

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2023, [EIGHTY-FIRST](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, October 27, 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 (23-452) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **October 24, 2023** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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	446	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the October 20, 2023 minutes
Motion 23	447	To approve the quote from Wallace Tower Specialists Company for the purchase and installation of a 300' Rohn 65G tower with foundations in the amount of \$110,050
Motion 23	448	To approve the change of the provider for the Flexible Spending Account from Health Equity to Surency Flex

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Motion 23	449	To approve the ARPA Drawdown for October 2023
Motion 23	450	To approve the ARPA Large Child Care funding to Point Forward, a not-for-profit entity, in the amount of \$705,000.00 for the child care project On a Roll Call Vote
Motion 23	451	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 equipment contracts and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, and to reconvene by 10:57 AM

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 OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

Item One: Mr. Blake Benson, President of the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce addressed the Commissioners and introduced the Crawford County Leadership Class that was present in the audience. He explained that this class consists of individuals that commit themselves one day a month for six months to learn more about Crawford County as they move into leadership positions within their organizations or companies and also within the community.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Mr. Mac Young, Community Corrections Administrator presented the Community Corrections FY23 Year End Outcome. He handed out the report to the Commissioners and explained what the report consists of. He spoke about the requested 75% success rate and the success rate in the 11th Judicial District broke down by gender. He spoke about the goals and objectives listed in the report. Mr. Young answered Commissioner Wood's questions on the number of officers in Crawford County and the number of cases each officer handles. Mr. Young also spoke about staff turnover. Commissioner Blair asked about the possibility of Drug Court and Mr. Young stated that it would be very helpful and they are working to implement Drug Court in the 11th Judicial District. Commissioner Blair explained that Drug Court is a structured program that offsets incarceration with getting back on track by attending rehab, getting a job and being a productive citizen. Mr. Young added that that the best thing about Drug Court is that sanctions will be immediate. Mr. Young presented the FY23 Community Corrections Year-End Outcome Report Signatory Approval Form,

On motion (23-453) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the FY23 Community Corrections Year-End Outcome Report Signatory Approval Form and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood and Blair

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson handed out the proposed 48th Annual Kansas Association of Counties Annual Conference and Exposition Agenda. He stated that the conference will be held December 5th, 2023 through December 7th, 2023.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson discussed county revenues. He explained that the county is near the end of the fiscal year and during October and November the Commissioners review where the county is currently at compared to the estimates that were set at the beginning of the year. He handed out Sales Tax Reports. He explained that sales tax is broken down into city tax, county tax and state tax. He stated that the county has a 1 cent sales tax and that amount is divided with the cities within the county. Mr. Emerson explained the breakdown of the amount of county sales tax revenue received for the first 10 months of 2023 and the funds each of the cities receive from that amount that is listed within the report. He said that sales tax is up about 1.8% this year.

Mr. Emerson also presented 2023 Kansas Crossing Casino Gaming Revenue report. He explained that when the legislation was passed to allow casinos, the legislation required that Crawford County receive 1% of the net revenue, the City of Pittsburg receive 1% of the net revenue and Cherokee County receive 1 % of the net revenue. He stated that the Crawford County revenue to date is \$340,106.63 and it is estimated to be about \$400,000 per year.

Mr. Emerson presented the Risk Management Overview 2023. He explained that the county's health insurance is partially self-funded and the county pays the health claims up to \$100,000 per individual and the county pays premiums to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas to pay the claims over \$100,000. He stated that the Risk Management Account is what is used to pay the claims under \$100,000 and the account is in really good shape.

Mr. Emerson addressed county investments and generating revenue for the county from these investments. He explained that the sales tax revenue, the casino revenue and any other items that bring in revenue to the county helps to keep property taxes down and the mill levy down.

Item Three: Commissioner Moody stated that he has had concerns with the property behind the Lamplighter Inn in Pittsburg. He requested that Mr. Emerson contact Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas to see what the plan is for the property.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood spoke about the City County Luncheon that was hosted by the City of Mulberry and thanked the City of Mulberry for hosting. Commissioner Moody stated that the City of Girard has volunteered to host the next luncheon.

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Item Five: Commissioner Wood requested a copy of the trash report and would like that report on a monthly basis. He also requested a rock report and an asphalt report and would also like those on a monthly basis. He said he would like a detailed budget review for the Road & Bridge department. Mr. Emerson will work on these requests.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated that early voting for the 2023 City/School General Election is still available in the County Clerk's Office.

Item Two: Commissioner Wood stated that at the previous meeting he requested the date of the Commission Meeting where ARPA funding for large child care facilities was discussed and asked Ms. Lusker if she has located the meeting date. Ms. Lusker stated that it is being researched but her office is busy with preparing for the upcoming election and preparing for the tax rolls and no date has been located yet but will continue to research when there is time to do so. Commissioner Wood stated that he is not going to take the time to look for it and asked Mr. Emerson if his office could locate the meeting where the discussion took place.

Item Three: Commissioner Blair stated that the paver was picked up for the training next week and everyone has signed up that is attending the training.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Commissioner Tom Moody requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (23-454) 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 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel regarding county employees and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:52 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Blair, and Moody

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:37 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:43 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Ms. Lusker stated that Mr. Gene Vogler from the SEK Recycling Center was scheduled to attend the meeting on November 10, 2023 but the Courthouse will be closed that day and the Commission Meeting cancelled due to the Veteran's Day Holiday. She said that she has reached out to Mr. Vogler to reschedule but has not had a response from him yet.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FUTURE BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: November 7, 2023 – 2023 City/School General Election. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Item Two: November 10, 2023 – The Courthouse will be closed and the Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled due to the Veteran’s Day holiday.

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 [October 27, 2023](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 10:45 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

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This submission completed at the Crawford County Courthouse in Girard.

[Taken BKW 10/30/2023 11:25 AM](#)