

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2023, [EIGHTY-SEVENTH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, November 28, 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 Tom Moody and Carl Wood were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker 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 (23-488)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **November 21, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the November 21, 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 CANVASS	482	To reconvene the meeting of the Board of County Canvassers
Motion 23 CANVASS	483	To accept the results of the coin toss declaring Mary Jo Little the winner of the Walnut City Councilmember Position 4 in the 2023 City-School General Election held November 7, 2023 in Crawford County

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 23	484	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 17, 2023 minutes of the Board of County Commissioners and Approval of the November 17, 2023 minutes of the Board of County Canvassers
Motion 23	485	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
Motion 23	486	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
Motion 23	487	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

**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**

**MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item One:** County Counselor Jim Emerson presented a document from a work session before the meeting. He stated that they decided to pay the full amount of the new tower out of 911's ARPA funding in the amount of \$144,939.42. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson how each department's ARPA funding amount was decided on and Mr. Emerson explained that each department put in a request for a certain amount of money as well as what the money would be used for and then after that it was discussed and decided how much funding each department would receive. Commissioner Wood asked for clarification on how much the starting amount of ARPA money was available, and then asked if it was advertised for departments to put in requests and Mr. Emerson answered that yes it was. Mr. Emerson answered to Commissioner Wood that all third parties did have to sign paperwork as well, and that some requests were rejected because they did not fit the original criteria of the ARPA funding. Commissioner Wood asked the difference between SPARK funding and ARPA funding and Mr. Emerson explained that SPARK funding had stricter criteria as well as a much shorter timeline that it had to be dispersed in and that most of it went to schools, hospitals, doctor's offices, and the County to get opened back up after Covid. Commissioner Wood asked about the time in which ARPA funding has to be spent and Mr. Emerson explained that by the end of 2024 all money has to be allocated to a project, and then the money has to be spent by the end of 2026.

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

**On motion (23-489)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the ARPA Drawdown for November 2023.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**Item Two:** Commissioner Wood stated he stopped by the SEK Recycling Center and that he believes there are a lot of materials there that could be hauled off and could bring in money to the business. He said the County could smash it and haul it off. However, he wants to know why the County is taking responsibility for doing this for the Recycling Center instead of their manager. Commissioner Blair stated he also agrees the County could help to smash the material for them so that they can haul it off and Commissioner Moody agrees as well. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson what he thinks about the idea and Mr. Emerson stated he will call the Center and discuss this with them.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Blair asked the other Commissioners if they have been experiencing problems with debris on the roads/side of the roads and Commissioner Moody said he has and that it seems to be an ongoing problem in his district. Commissioner Blair mentioned that he is trying to think of what they can do to help fix the situation because they have already taken measures previously such as promoting dumping for the County once a month but that something needs to be done about the issue. County Clerk Lisa Lusker asked if this problem is only occurring in certain places and Commissioner Blair answered that it is in many different locations and Commissioner Moody stated his district seems to suffer in locations close to the landfill.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Item One:** Commissioner Moody stated that when they made the changes to the service they have with their trash dumpsters, the dumpster that was brought back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Road and Bridge building was small. He mentioned he may see about getting a dumpster the next size larger. Mr. Emerson stated he has the list of dumpsters and he will check on it.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Item One:** County Clerk Lisa Lusker requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

**On motion (23-490)** 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 Non-Elected Personnel to discuss elections and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:32 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:22 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:29 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Two:** County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

**On motion (23-491)** 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 20 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss use of county property and lobbyist contracts and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:50 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 10:30 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:38 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

**Item Three:** Commissioner Moody requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

**On motion (23-492)** 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 CTECH and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:39 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 10:39 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:49 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### **UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FUTURE BUSINESS:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

## Board of Crawford County Commissioners

**Item One: November 30, 2023** –Crawford County Open House for flood mapping from 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM at the Fire Station #1, 911 W 4<sup>th</sup> St, Pittsburg.

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

**Item Three: 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 28, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 10:52 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.**

---

**Lisa Lusker**  
County Clerk

◇

**This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.**

[Taken RJA 11/30/2023 10:00 AM/amended BKW 11/30/23 11:00 AM](#)