

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2023, **THIRD** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Monday, January 9, 2023 Immediately following Swearing-In Ceremony**

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 Bruce Blair and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker and County Counselor Jim Emerson were seated with the Board.

Chairman Moody led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bruce Blair, Ms. Lisa Lusker and Mr. Carl Wood have been duly administered the Oath of Office at 10:00 AM this day by the Honorable Jennifer Brunetti, District Court Judge for the 11th Judicial District. The oaths of office have been signed by each of the newly elected officials and by Judge Brunetti and filed in the office of the County Clerk.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (23-015) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **January 6, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

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	6	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the January 3, 2023 minutes
Motion 23	7	To approve the Letter of Agreement between Community Health Center of Southeast, Kansas, Inc. and Crawford County, Kansas for the transfer of real estate from Crawford County to Community Health Center of Southeast, Kansas, Inc. and to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement and the Special Warranty Deed

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Motion 23	8	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the GIS Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and GIS Director Kyle Nelson and to reconvene by 10:40 AM
Motion 23	9	To approve the request for ARPA funding and the return of funds from the Sheriff's Office as presented by Sheriff Danny Smith
Motion 23	10	To adopt Resolution #2023-001, A Resolution Redefining the Administrative Structure of the Crawford County Health Department, Crawford County Restorative Justice Authority and Crawford County Mental Health and Rescinding Previous Inconsistent Resolutions
Motion 23	11	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the GIS Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and County Clerk Lisa Lusker and to reconvene by 11:15 AM
Motion 23	12	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss ARPA large child care funding auditing contract and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:33 AM
Motion 23	13	To approve the proposal from Turnkey Design Build LLC for auditing services on the ARPA childcare funding
Motion 23	14	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 minutes to discuss the GIS Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:45 AM

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

REORGANIZATION

The time having arrived, pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated Chapter 19, Article 2, Section 19, to reorganize the Board of Crawford County Commissioners, the Board took the following action to fulfill their statutory obligations:

Item One: Election of the Chairman.

County Counselor Jim Emerson explained the reorganizational procedure that takes place in January of each year.

On motion (23-016) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the nomination of Commissioner Bruce Blair to serve as Chairman of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners for a one-year term commencing immediately.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Moody passed the gavel to Commissioner Blair.

Commissioner Blair assumed the duties of the presiding officer.

Item Two: Election of the Vice Chairman

On motion (23-017) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the nomination of Commissioner Carl Wood to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners for a one-year term commencing immediately.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

**PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS
MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH
MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS
MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS
MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES
MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC
NEW BUSINESS**

Item One: The time having arrived to name the official working banks for the business of the taxpayers of Crawford County, the following were recommended as the current working banks of the county: Exchange State Bank of Girard, GNBANK, Commerce Bank and Equity Bank. Mr. Emerson explained the working banks for the county.

On motion (23-018) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to name Exchange State Bank of Girard, GNBANK, Commerce Bank and Equity Bank as the official working banks for the business of the taxpayers of Crawford County for a period of one year commencing immediately.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: The time having arrived to name the official newspaper publication of Crawford County and the following was recommended as the current official newspaper of the county: *The Morning Sun*.

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On motion (23-019) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to name *The Morning Sun* as the official newspaper publication of Crawford County for a period of one year commencing immediately.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson stated that the Kansas Association of Counties 2023 Local Government Day will be held Wednesday, January 25, 2023 from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM in Topeka and this is in partnership with the League of Municipalities. He said that County Day at the Capitol will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 and this is also hosted by Kansas Association of Counties. He informed the Commissioners to notify him if they would like to attend either event.

Item Four: Commissioner Moody addressed the nuisance property on the bypass around Franklin. Mr. Emerson stated that this issue has been turned over to the County Attorney for prosecution and he will contact the County Attorney to check on the status of the nuisance. Mr. Emerson and the Commissioners discussed the County getting the authority to clean up properties and assessing the costs to the tax rolls as the cities have.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood stated that he has some issues that he would like to discuss. He addressed the time clocks and Commissioner Blair explained the status of the project. There was a brief discussion on this issue. He asked to speak with Zoning Administrator May Smith and they discussed codes court, nuisance violations and scheduling a zoning meeting. Commissioner Wood asked about the GPS Tracking for Road & Bridge vehicles and Commissioner Blair said that it is installed in every vehicle and explained how to track with this system. Commissioner Wood stated that it needs to be installed in the County Appraiser's office vehicles. Commissioner Blair explained what information can be accessed through the GPS program. Commissioner Wood stated that as of January 29, 2023, Via Christi will no longer be doing occupation health. He requested a meeting with Freeman Health Systems to discuss this issue. Mr. Emerson will set up a work session. Commissioner Wood spoke about setting up safety meetings through EMC and also setting up CPR training through the EMS Department for employees. He also addressed LEPC and stated that there will be a LEPC meeting Thursday morning at the jail and he will be in attendance and invited the other Commissioners to attend. He spoke about a disaster that happened 3 years ago on Langdon Lane. Commissioner Wood stated that he would like any information on 2 projects that are taking place in his district. He also stated that he would like to set up a 911 committee. Commissioner Wood asked about selling old Road & Bridge equipment and vehicles on Purple Wave and Commissioner Blair explained the status of this. Commissioner Wood stated that he will be in attendance at the NextEra Energy meeting in Fort Scott next Tuesday and Commissioner Blair will also be in attendance. Commissioner Wood addressed trash along county roads and along the highways. There was a discussion on this issue and about tarping the trash trucks. He would like to have the Commissioners meet with Mr. Matt Sanders from Oak Grove landfill about the trash. Mr. Emerson stated that he has spoke with Sheriff Smith about this issue and he is going

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to step up enforcement. Commissioner Wood requested a copy of the landfill contract. Commissioner Moody asked that Mr. Emerson contact KDOT to check the status of their decisions about the trash on 69 Highway. Commissioner Wood addressed the Freeto Building and the Commissioners discussed the building and the repairs that have been done to the building. Commissioner Wood stated that he has an entity in need of a space for approximately 10 or 15 people. He will contact Maintenance Supervisor Robert Gorentz. He discussed the County Surveyor position and the surveyor's truck and equipment and where the equipment is currently located. There was a discussion on sharing this position with the City of Frontenac and the issue replacing the County Surveyor. Mr. Emerson stated that since the passing of the last surveyor, private companies have been hired if needed. The Commissioners agreed that there is a need for a County Surveyor.

On motion (23-020) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve advertising for a surveying firm to place on retainer.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Wood discussed traffic counts on roads that the state is doing and having Mr. Emerson look up this information on the website. He also discussed having a City/County Luncheon and Commissioner Moody stated that this has been discussed previously. Commissioner Wood asked if the county is still a member of the Highway 69 Association and Mr. Emerson will check into this issue.

OLD BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 30 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (23-021) 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 Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:21 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:51 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:21 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 30 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (23-022) 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 Road & Bridge Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:53 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:23 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:53 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Item Six: Mr. Emerson addressed obtaining a purchasing card for Commissioner Wood with a limit of \$2,500.

On motion (23-023) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve a purchasing card for Commissioner Carl Wood with a \$2500 spending limit.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: January 13, 2023 – Mr. Wally Wilson, Ryan Insurance presenting insurance renewal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: January 10, 2023 – The Board of County Commissioner Regular Session is cancelled due to the Reorganization Meeting being held on January 9, 2023.

Item Two: January 10, 2023 – NextEra Energy open house to discuss the Wolf Creek to Blackberry 345kV Transmission Line Project from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Empress Event Center in Fort Scott. All three Commissioners may be in attendance.

Item Three: January 16, 2023 – The Courthouse is closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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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 [January 9, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:56 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

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.

Lisa Lusker
County Clerk

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken BKW 01/09/23 11:56 AM/amended BKW 1/11/2022 2:00 PM](#)