

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2025, [EIGHTY-NINETH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, December 23, 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 Tom Moody served as the presiding officer.

Commissioner Bruce Blair and Carl Wood were in attendance.

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

Chairman Moody led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (25-524) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **December 19, 2025** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Blair, and Moody

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 25	512	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the December 16, 2025 minutes, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 25	513	To approve the ARPA drawdown request for December 2025
Motion 25	514	To open the Public Hearing on the 2025 Crawford County Amended Budget
Motion 25	515	To close the Public Hearing on the 2025 Crawford County Amended

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		Budget
Motion 25	516	To approve the 2025 Crawford County Amended Budget
Motion 25	517	To open the Public Hearing on the 2025 Crawford County Amended Budgets for Fire Districts
Motion 25	518	To close the Public Hearing on the 2025 Crawford County Amended Budgets for Fire Districts
Motion 25	519	To approve the 2025 Crawford County Amended Budgets for Fire Districts
Motion 25	520	To approve the Tax Roll Correction, correcting an error in the assessing of a 16/20M Truck owned by Jean Ham in the care of Connie Crawford and to request a refund in the amount of \$18.00 from the 2024 tax rolls and authorizing the Chairman to sign
Motion 25	521	To approve the payment for membership dues to the League of Kansas Municipalities in the amount of \$1,177.94
Motion 25	522	To recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss legal advice regarding CVB contract which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson present. The open meeting will resume at 11:00 A.M. The motion passed 3-0
Motion 25	523	To recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss legal advice regarding potential litigation regarding EMS which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson present. The open meeting will resume at 11:07 A.M. The motion passed 3-0

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

Item One: Mr. Blake Benson, Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce President, addressed the Commissioners. He stated every year since 1987 they have come before the Commissioners and asked for consideration of renewal of an agreement between the county and the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce in support of Explore Crawford County or also known as CVB. He explained the arrangement of this agreement provides for the county. Mr. Benson mentioned this year nothing has changed with the contract except they have increased the cost from \$41,000 to \$43,000 to keep up with rising costs. Commissioner Moody asked if it is basically the same contract and Mr. Benson confirmed. Commissioner Moody asked County Counselor Jim Emerson if he had seen the contract and Mr. Emerson answered he just saw it this morning but that it is the same contract.

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On motion (25-525) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the contract between Crawford County and Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Blair, and Moody

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: Ms. Lusker presented a 2026 CMB License. She stated the application is for Girard Chicken Annies for consumption on the premises. Ms. Lusker stated all officials have been notified and there are no objections.

On motion (25-526) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to make it known that the matter of issuing a license to the applicant(s) listed below was discussed and considered by the Board, and there being no objection filed as provided by law and the Board knowing of no reason why a license should not be issued, the board hereby issues a license to “sell at retail”, cereal malt beverages in broken case lots from the place of business as shown in the application as designated and described on the application as herein before set out, and that the County Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to execute the proper license which shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and the County Clerk of Crawford County, Kansas.

APPLICANT: C & B Investments “Chicken Annies Girard”

PREMISES: 498 E 47 Hwy, Girard, Kansas 66743

(For consumption on the premises)

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Ms. Lusker stated she has an invoice from the Kansas Association of Counties for 2026 Dues. She mentioned the total for the invoice this year is \$8,640.53 and that last year was \$8,459.45 making a difference of \$1,080.00. She stated she needs Commissioner approval to pay. Commissioner Moody asked how long they have been members of KAC and Mr. Emerson answered every year but one since he has been with the county. Commissioner Moody mentioned none of them like to see the dues increase.

On motion (25-527) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to approve the payment of 2026 dues to Kansas Association of Counties in the total amount of \$8,640.53.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

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Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Ms. Lusker stated she had discussed the worker's compensation bids with Director of Fiscal Services Randi Ryan and that it is both of their opinion that the coverage offered by KWORCC will be the cheaper option. Ms. Lusker mentioned they also only received good reviews from other counties who have KWORCC. She explained she broke down all the rates and that all rates for each occupation was lower, and that even if payroll increases the rate will still be lower than the bid from Ryan Insurance. Commissioner Wood asked if they will get a bill later on like they always have from this and Ms. Lusker explained. Mr. Emerson asked the bid prices again and Ms. Lusker stated KWORCC bid was \$222,219.00 and that the bid from Ryan Insurance was \$360,007.00. She explained Ryan Insurance's bid was based on a higher payroll but that the rates were still lower for KWORCC. Commissioner Moody stated they appreciate everything Ryan Insurance has done for the county over the years, but that with the difference in premiums he sees no way they could not go with KWORCC. Commissioner Wood asked if this is a one year contract and Mr. Emerson confirmed.

On motion (25-528) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to accept the worker's compensation bid from KWORCC in the amount of \$222,219.00.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Blair stated for clarification payroll increase does not mean that every employees pay rate increased by the amount that the payroll increases in general. He explained a 36% increase in payroll is not increasing each individuals payrate by 36%. Commissioner Blair and Ms. Lusker explained any addition of employees increases the payroll.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 30 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

On motion (25-529) of Commissioner Blair and second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 30 minutes to discuss legal advice regarding EMS which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), with the County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and EMS Administrator Dr. Tim Stebbins present. The open meeting will resume at 10:49 A.M. The motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Blair, and Moody

Nays:

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Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:19 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:49 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

On motion (25-530) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess the open meeting for a period of 5 minutes.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Blair, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

Item Two: IT Director Brandon Spaur requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss matters relating to security measures.

On motion (25-531) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open session and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss IT Department pursuant to the matters relating to security measures, if the discussion of such matters at an open meeting would jeopardize such security measures that protect a public body or agency, public building or facility or the information system of a public body or agency exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(12)(C), and to include the County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and IT Director Brandon Spaur. The open meeting will resume at 11:15 A.M. The motion passed 3-0.

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 11:13 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Three: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (25-532) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss EMS pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, EMS Director Randy Sandberg, and EMS Administrator Dr. Tim Stebbins attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:25 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

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Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:15 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:25 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: EMS Director Randy Sandberg and EMS Administrator Dr. Tim Stebbins addressed the Commissioners. Dr. Stebbins they would like to take a minute to acknowledge all the work the Commissioners have done this year especially with the EMS Department and thanked them. He mentioned EMS has a difficult and important job serving the community. Dr. Stebbins mentioned there was around 4600 calls to EMS this year as well as serving transfers from hospitals as well. Commissioner Moody stated they know it is never easy and he thanked them.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Four: Mr. Emerson presented the Commissioners with an update on ARPA. He explained quite a bit of the items with ARPA funding have been closed out and explained what is left and their amounts. Commissioner Wood asked if these numbers provided are accurate and Mr. Emerson answered he has a question on one of the projects that he will need to look in to. Commissioner Wood asked about a couple of projects and Mr. Emerson answered. Ms. Lusker stated she received a text from Ms. Randi Ryan and stated the project in Cherokee submitted a few items for payment this month so their amount looks less because they were just paid out a few items. Mr. Emerson explained the back page of this information is the overall update. He explained they have until the end of next year to spend remaining funds. Commissioner Wood asked if it was correct that they have already went through \$70,000 for the Comprehensive Plan and Mr. Emerson confirmed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

Item Four: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 30 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (25-533) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 30 minutes to discuss individual job performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Mr. Kenny Yoakum attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 12:06 PM. The Motion passed 3-0. Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

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The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:36 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:06 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

Item Five: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (25-534) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss EMS pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Mr. Kenny Yoakum attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 12:22 PM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 12:07 PM and reconvened the Open Session at 12:22 PM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: January 6, 2026 - Chief Judge Kurtis Loy and 11th Judicial District Court Administrator Mac Young discussing Recovery Court and 11th Judicial District.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: December 24, 2025- The Courthouse will be closed at 12:00 PM in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Item Two: December 25-26th, 2025- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Item Three: December 26, 2025- The Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners is cancelled due to the Christmas Holiday.

Item Four: December 31, 2025- The Courthouse will close at 10:00 AM due to the year-end audit and the Motor Vehicle Department in the Courthouse and the Motor Vehicle Department in the Judicial Center in Pittsburg will be closed all day. The Register of Deeds Office will be open until 10:00 AM but no recordings will be done due to software updates.

Item Five: January 1, 2026- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the New Year Holiday.

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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 23, 2025](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 12:22 PM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Blair, and Moody

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 RJA 12/24/25 10:30 AM/amended BKW 12/24/25 11:00 AM](#)