

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2024, TENTH MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. Tuesday, February 6, 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 Tom Moody & Bruce Blair 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 (24-076) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the February 2, 2024 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 24	68	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the January 26, 2024 minutes
Motion 24	69	To approve the January 2024 Clerk's Report as presented
Motion 24	70	To approve the reappointment of Mr. Bill Howell as a Mental Health Representative on the Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board for an additional 3 years with the term ending 2/9/2027, the reappointment of Ms. Tresa Miller as a Court Services Representative on the Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board for an additional 3 years with the term

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

		ending 10/29/26 and the appointment of Ms. Terri Sutton as Educational Representative on the Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board effective immediately and authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 24	71	To approve the appointment of Commissioner Bruce Blair to the Crawford County Solid Waste Committee as the county's representation
Motion 24	72	To approve going out for bid on the foundation work of the Communications Tower Project
Motion 24	73	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 the EMS Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and to reconvene by 10:38 AM
Motion 24	74	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 the EMS Department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and to reconvene by 10:54 AM
Motion 24	75	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 Regional Planning Commission and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson and to reconvene by 11:11 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

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: Heather Spaur, Mental Health Executive Director spoke in regards to the SDA program. She mentioned that one of the biggest goals of this program is to rid of one of the larger barriers that occurs when someone is trying to seek mental health services which is transportation. She explained that this is a mobile clinic that can travel to rural areas and help to serve more people in need and the program is operated out of an RV and is the same service that one would obtain from an in-office experience as well. Mr. Jason Southard, Director of Same Day Access and Housing and social worker introduced himself to speak about this program. He informed the Commissioner's that the SDA program was launched in March of 2023 and has since helped 737 individuals seeking mental health services and this includes both children and adults. Mr. Southard explained that in the beginning he was the only clinician for this program but they have expanded and now have three different therapists that work this program each day during the week as well as two patient navigators. He explained that now this program has gone mobile and they will attempt to run the program exactly the same as the in-office program and

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

making the clients comfortable is the main focus. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Southard what other locations their RV will travel initially besides the courthouse and he gave a breakdown of their schedule. Mr. Southard explained that the first Friday of every month they will be located at Northeast High School parking lot and then the last Friday of every month they will be located at the Crawford County Courthouse. Commissioner Wood asked what their outreach is targeted at in regards to age and Mr. Southard said they are aiming to serve all ages above 2.5 years. Commissioner Wood asked if they will actually conduct therapy sessions in the mobile unit and Mr. Southard stated they will not do therapy sessions but that they can complete the entire intake process so the first step is out of the way and they will leave the RV with scheduled appointments for their individual needs. He said that a legal guardian must be present to do intake on a minor. Ms. Spaur also explained that Mr. Sean Anderson resigned from his position on the Mental Health Governing Board and is presenting a recommendation to appoint Mr. Jared Pile to fill this vacancy. Commissioner Wood stated he was supposed to be on this board but never received contact in regards to it, and also asked who all is on the Mental Health Governing Board. Ms. Spaur stated the Commissioners are responsible for choosing which one of them will sit on this board and she also stated she always sends the meeting information to Crawford County Clerk Lisa Lusker.

On motion (24-077) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to appoint Mr. Jared Pile to the Crawford County Mental Health Governing Board.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Health Department Director Debra Anthony presented a construction update to the Commissioners. She stated this morning they did their walk through with Tri-State Building & Supply Co as well as county maintenance. Ms. Anthony mentioned that the staff have been extremely adaptive to the work sites of the building changing often between inside and outside of the building. She said that a list was made of a few things that Tri-State needs to take care of still but that she approved for final payment once those issues are fixed. She mentioned this included resealing of one of the floors and she provided a few pictures to the Commissioners. Commissioner Wood asked who attended the walk through and she stated Maintenance Supervisor Robert Gorentz, Mr. Ryan Bloom, and Mr. Bryan Hoffman. Commissioner Wood said he would like to set up a date for him to come do a walk through before they make final payment and she stated she will contact him for this. Ms. Anthony explained Tri-State has continuously worked on the project causing no delays and has also worked with them on the pricing so that this project was completed under budget. Commissioner Wood asked if their cameras were set up in the building yet and she explained Craw-Kan will be sending someone out for this sometime soon. He also asked if they have had any progress with finding a Nurse Practitioner and she stated they have paid for advertising and also informed people by word of mouth and that they have not received any applications.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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

On motion (24-078) 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 Non-Elected Personnel to discuss the health department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Health Department Director Debra Anthony, and to reconvene by 10:44 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 10:29 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:44 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Two: EMS Director Randy Sandberg requested an executive session for 30 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (24-079) 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 30 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss the EMS department and to include the Board of County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and to reconvene by 11:18 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 10:48 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:18 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker gave a reminder that there is a 2024 Presidential Primary Election and that it will be on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. She explained that the deadline to register to vote, update voter registration, or apply for advanced ballot by mail is February 20th and in person begins in the Clerk's office on February 28th. She also stated that advanced voting ends of March 18th.

Item Two: Commissioner Blair mentioned that they have a dump truck that had rear end issues and Shop Foreman Josh Peak looked into it and mentioned there is metal in the case. Commissioner Blair state that the repair, assuming the case is not damaged, will be \$6,000 and if the case is damaged it can be closer to \$9,000. He stated that this is a 2018 truck and not much can be done besides fixing this issue.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Item Three: Commissioner Wood wanted to discuss zoning. He asked Mr. Emerson what word could be used when referring to the windfarms and solar panels. Mr. Emerson explained the option they discussed was a moratorium and it was discussed a couple of weeks ago. He explained that the moratorium is used as a way to provide the county a little more time to update comprehensive plans, zoning documents, and land use and the comprehensive plan needs updated. The Commissioners would have to adopt a resolution to place a moratorium on windfarms and solar panels and Mr. Emerson has seen counties go up to three years because just the process of updating a comprehensive plan takes around a year and this also allows public comment. Mr. Emerson mentioned the beginning steps would be to get a moratorium and then obtain a consultant to begin working on the comprehensive plan if this is the path chosen. Commissioner Wood said he discussed this with Zoning Administrator May Smith and that he was told the windfarm was looking at a 1,000-acre section and some of it was zoned area and some was not. He said that the party that contacted him about this, being concerned was close to this area. He also stated the public needs to share their opinions on this issue. Mr. Emerson said he would need authority to work on a resolution for a moratorium and then to work with Ms. Smith on consultants if the Commissioners decide on this. Commissioner Blair said he has had several conversations about wind farms and all of the comments he received is that they do not want county wide zoning. Commissioner Blair said he mentions that zoning is the answer if they want to stop wind farm production. Commissioner Moody asked if placing a moratorium is not saying yes but also not saying no to these projects and Mr. Emerson confirmed that is correct and that it is just to buy some time and it slows the process down and provides some options. Commissioner Moody said he has received two or three phone calls not in favor of zoning. The Commissioners discussed having public input before deciding on a moratorium and Mr. Emerson said his advice would be to publicize a meeting in the paper and other ways in regards to this issue stating they would like public input on this certain day to give people a chance to attend but also let them know they would accept written input. They would put a deadline on the written input so that they could have responses by a certain day. Commissioner Blair said he does not want residents of a certain town dictating what happens in county areas because he does not think it is fair for them to control an area they do not live in or an area not immediately affected by the wind farms but that he does still want their input. They will discuss this topic again at Friday's open meeting.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood said he received a call stating they think the power lines are starting to tear up the road in north Pittsburg. He told them they are currently looking and working on roads. Mr. Emerson said they keep track of all the work they have to do because of this and they will send a bill for it. Commissioner Wood said all the area has been put on video to document the condition of the road before any work done.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood asked what their practice is with people working from home. Commissioner Moody said during covid there was some lenience but now he does not believe it is allowed. Commissioner Wood said he believes there are people working from home and that he is concerned if work is actually being done and that he has discussed with IT Department to track if these individuals are actually working. He stated that he is not in favor of individuals working from home and that the county provides plenty of PTO. Commissioner Moody said he understands the old school ideal but that

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

working from home these days is a common thing. Commissioner Blair said he believes it depends on department as there are some departments who could get work done from home but that some departments work requires their physical presence. Commissioner Wood said he just cannot understand or be in favor of it unless someone is off with physical injuries or something of that nature. Commissioner Moody said at this time he believes they should leave it up to the elected officials and department heads on what they allow in regards to this. Commissioner Wood said if he hears someone is working from home, he will be consulting with the IT Department.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Mr. Emerson reminded the Commissioners that he and Commissioner Wood will be attending County Day at the Capitol on Thursday and the hearing in regards to the nuisance bill will be taking place that day also. He said he will update in regards to this at Friday's open meeting.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson stated there is another change he needs to make for the Solid Waste Committee Members and Ms. Cassie Steinbrook is now representing the SEK Recycling Center.

On motion (24-080) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the appointment of Cassie Steinbrook in representation of the SEK Recycling Center on the Solid Waste Committee.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Commissioner Moody brought up the cleanup of the location along the Franklin bypass. Mr. Emerson said he was informed the agreement has been signed by the home owner and pending state approval for bury on site of this clean up.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood asked if the other Commissioners have had anyone calling to complain about one of the trash haulers. He is referring to CARDS trash service. Commissioner Wood stated he has had a few complaints and Commissioner Moody said he has as well but that he does not believe it is their business to handle. Commissioner Wood stated he did not believe so but he was just trying to see if there was any way to help these people or not. He said he did tell them unfortunately there is not anything they can really do about this trash service.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood stated he has a couple of Lowboy trailers he is going to look in to, and also mentioned his tractor is set to be delivered today.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: February 8, 2024 – 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM County Day at the Capitol. One or more 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 [February 6, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:48 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 2/8/2024 2:30 PM/amended BKW 2/8/24 3:00 PM](#)