

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2021, **FIFTIETH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS, **Friday, July 16, 2021, 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 Jeremy Johnson served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Tom Moody and Bruce Blair were in attendance.

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

Chairman Johnson led the pledge of allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (21-213) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **July 13, 2021** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 607116 to 607349 dated July 15, 2021 in the total amount of \$522,808.30, 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:

Motion 21	209	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the July 9, 2021 minutes
Motion 21	210	To approve the 2022 Crawford County Conservation District Budget and authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign
Motion 21	211	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the EMS Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and EMS Director Randy Sandberg and to reconvene by 10:20 AM

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Motion 21	212	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Health Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Executive Administrator Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 10:28 AM
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UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

Item One: County Clerk Don Pyle presented a Proclamation proclaiming Friday, July 16, 2021 as Derrick Mein Day in Crawford County. Commissioner Blair read the proclamation and explained that Mr. Mein will represent the United States in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic games in the Shotgun/Men's trap. Commissioner Blair stated there will be a sendoff for Mr. Mein at the Gazebo on the Courthouse lawn at 4:00 PM today.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Ms. Mary Kay Caldwell addressing Pawprints on the Heartland. Ms. Caldwell stated there is a need for a veterinarian in this area. She explained that the clinic does surgeries on Tuesday and Thursday and there is such a demand for appointments that they are unable to meet the demand. Commissioner Moody was answered that Pawprints is a separate entity from the SEK Humane Society. Ms. Caldwell handed out information on the program and went through the information with the Commissioners. She addressed the Veterinarian Search Proposal and explained the avenues they have taken to find a vet and with no avail. She also explained that with the lack of needed veterinarian services, Crawford County will soon be overrun with homeless animals and it will have an effect on all citizens and also the death and suffering of the animals. She stated the solution that Pawprints feels is the answer is to hire a new vet at a \$100,000 salary with Paw Prints contributing \$50,000, Crawford County contributing \$25,000 and the City of Pittsburg contributing \$25,000. Commissioner Johnson was answered that Pawprints on the Heartland is currently operating at the SEK Humane Society and also in the mobile van owned by Pawprints. Ms. Caldwell introduced some officers and members of Pawprints that were present in the audience. Commissioner Moody asked if the organization has visited with the City of Pittsburg and Ms. Caldwell answered that they are scheduled to attend the Pittsburg City Commission meeting on July 26, 2021. She stated that Dr. Morland is the vet and she has been with Pawprints for over 20 years and Dr. Morland is contracted through Pawprints. Commissioner Johnson suggested exploring a community wide solution. Ms. Caldwell stated that with the salary suggested, it should entice interest. Commissioner Johnson was answered that the veterinarian would be employed through Pawprints on the Heartland. The Commissioners would like for Pawprints to speak to the City of Pittsburg and possibly other stake holders before making any decisions. Commissioner Blair stated that he is in total support of the program and he sees no issues with the county contribution of \$25,000. Ms. Caldwell will contact Mr. Pyle after Pawprints meets with the City of Pittsburg.

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

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Item One: County Health Officials with COVID-19 update. The Commissioners were presented with the Crawford County Gating Criteria updated Thursday, July 15, 2021. Dr. Stebbins went through the Community Gating Criteria. He stated that as of yesterday evening at 3:00 PM there have been 117 new cases this week with the highest number of cases in the 25- to 44-year-old category. He explained that 80% to 90 % of the new cases are unvaccinated individuals. He addressed the Trend in Incidence Rate and went through the hospital statistics. Ms. Teddi Van Kam stated that KDHE contacted her and requested to come to Crawford County to do a vaccination clinic and the Health Department arranged for KDHE to set up their mobile van at the Countryside Christian Church Parking lot. She said that KDHE is willing to come back in 2 weeks to do the 2nd doses. Dr. Stebbins discussed the advantages of having the state involvement. Commissioner Moody was answered that the county is just now seeing the fallout from the 4th of July holiday. Dr. Stebbins explained the efforts they have made to manage the virus. He explained how aggressive they in using the infusion therapy. Ms. Van Kam stated that they have hired one employee to help with tracing and hopefully another will be hired by Monday. Dr. Stebbins stated that the county has crossed the 50% mark in 1st vaccinations. Dr. Stebbins stated that everyone in the community needs to look at their current risk status and manage that appropriately. Ms. Van Kam stated that there has been an increase in testing.

Mr. Michael Ehling, Executive Administrator explained that Chaplain Adah Hutchcraft and Dr. Burch from Via Christi will be coming to the Health Department to work with the staff to help them reduce their stress levels.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Mr. Michael Ehling requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-214) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Johnson 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 Personnel under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Mr. Michael Ehling, Dr. Tim Stebbins and Ms. Teddi Van Kam and to reconvene by 11:03 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 10:48 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:03 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Ms. Van Kam presented the Early Detection Works Program and stated that Ms. Shelly Hipfl is the director of this program. She stated that Ms. Hipfl covers 17

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counties in this program and explained what the program covers. She said that there are 881 women enrolled in SEK in this program and 210 of those women are living in Crawford County. Ms. Hipfl addressed the Commissioners and stated that this is a nationwide program. Mr. Hipfl spoke about what the program entails.

On motion (21-215) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Early Detection Works Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Brad Stroud & Mr. Matt O'Malley with an update on Live Well Crawford County. Mr. Stroud stated that they will be providing the Commissioners with quarterly updates. The Commissioners were presented information on Live Well. Mr. Stroud stated that they have completed Phase I of the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Grant and that this grant generated approximately \$450,000 into the county and they are now into Phase II of that grant which is an additional 4 years and that it is scheduled to provide approximately \$400,000 into the county over the 4 years. He discussed the work that Live Well has been doing and spoke about the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and explained the partners for completing the CHNA/CHIP. Mr. Stroud also explained the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Grant Health in All Policies (HiAP) and stated that the City of Arma has agreed to partake in the program. Mr. Stroud addressed the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Enhanced Trail Infrastructure at the Harry McDonald Park in Arma. Mr. Stroud introduced Mr. Matt O'Malley and stated that he has been the coordinator of the Health Equity Grant from the Kansas Health Foundation. Mr. McNally addressed the Commissioners and stated that he is the Director of Outreach and Development, a 3-year Chairman of the Eat Well County Food Policy Council, the secretary of the Addiction Prevention Taskforce and a representative on the Crawford County Community Coalition. He spoke about the 4-year Healthy Communities Initiative: Improving Health Equity in Kansas. He explained the focus of the grant and explained the Arma Nutrition Council initiative. He also addressed other projects that stemmed from this initiative and additional funding that was secured.

Ms. Kim Vogel and Ms. Deborah Anthony, Co- Chairs of Live Well Crawford County addressed the Commissioners and requested an Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Item Two: Ms. Kim Vogel and Ms. Deborah Anthony requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-216) of Commissioner Johnson 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 the Live Well Crawford County personnel under Non-Elected

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Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, Ms. Kim Vogel and Ms. Deborah Anthony and to reconvene by 11:53 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 11:38 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:53 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: Mr. Michael Ehling requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client relationship.

On motion (21-217) of Commissioner Johnson and the second of Commissioner Blair 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 Mental Health Board and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Mr. Michael Ehling and to reconvene by 12:13 PM.

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 11:58 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:13 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson presented the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$14,525.00. He also presented the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV 2) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$124.60.

On motion (21-218) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Johnson to approve the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$14,525.00 and the Kansas Housing Resource Corporation Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV 2) Recipient Request for Reimbursement and Financial Status Report in the amount of \$124.60 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

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Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Commissioner Blair discussed the old landfill property and stated that he met with Noxious Weed Director Tommy Scales and a representative from Triad. He discussed the maintenance that needs done to the property for the 10-year inspection. He stated that Noxious Weed Director Tommy Scales and the Road & Bridge crews are willing to help with the maintenance. He will give an update when more information is available.

Item Three: Commissioner Blair addressed the purchase of a grader and will re-address when he has additional information.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Pyle presented the Commissioners with the updated Crawford County Budget Department Requests for 2022. The Commissioners scheduled a work session for 8:30 AM on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 to discuss the Crawford County 2022 Budget. Mr. Pyle also spoke about the Revenue Neutral Rate and a notice that the entities need to provide him with if they are going to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate.

Item Two: Mr. Pyle stated that there is a Democrat Party Convention on Sunday, July 18, 2021 and 2 Commissioners may be in attendance.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson addressed the Landfill contract. He explained the basics of the contract and some changes that were made. He stated that all in all it is a benefit that the county can't turn down. Mr. Tim Lewellyn from Short's Trash Service addressed the Commissioners and stated that his business will go to the landfill in Crawford County and discussed other options his business could take. He stated that his company is willing to help the County and if anything is needed from him, just to let him know.

On motion (21-219) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve of the landfill contract as presented.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Johnson

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson stated that Mr. Pyle, County Treasurer Joe Grisolano and himself attended a presentation with the City of Girard and T-Mobile and said that T-Mobile announced that the City of Girard is a finalist for a grant package for upgrading the square through broadband.

Item Five: Commissioner Blair spoke about the tire pickup program held in Girard and the tires being picked up by Champlain Tire.

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Item Six: Commissioner Johnson addressed the Fire District Budgets and Mr. Pyle stated that he is going to start work on those.

EXECUTIVE SESSION continued

Item Four: Commissioner Tom Moody requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client relationship.

On motion (21-220) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair 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 the county land bank and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 12:58 PM.

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 12:48 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:58 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Five: Commissioner Johnson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (21-221) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 10 minutes to discuss the Road & Bridge Crews under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 1:14 PM.

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 12:59 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 1:08 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: July 20, 2021 – 8:30 AM Work Session to discuss the 2022 County Budget.

Item Two: July 20, 2021 – 9:30 AM Work Session with Mr. Mike Bodensteiner from Greenbush to discuss the American Rescue Plan funding.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: Sunday, July 15, 2021 – Democrat Party Convention at 7:00 PM at the Homer Cole Center. 2 Commissioners will 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 Blair to adjourn the [July 16, 2021](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 1:10 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 7/16/2021 1:10 PM/amended BKW 7/19/2021 3:00 PM