

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2023, TWENTY-SECOND MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. Tuesday, March 21, 2023 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.

Commissioners Carl Wood and Tom Moody were in attendance.

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

Frontenac Senior Hattie Pyle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (23-136) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **March 17, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

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	130	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the March 14, 2023 minutes and Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 620322 to 620661 dated March 15, 2023 in the total amount of \$383,260.54
Motion 23	131	To make it known that the board hereby issues a license to "sell at retail", cereal malt beverages from the place of business as shown in the application APPLICANT: Lisa Goff "Lakeview Cafe" PREMISES: 2 W Lake Rd, Farlington, KS 66734 (For sale in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the premises) APPLICANT: Lisa Goff "Lakeview Cafe" PREMISES: 2 W Lake Rd, Farlington, KS 66734 (For consumption on the premises)

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 23	132	To approve the end of 2022 budget transfers to reserve accounts
Motion 23	133	To approve the distribution of \$40,000 in ARPA funds to the City of Frontenac for repairs to the Joe Saia Overpass
Motion 23	134	To recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for a period of not more than 15 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 10:37 AM
Motion 23	135	To approve Ag Engineering to provide surveying services for the county and authorize County Counselor Jim Emerson to pursue a contract

UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

Item One: Mr. Ralph Patterson addressed the Commissioners and stated that he lives on Dittman Street in Frontenac and drives the bus for USD 249. He explained his bus route and stated that 580th Ave from Lee Hurt Road to 270th St is paved but there is no shoulder. He stated that his bus is 8 feet wide and if he meets a farm truck or other large vehicle, one of the vehicles has to get off the road. He requested that the Commissioners look into this issue. County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that the county has a project in motion to put safety edges on part of 260th St. which has been approved by the State and as soon as the county is notified by the State that the work can begin, the road crews will start on it. Mr. Patterson also addressed the trash along 69 Highway and asked about the prisoners picking up the trash. Commissioner Moody stated that they have looked into that but Sheriff Smith feels it is a liability issue and prefers not to utilize the prisoners to do this work. He informed Mr. Patterson that the issue is being worked on. Mr. Patterson also spoke about the valuation on his property and stated that his valuation increased \$5,000 in one year. Commissioner Blair explained why properties increase in value.

Item Two: Mr. Brady Hill thanked Commissioner Blair, Commissioner Moody, County Clerk Lisa Lusker and County Counselor Jim Emerson for taking the Frontenac Senior Class on a tour of the Courthouse this morning and allowing them to attend a Commission meeting. Commissioner Blair stated that Mr. Hill is working on putting together a Student Government Day that ended a few years ago due to COVID.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker presented Tax Roll Corrections, correcting an error in the assessing of Personal Property owned by Vette Autos Inc and to request an abate in the amount of \$64.98 from the 2020 tax rolls and the amount of \$60.44 from the 2021 tax rolls. Ms. Lusker explained that the taxpayer moved to Arkansas in 2019 and took the

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

1966 Chev and trailer with them. Ms. Lusker explained to the senior class how the abatements and refunds come about and how they are processed.

On motion (23-137) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Tax Roll Corrections, correcting an error in the assessing of Personal Property owned by Vette Autos Inc and to request an abate in the amount of \$64.98 from the 2020 tax rolls and the amount of \$60.44 from the 2021 tax rolls and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson explained the two opportunities taxpayers have to protest their property values each year. He stated that when taxpayers receive the Change of Value Notice from the Appraiser's in March, taxpayers can file an appeal and have an informal hearing with the Appraiser's Office. He said the other opportunity is when taxpayers pay their taxes they can Pay Under Protest and have a hearing with the Appraiser's office.

Item Three: County Clerk Lisa Lusker explained the Homestead Program, Safe Senior Program and Senior and Disabled Veterans Property Tax Program.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood discussed bidding out concrete work at the District #3 Road & Bridge shop where the crews wash the trucks and equipment. He stated that the area is now rock and mud.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood addressed bidding out the off-road fuel and he will be working on this issue.

Item Six: Commissioner Blair spoke to the seniors about EMS services and asked the students to reach out to the county if they have any interest in training to become EMS workers.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Commissioner Moody addressed the City/County Luncheon and stated that everything went well and there was a fairly good turnout. He said that a couple of cities expressed interest in hosting the next meeting.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood spoke about the City/County Luncheon and the purpose of the meeting.

Item Three: Commissioner Wood addressed the lawn at the Courthouse. Commissioner Blair stated that he will check with Noxious Weed Director Tommy Scales on the soil sample.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Four: Commissioner Blair stated that he will be attending Rural Water Association meeting on March 28 and March 29. He said that he is looking into infrastructure money and seeing if there are any funds available. He spoke about ARPA funding and SPARK funding and where the funds came from. Mr. Blair stated the amount of ARPA funds the county received. He explained that the county worked with SEK Regional Educational Service Center and a survey was mailed out to determine where the money would be most beneficial and the Commissioners determined that dividing the funds for child care, infrastructure and county departments would be the most useful. Commissioner Blair explained the application process and how it was decided to fund the applicants. Mr. Emerson spoke about the large child care funding and how many day care slots that are being created in each day care facility that was funded. Ms. Lusker commended the Commissioners on the work they did making hard decisions and taking the money and turning it in to doing the best for the most people. She stated everyone should be proud of the Commissioners as they did something that a lot of counties did not do.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood spoke about a water district located in Cherokee County but the district does come into a portion of Crawford County. He said that a citizen of that district asked for help on an issue and the Commissioners stated he should attend a meeting to discuss the issue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (23-138) 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 Codes Court under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson and Zoning Administrator May Smith and to reconvene by 11:02 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 10:32 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:00 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Two: Commissioner Carl Wood requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (23-139) 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 the EMS Department under Non-Elected Personnel and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:17 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:02 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:17 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Item Seven: Mr. Emerson stated that Communications Director Tim Mikrut and himself attended the Arma City Council Meeting last night and they discussed putting a communications tower next to the lagoons in the City of Arma. He stated that the council made a motion to approve the County's request to put the towers near the city's lagoon.

Item Eight: Commissioner Wood addressed damage to a bridge on Langdon Lane.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: March 24, 2023 – Opening of culvert bids.

Item Two: March 31, 2023 – Opening of autopsy transportation bids.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: March 29, 2023 – 2023 County Commissioner and Road Official Meeting at 9:00 AM at the KDOT Meeting Room in Chanute, Kansas. More than one Commissioner 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 [March 21, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:22 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.

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 3/21/2023 11:21 AM/amended BKW 3/22/2023 11:20 AM](#)