

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2024, THIRTEENTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, February 16, 2024 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 Carl Wood served as the presiding officer.

Commissioners Bruce Blair and Tom Moody were in attendance.

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

Chairman Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (24-088) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **February 13, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Approval of the accounts payable warrant numbers 627545 to 627801 dated February 15, 2024 in the total amount of \$1,013,807.45, and
3. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

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 24	84	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the February 9, 2024 minutes
Motion 24	85	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 consumption on the premises) APPLICANT: Lisa Goff "Lakeview Cafe"

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

		PREMISES: 2 W Lake Rd, Farlington, KS 66734 (For sale in original and unopened containers and not for consumption on the premises)
Motion 24	86	To adopt Resolution #2024-003, a Resolution to re-appoint David Robinson of 647 N 200th St, Farlington, Kansas to the Crawford County Planning and Zoning Board and Joint Board of Zoning Appeals with a term to run from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2026
Motion 24	87	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 to discuss EMS and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 10:33 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

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated that she wanted to remind the public that the last day to register to vote or to change party affiliation for the Presidential Preference Primary Election is Tuesday, February 20, 2024 and this can be done online or in the office. She also stated that Tuesday, February 20, 2024 is also the last day to request an advance ballot for the election.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Mr. Rusty Akins, Emergency Management Director addressed the Commissioners in reference to a storm siren for the City of Cherokee. Commissioner Blair explained that last year the City of Cherokee was looking into putting a storm siren located at Southeast High School in Cherokee and asked the county to assist in getting the siren. Commissioner Blair explained that the City of Cherokee was willing to pay 1/3 of the costs and city received a donor that is willing to donate 1/3 of the costs and they are asking the county to cover the other 1/3 of the costs. He stated that the total cost of the project is \$26,487.35 which will be divided 3 ways. Commissioner Wood asked who would be paying for the maintenance on the siren and Mr. Akins stated that the City of Cherokee will be responsible for the maintenance. Commissioner Moody asked about grants to cover part of the costs and Mr. Akins stated that it was looked into but nothing was available. Mr. Akins stated that the closest siren to that area is located on the very east side on town but it is a very small siren and not very loud and with winds blowing it is very hard to hear on the west side of town and there is also a small one at the fire station in the city. County Counselor Jim Emerson stated that the price of \$26,487.35 is good for 90 days. There was a discussion on where the funds could come from to pay 1/3 of the cost. Mr. Akins stated that the City of Cherokee will be responsible in setting off the siren. The Commissioners asked Mr. Akins to check into other areas that could use additional storm protection.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

On motion (24-089) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve payment of 1/3 of the costs for a storm siren for the City of Cherokee.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

NEW BUSINESS continued

Item Two: Mr. Emerson presented a request to re-appoint Ms. Marilyn VonSoosten as the County Appointee of Crawford County on the Board of the Southeast Kansas Library System.

On motion (24-090) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the re-appointment of Ms. Marilyn VonSoosten as the County Appointee of Crawford County on the Board of the Southeast Kansas Library System with a term from April 2024 to April 2025.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Commissioner Wood gave a brief report on his tour of the Health Department. He stated that there are still a few things to be taken care of but these issues are listed on the punch report. He said they discussed the landscaping and also additional cameras on the premises. Mr. Emerson stated he also attended the tour and said the contractors hope to be finished by the end of next week. Commissioner Moody stated that he toured the south end of the Freeto building yesterday and it is very nice and stated that contractor there was also working on a punch list to finish up. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson to set up a tour for Mr. Emerson and himself to tour the Freeto building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: IT Director Brandon Spaur requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss matters relating to security measures.

On motion (24-091) of Commissioner Wood 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 20 minutes to discuss matters relating to the security of a public body or agency, public building or facility or the information system of a public body or agency, if the discussion of such matters at an open meeting would jeopardize the security of such public body, agency, building, facility, or information system to discuss cyber insurance and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and IT Director Brandon Spaur and to reconvene by 10:38 AM.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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 10:18 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:30 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson stated that he met with Maintenance Supervisor Robert Gorentz yesterday about the mowing bids and he should have a bid packet ready to present on Tuesday. There was a discussion on the specifications listed in the bid packet. There was also a discussion on mowing around the radio towers.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson presented the Commissioners with a map of the current zoning boundaries and explained that these boundaries have been set since the 1960's. There was a discussion on the boundaries and the different types of zoning the county has. Mr. Emerson stated that the Public Hearing on land issues within Crawford County will be held on March 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson stated that he attended the Crawford County Solid Waste Committee meeting last night and the main topic was the review and approval of the 5-year plan and it requires a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners and that hearing is scheduled for March 1, 2024.

Item Four: Commissioner Moody asked is anyone has spoken to the City of Pittsburg on the Kings Highway Projects and Mr. Emerson will check in to the issue and report on Tuesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

On motion (24-092) 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 items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship to discuss County Projects and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:03 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:48 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:59 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (24-093) 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 the Solid Waste Plan and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:15 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 11:00 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:15 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Four: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (24-094) of Commissioner Wood 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 Non-Elected Personnel to discuss the Noxious Weed Department Reports and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Noxious Weed Director Tommy Scales and to reconvene by 11:36 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 11:16 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:30 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS continued:

Item Four: Mr. Emerson stated that in Executive Session the Commissioners went over the Noxious Weed Department Annual Review documents with Noxious Weed Director Tommy Scales. Mr. Emerson explained that Kansas law required Mr. Scales to submit a Management Plan and an Annual Noxious Weed Progress Report to the Commissioners which Mr. Scales did in Executive Session.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

On motion (24-095) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the Noxious Weed 2024 Management Plan and the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report for 2023.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: February 20, 2024 – 9:00 AM Work Session with Road Foremen to discuss asphalt schedule.

Item Two: February 27, 2024 – Large Childcare ARPA update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: Monday, February 19, 2024 – The Courthouse will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day.

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 [February 16, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:35 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 2/19/24 3:00 PM/amended BKW 2/19/24 3:15 PM](#)