

# Board of Crawford County Commissioners

## Commissioners' Journal

2024, THIRTY-FIRST MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM  
Girard, KS. **Friday, April 26, 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 and Bruce Blair were in attendance.

County Clerk Lisa Lusker was seated with the Board.

Chairman Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA**

**On motion (24-211)** of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **April 23, 2024** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. 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	202	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the April 19, 2024 minutes
Motion 24	203	To approve the letters of support for the Energy Efficient Block Grant and authorize the Chairman to sign
Motion 24	204	To approve signing the 2024 Presidential Preference Primary Expenses as presented in the amount of \$32,479.33
Motion 24	205	To approve the ARPA drawdown request for April 2024
Motion 24	206	To approve the publication of the Notice of Intent to Vacate a Platted

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		Alley located in Jewell Center, Crawford County, Kansas with a public hearing scheduled for May 21, 2024 at 10:00 AM
Motion 24	207	To approve the purchase of the signs requested for City of Walnut in the amount of \$7,396.00 utilizing windfarm funding
Motion 24	208	To grant the invoice to Cook, Flatt & Strobel Engineering, PA in the amount of \$41,040.00
Motion 24	209	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 CVB and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, and to reconvene by 12:09 PM
Motion 24	210	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 Road and Bridge and to include the Board of County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson, and to reconvene by 12:24 PM

### 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 APPOINTED OFFICIALS

#### MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

**Item One:** Representatives of Crawford County Coalition Against Industrial Wind and Solar speaking in regards to land use. Mr. Ray Huff addressed the Commissioners. He mentioned he is here to speak against any wind or solar farms taking place in Crawford County and representing others who feel the same that are involved in this coalition. Mr. Huff provided some information in regards to impacts on wildlife by wind and solar farms. He stated he is here to present a moratorium that has been constructed by the Crawford County Coalition Against Industrial Wind and Solar in hopes that they will take action on it during this meeting. Mr. Huff read and provided details on this proposed moratorium but Commissioner Wood did make it clear that he will not make any decisions on this topic today. Commissioner Blair stated he also would like County Counselor Jim Emerson to be present and involved in this as well. Commissioner Blair provided some details from the day the open meeting was held in regards to land use. Mr. Huff stated he believes it would be reasonable to request a timeline on which they will take a look and consider the moratorium for a vote. Commissioner Wood stated as mentioned earlier he will not make a decision today but that Mr. Emerson will have a look at this on Tuesday but that he believes it will be a couple weeks down the road at least. Commissioner Moody mentioned the county is receiving bids to update the Comprehensive Plan which is an important part of this process. Commissioner Blair stated the map passed out at the large meeting over land use is currently being verified to see if it is legit also. Commissioner Blair mentioned that to help him as a Commissioner that it would be great to see a petition or some signatures to physically show opinions of the residents in the county. Mr. Huff stated they would like to do the petition after a moratorium is already in place. Mr. Paul Westhoff addressed the Commissioners and

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provided his title of District 1 Commissioner in Neosho County. He spoke in regards to Neosho County and their decision with land use and how two of their Commissioners had resigned over this issue because the large amount of pressure put on them. He discussed some of the negative aspects and details of wind farms. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Westhoff how long it took Neosho County to get a moratorium in place and Mr. Westhoff mentioned they discussed it and it took a couple of weeks for one to be in place. Commissioner Wood asked if our zoning department has been in contact with anyone in Neosho County's zoning department because he wants to know who they used and Mr. Westhoff provided the name of a gentleman, Mr. Tanner Yost as an engineer. Commissioner Wood asked about property taxes for Neosho County in correlation to wind and solar. Commissioner Moody asked if the wind farms decreased Neosho County's valuation and Mr. Westhoff confirmed that it has decreased. Mr. Joe Bradshaw addressed the Commissioners next. Mr. Bradshaw asked how decreased property values effects taxes on the county residents and Commissioner Wood discussed what the county controls which is the Mill Levy. Mr. Bradshaw asks how people financially benefit from wind and solar and Commissioner Wood explained he does not know how the companies compensate the landowners. Commissioner Blair explained the way the county benefits financially. Mr. Darrel Goedeke addressed the Commissioners. He gave some background information and discussed the information he received from companies about the solar farms that were going to be put in with extreme details they received as well. He also discussed impact on wildlife by wind and solar farms. Mr. Jeff Murphy addressed the Commissioners and stated where he resides in Crawford County. He mentioned his main concern is the impact on the climate by wind and solar farms. Commissioner Blair mentioned the research about these topics that is out there. Mr. Murphy stated he does not see any reason not to move forward on a moratorium. Mr. Michael Diskin spoke to the Commissioners. Mr. Diskin also discussed climate impact as well as the shadow flicker of windmills as he drove in that area. He stated how being out of the city will no longer be a peaceful area but an industrial wind and solar farm full of noise, flickering shadows, and blinking red lights. Commissioner Wood asked if anyone else would like to speak and there were no other speakers.

**On motion (24-212)** of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session for a period of 5 minutes.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

**The motion prevailed.**

**The Commissioners reconvened the Open Session at 11:26 AM.**

### **MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Item One:** Commissioner Blair mentioned the landfill report that shows where vegetation needs to grow and where they need to place lime spread. Commissioner Wood mention the county can haul the lime spread themselves to save money. Commissioner

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Blair explained this report has a map that shows areas that needs lime, areas that need top soil, and the areas that need vegetation.

**Item Two:** Commissioner Moody asked Commissioner Wood about the museum being cut for an event. Commissioner Wood mentioned the event was postponed but Commissioner Moody said the area was cut.

**Item Three:** Commissioner Wood stated yesterday he went to Burlington for the district meeting. He mentioned they toured a place that makes electric circuits and that it was interesting. He stated they offer a device for surge protection for technology. Commissioner Wood said it was overall a good meeting.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

**On motion (24-213)** 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 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss Road and Bridge and to include the Board of County Commissioners and to reconvene by 11:47 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 11:32 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:38 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

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

**On motion (24-214)** 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 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel to discuss EMS and to include the Board of County Commissioners and to reconvene by 11:53 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 11:38 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:49 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.**

### UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### FUTURE BUSINESS:

**Item One: April 30, 2024- 8:30 AM** Work session to sign April bills and payroll vouchers.

**Item Two: April 30, 2024-** Mr. Mac Young, Community Corrections Administrator presenting the Fiscal Year 2025 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan Grant Application and Budget.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### 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 [April 26, 2024](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:49 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.**

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**Lisa Lusker**  
County Clerk

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

Taken RJA 4/29/2024 9:30 AM/amended BKW 4/29/24 2:00 PM