our findings and the pending large claimant, our recommendation would be to renew with this offering. You will not be able to finalize a viable stop loss agreement within a self-funded plan, based upon the existing pending large claimant. Our belief that the competitive nature of the BC/BS renewal is based upon a few items. The medical market locally (southeast Kansas), and the fact that you have an unbiased party reviewing your plan, has developed an aggressive posture for the renewal.

It is also our recommendation that you consider moving your dental plan to create real dollar savings in the fixed costs. The life insurance can also be marketed and is likely to develop immediate savings as well.

The vision plan is an easily administered plan, but is up to the county, depending upon how many requests have been made.

Next Steps

- Finalize medical rates as soon as possible if able.
- Continue the analysis of dental carriers, if desired.
- Market life insurance and any other voluntary benefits.
- Negotiate with vendors as necessary

Crawford County
DENTAL BENEFIT ANALYSIS January 1, 2017

	BCBS of Kansas		MetLife		Delta Dental		Ameritas	
	Current		Alternative		ASO Option		ASO Option	
	\$1,500 per person for Preferred		\$1,500 per person for Preferred		\$1,500 per person for Preferred		\$1,500 per person for Preferred	
Reimbursement	Negotiated Fee Schedule	UC 80% Parentile	Negotiated Fee Schedule	R&C 80% Percentile	PPO	Premier/Non-Participating	Discounted Fee	U&C Fee
Calendar Year Deductible			\$25/\$75		\$25/\$75		\$25/\$75	
	In-Network	Out-of-Network	In-Network	Out-of-Network	In-Network	Out-of-Network	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Diagnostic and Preventive	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Endontic, Periodontic	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Major Restorative, Prosthodontic	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Orthodontic Services \$1,500 Lifetime	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
NOTES	yearly maximum of \$750. 3 year max of \$1500							
Monthly Rates								
Employee	88	\$30.32	88	\$30.90	ASO - Fee \$5.00 PEPM		ASO - Fee \$4.65 PEPM	
Employee/Spouse	83	\$64.88	83	\$62.72				
Employee/Child(ren)	35	\$69.74	35	\$71.95				
Family	112	\$103.69	112	\$111.45				
Total Annual Cost	\$265,289		\$275,107					
Admin Fees included in Total	\$34,916		fully insured option		\$19,080		\$17,744	

Crawford County
VISION OPTIONS January 1, 2017

Carrier	EyeMed	MetLife	Ameritas
Plan Name	Plan H Fixed Fee	M130D - 10/25	EyeChoice (VSP)
Office Visits			
Exam	\$0 Copay	\$10 Copay	\$10 Copay
Materials			
Lenses	\$10 Copay	\$25 Copay	\$25 Copay
Frames	\$175 Allowance	\$130 Allowance	\$130 Allowance
Contact Lenses (In lieu of glasses)			
Medically Necessary	\$0 Copay	\$25 Copay	\$25 Copay
Frequency of services			
Exam	Every 12 months	Every 12 months	Every 12 months
Lenses	Every 12 months	Every 12 months	Every 12 months
Frames	Every 12 months	Every 24 months	Every 24 months
Contact Lenses	Every 12 months	Every 12 months	Every 12 months
Monthly Rates			
Employee	10.88	\$9.17	\$8.44
Employee/Spouse	20.66	\$18.38	\$17.16
Employee/Child(ren)	21.74	\$15.56	\$13.88
Family	31.96	\$25.66	\$23.08
	4 year rate guarantee	2 year rate guarantee	2 year rate guarantee

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD NEW BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Murphy handed out minutes from the Economic Development meeting held on August 23, 2016 at the Ctech facility in Pittsburg. Mr. Murphy reviewed the minutes and what was discussed at the meeting. He also stated how impressed the committee is with the CTech Facility.

Crawford County Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at the Ctech facility in Pittsburg, KS by Commissioner Jeff Murphy.

Committee Members Present

Kenny Stotts, Paul Jones, Cherie Schenker, Jason Ethan, Julie Smith, Blake Benson, Johanna Winter, Robert Tersiner, Michael Creel.

Tour of Ctech

A tour the Ctech (Southeast Kansas Career and Technical Education Center) was given by facility director Michelle Hucke. The facility provides technical and soft skills education to high schoolers and adults in the area. Programs include HVAC, welding, masonry, and carpentry. The facility is supported by tax revenue from the City of Pittsburg, Crawford County, and private donations. Much discussion was held related to funding and marketing the facility.

Old Business

Kenny Stotts discussed housing development for Veterans. He is pursuing this effort through Becky Gray, City of Pittsburg.

Discussion was held relating to the lack of adequate housing in the Pittsburg area.

New Business

The group discussed a tax abatement policy that will be presented to the County Commissioners on Sept 2. This would allow a new or expanding business to have property taxes forgiven on the improved portion of the property for a number of years depending on the investment size. The policy is modeled after the City of Pittsburg's. It will provide tax abatement opportunities to properties in Crawford County outside of incorporated areas.

The group also discussed a business site location program called Location One. On September 2, the County Commission will be discussing providing this service county wide. The program provides information on vacant business properties online.

Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting is tentatively set for Monday, September 26 at 530PM in Girard.

Item Two: Mr. Murphy stated that he would like to touch base with the City of Girard on the status of the sidewalk project around the square. The Commissioners requested Mr. Pyle to contact Mr. Weiner to ask him to attend an upcoming meeting.

Item Three: Mr. Wood addressed the Westar training facility and mandatory safety training sessions for the road and bridge employees.

Item Four: Mr. Wood discussed the purchase of a 10 wheeler truck.

UNDER THE HEADING OLD BUSINESS

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item One: Mr. Don Pyle presenting a request for a letter in support of the General Public Transportation Services in Crawford County of Coordinated Transit District #10. Mr. Pyle discussed the amount budgeted in local funding to SEKCAP Transportation.

August 01, 2016

County Commissioners
Crawford County
P. O. Box 68
Girard, KS 66743

To whom it may concern,

The deadline for transportation providers to submit grant proposals for transportation funding for Fiscal Year 2017-18 is again approaching. The transportation providers of Coordinated Transit District #10 (CTD) need your continued support to assist us in obtaining the funding needed to continue our transportation services in your area.

Each year transit providers from CTD#10 attach a letter of support from your County Commissioners to our grant proposals. We ask for this to be in the form of a letter stating your need & support for transportation services in your area.

We ask that the letter of support be on your letterhead and have the signatures of the County Commissioners. We also ask that the response be returned by 10/01/16.
Once completed, please send to:

Tonya Choate
Secretary-Coordinated Transit District #10
1102 S. Rouse Pittsburg, KS 66762

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Respectfully,



Tonya Choate
Secretary CTD #10

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Office of the County Clerk Donald P. Pyle
Crawford County Courthouse
PO Box 249
Girard, Kansas 66743

620-724-6115
620-724-6007 fax
countyclerk@ckt.net
www.crawfordcountykansas.org



Date: August 23, 2016

To: Tonya Choate, Secretary – Coordinated Transit District #10
1102 S. Rouse
Pittsburg, KS 66762

Re: Support for General Public Transportation

Dear Ms. Choate,

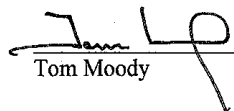
The Board of County Commissioners for Crawford County is pleased to provide continuing support for General Public Transportation services in Crawford County. We know that there is a need for this program in this county, especially among our seniors. We hope that our support can help this program to fill that need for our residents.

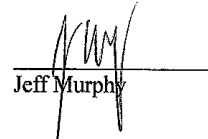
This year, we have budgeted to be able to provide \$14,901 in local funding to be applied to the match requirement as outlined in the U.S.C 49-5311 transportation program, operated by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

We are able to make these funds available to you in distributions beginning in February of 2017 and continuing through 2017 for the July 2017 through June 2018 grant year.

Best Regards,


Carl R. Wood, Chairman


Tom Moody


Jeff Murphy

On motion (16-293) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve a letter in support of the General Public Transportation Services in Crawford County of Coordinated Transit District #10 and authorize the Commissioners to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Pyle addressed the SEK District Meeting on Friday, August 26, 2016 in Hamilton, Kansas and it was decided to cancel the Commission meeting that day so the Commissioners may attend the district meeting.

Item Three: Mr. Murphy stated that there will be a Fair Board Meeting on September 12, 2016 at 7:30 PM. The Commission discussed that the fairgrounds will be utilized for a fund raiser for the USD 248 Education Foundation.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Four: Mr. Jim Emerson presenting a letter to Wayne Gudsmanson, District Engineer, Kansas Department of Transportation encouraging the purchase of the right of way and utilities for a free way construction.

Board of County Commissioners Crawford County Courthouse
PO Box 68
Girard, Kansas 66743

620-724-6115
620-724-6007 fax
www.crawfordcountykansas.com



August 23, 2016

Wayne R. Gudmonson, P.E.
District Engineer
Kansas Department of Transportation
411 W. Fourteenth Street
Chanute, Kansas 66720

Dear Mr. Gudmonson:

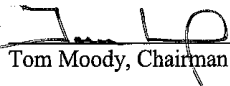
Thank you for taking the time last Friday to discuss the delayed US 69 upgradeable expressway project. Our frustration concerning the status of the project notwithstanding, we encourage KDOT to continue purchasing right-of-way and moving utilities so that if money becomes available we would have a "shovel ready" project. This request includes purchasing right-of-way needed for freeway construction.

A four lane US 69 highway from Johnson County to I-44 has been our top priority for many years. Our main concern is the safety of the traveling public along US 69. In addition we know the four lane highway allows us to compete for industry and manufacturing looking to locate where transportation needs can be met.


Your consideration in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Very best regards,

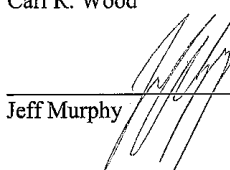
Board of County Commissioners
Crawford County, Kansas



Tom Moody, Chairman



Carl R. Wood



Jeff Murphy

TM: CW:JM:lh

On motion (16-294) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve a letter to the Kansas Department of Transportation encouraging the purchase of the right of way and utilities for a free way construction and authorize the Commissioners to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

Item Five: Mr. Murphy addressed the use of the EMS at the Crawford County Fair and the other events. There was a discussion on how to determine which events the EMS are required to stay at and which events the EMS is on standby and allowed to leave if necessary and how to make sure the EMS is not short on vehicles during these events.

Item Six: Mr. Jim Emerson addressed the sick leave policy. Mr. Emerson explained the proposed changes. The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the policy. Mr. Murphy stated he would like to see a report on sick days for his road and bridge crew.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Item One: Mr. Emerson requested an executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

On motion (16-295) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Murphy to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss personnel matters involving Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 12:03 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:09 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: August 30, 2016 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on the 2017 Budget for Fire District #1, Fire District #2, Fire District #3, Fire District #4 and the Sewer Districts.

Item Two: August 30, 2016 – 10:00 AM Public Hearing on Fire District #1 2016 budget amendment.

Item Three: August 30, 2016 – Janis Goedeke, Rick Pfeiffer, and Debra Anthony with Local Board of Health regarding worksite wellness nutrition policy and Janis Goedeke requesting signature on Kansas Health Foundation Grant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item One: August 26, 2016 – The Commission Meeting is cancelled as the Commissioners will be attending the SEK District Meeting in Hamilton, Kansas.

Item Two: August 29, 2016 – 5:30 PM Zoning Work Session on updating Zoning Regulations in Zoning Meeting Room.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the [August 23, 2016](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:11 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Murphy

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

<>

This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

Taken by BKW 8/23/16 12:11 PM/amended BKW 8/25/16 8:07 AM/amended BKW 08/29/2016 8:41 AM