

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2025, **EIGHTY-FIFTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Friday, December 05, 2025 at 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.

Commissioner Carl Wood was in attendance.

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

Vice Chairman Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (25-493) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **December 02, 2025** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, and
2. Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

The motion prevailed and the consent agenda was approved.

SIGNING OF MOTIONS

The County Clerk presented the following motions for Commissioners' signatures:

Motion 25	489	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the November 25, 2025 minutes
Motion 25	490	To authorize going out for bid for the financing of the Radio Console Project
Motion 25	491	To adopt Resolution #2025-033, a Resolution exempting Crawford County, Kansas from using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in the preparation of its financial statements and reports
Motion 25	492	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss CVB job performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the

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		privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:39 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
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UNDER THE HEADING NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OPENING OF ANNOUNCED BIDS

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated the Kansas Association of Counties has asked that they assign a voting delegate for the KAC Conference next week. Ms. Lusker stated she will not be attending and asked if anyone would want to be the voting delegate that is attending. Commissioner Wood asked County Counselor Jim Emerson if he would like to be the voting delegate and Mr. Emerson stated he believes he will be able to do this.

Item Two: Ms. Lusker presented the November 2025 Clerk's Report. Commissioner Wood discussed Special Law fund on the Clerk's Report and stated the Fiscal Office explained this to him. Mr. Emerson discussed the Special Law fund as well. Commissioner Wood asked if the Sheriff's Department is aware of this fund and Mr. Emerson confirmed.

On motion (25-494) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the November 2025 Clerk's Report as presented.

On a Roll Call Vote.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Ms. Lusker presented the budget amendments. Ms. Lusker explained that amending the listed budgets does not mean the county will be collecting more money it just gives them budget authority to use the money that has already been collected. Commissioner Wood asked questions about 911 budget and Mr. Emerson explained. Ms. Lusker read each fund that needed amended. Commissioner Wood asked about the landfill budget and Mr. Emerson explained that is where they get the HHW funds from as well as other items that come from this fund. Commissioner Wood asked where they will get the additional money for the General Fund and Mr. Emerson explained they have the money but the more they use the more it takes away from the carry over for next year. Ms. Lusker explained they would like get the publication for the hearing approved and to set the date for the amended budget hearing for December 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

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On motion (25-495) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the publication for the Amended Budget Hearings set for December 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Wood asked if they see another budget is in trouble do they have to do this again or is there a dead line and Ms. Lusker explained the publication has to be 10 days before the hearing.

Item Four: Mr. Emerson mentioned the KAC Conference is next week. He stated he has printed schedules earlier in the week and has noted there is a change because it begins Tuesday at 9:00 AM with check in starting at 7:00 AM.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood stated they previously discussed the solar panels located near Greenbush and that the company that owns the panels is from Arkansas but that Heartland owns the ground. Commissioner Wood asked if anyone ever looked to see if the county is receiving taxes on this land or any personal property taxes on the equipment. Mr. Emerson stated they looked into that and that there is a 10 year exemption on personal property from the State of Kansas that he believes runs through 2031. He explained the ground is taxable and so Heartland is paying commercial tax on the ground and he believes the amount is around \$2,600 per year. Commissioner Wood asked if the county receives a sales tax on the power that Heartland buys that is generated from this equipment and Mr. Emerson stated he is unsure.

Item Six: Commissioner Wood stated he received a call yesterday about a nuclear reactor being placed in Parsons at the ammunition plant and that he is thrilled for them. Commissioner Wood discussed the ground around the nuclear reactor.

Item Seven: Commissioner Blair discussed the storm siren at Fire Station #3 and that they had repairs done to this storm siren. He stated they were inquiring on if the county would pay for half of the cost of repairs for this storm siren. Mr. Emerson stated it was an upgrade to the storm siren so that the county can activate it with all of the other sirens and that they are asking for half of the cost. Commissioner Wood asked if it was a repair or an upgrade and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked what fund would this come out of because they have a grant for storm sirens and also discussed who would be maintaining these storm sirens. Commissioner Blair stated the way he understands is that it is not one of the storm sirens included in the grant but as far as the maintenance would be a question for Mr. Rodney Pulliam. Commissioner Wood asked if they can take some money from ARPA and Mr. Emerson stated they could. Commissioner Wood asked if they need to contact Communications Director Tim Mikrut to discuss this. Commissioner Blair stated they could surely figure out some sort of arrangement for maintenance. Commissioner Wood asked if they will just reimburse the fire district and Commissioner Blair said he believes so because he thinks the upgrade has already been done.

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On motion (25-496) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Wood to approve the payment for half of the invoice to Fire District #3 for a storm siren upgrade.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

The motion prevailed.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Ms. Lusker stated she did call Ryan Insurance to confirm they would be able to make it to the work session on December 12 at 9:00 AM and that they will be present.

Item Two: Ms. Lusker stated they set the worker's compensation bids to be due on December 19th and she spoke with KWORC and they could not make it on December 19 but were wanting to know if they could come present their bid on December 16th. Commissioner Wood asked if they are going to just submit their bid or are they going to open their bid and Ms. Lusker explained they are going to provide their price and answer questions. Commissioner Wood stated he would like their bid sealed so they can open it during the meeting. Mr. Emerson mentioned for Ms. Lusker to inform KWORC that they will not be receiving the other bid until December 19. Ms. Lusker stated they are aware.

Item Three: Mr. Emerson stated he was asked to do some research on a tax abatement that they discussed on Tuesday for the City of Pittsburg. He explained the tax abatement is for Interplast Group Pitt Plastics. Mr. Emerson stated he was able to get a memo from Mr. Blake Benson with the City of Pittsburg and he explained the details of this abatement. Commissioner Wood asked why the average return of investment was 3% for City of Pittsburg but 0% for the county and Mr. Emerson explained but also stated he does not know for certain. Commissioner Wood discussed that they will have to help maintain half of the road in this location. Mr. Emerson discussed larger grants through KDOT and Commissioner Blair stated there are some projects coming up that should qualify.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood discussed a few years ago the county would provide a tax abatement to residents who were doing things to their property and Mr. Emerson explained that was a 5 year abatement and it has expired. Mr. Emerson stated they are currently looking at some other options with the RHID plan but that it is still in the early stages. Mr. Emerson stated they do have their housing study back and he needs to review it with Zoning Administrator May Smith. He also explained part of the Comprehensive Plan will be deciding what kind of incentives the county would like to offer for housing. Commissioner Wood asked the difference between RHID and Neighborhood Revitalization and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked if it would be difficult to get one set up in case people are interested and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked if we joined with City of Pittsburg to pay for something regarding this and Mr. Emerson stated that was for the housing study.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FUTURE BUSINESS:

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Item One: December 12, 2025- 8:30 AM Work Session to sign midmonth bills and payroll vouchers.

Item Two: December 12, 2025- 9:00 AM Work Session with Ryan Insurance.

Item Three: December 12, 2025- 10:00 AM Public Hearing on Vacating a portion of county road located between Sections 14 and 23, Township 28 South, Range 25 East, Crawford County, Kansas.

Item Four: December 12, 2025- County Counselor Jim Emerson presenting an updated moratorium resolution for consideration.

Item Five: December 19, 2025- 10:00 AM Budget Hearing for 2025 Amended Budgets.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: December 9, 2025- The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled due to the Kansas Association of Counties Annual Conference.

Item Two: December 9th-11th- Kansas Association of Counties Annual Conference. All three Commissioners may be in attendance.

UNDER THE HEADING MOTION TO ADJOURN MOTION TO ADJOURN

Item One: Adjournment

On the motion of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair to adjourn the [December 05, 2025](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 10:44 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting: Commissioner Moody

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 RJA 12/11/25 11:10 AM/amended BKW 12/10/25 11:55 AM