

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2025, [SIXTIETH](#) MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, August 26, 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.

Commissioners 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 (25-361) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Blair that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the [August 22, 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	331	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the August 19, 2025 minutes, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 25	332	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Budget
Motion 25	333	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Budget
Motion 25	334	To adopt Resolution #2025-026, a Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate

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Motion 25	335	To open the Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Budget
Motion 25	336	To close to Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Budget
Motion 25	337	To approve the 2026 Crawford County Budget
Motion 25	338	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #1
Motion 25	339	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #1
Motion 25	340	To adopt Resolution #2025-027, a Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for Crawford County Fire District #1
Motion 25	341	To open the Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #1 Budget
Motion 25	342	To close the Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #1 Budget
Motion 25	343	To approve the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #1 Budget
Motion 25	344	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #2
Motion 25	345	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire Districts #2
Motion 25	346	To adopt Resolution #2025-028, a Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for Crawford County Fire District #2
Motion 25	347	To open the Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #2 Budget
Motion 25	348	To close the Public Hearing for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #2 Budget
Motion 25	349	To approve the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #2 Budget
Motion 25	350	To open the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #3
Motion 25	351	To close the Public Hearing on the Revenue Neutral Rate for the 2026 Crawford County Fire Districts #3
Motion 25	352	To adopt Resolution #2025-029, a Resolution of the County of Crawford, Kansas to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for Crawford County Fire District #3
Motion 25	353	To open the Public Hearing on the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #3 Budget
Motion 25	354	To close the Public Hearing for the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #3 Budget
Motion 25	355	To approve the 2026 Crawford County Fire District #3 Budget
Motion 25	356	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: Stephen Hipfl “Ol Yale Farms” PREMISES: 306 S 250th St, Pittsburg, KS 66762 (For consumption on the premises)
Motion 25	357	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss individual employees job performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to

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		protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:17 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 25	358	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss individual employees 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 Coby Hinton attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:39 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 25	359	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 25 minutes to discuss employees 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 and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:58 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 25	360	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss employees 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 Coby Hinton attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 12:13 PM. 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 APPOINTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM CRAWFORD CO LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

MESSAGES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson presented the Commissioners with a packet with Crawford County RHID Information. He explained earlier this year a landowner requested the county look into the possibility of creating a Reinvestment Housing Incentive District (RHID). Mr. Emerson stated they are slightly familiar with these because the City of Pittsburg has a couple but that they have never actually looked at creating one for the county. He thanked Zoning Administrator May Smith for her work on this information. Mr. Emerson explained the information in the packet. He also explained the steps to creating the RHID and costs associated with that. Commissioner Wood asked about the boundaries and Mr. Emerson explained it is up to the governing body to set the boundaries. Commissioner Wood asked if RHID is similar to Neighborhood Revitalization Program and Mr. Emerson explained. Mr. Emerson stated the main question today is if they want to spend the \$13,500.00 to start the housing study which would be step one. Commissioner Wood asked about the length of time and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Wood asked about who would collect and be in

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charge of getting the money back to the developer and Mr. Emerson explained. Commissioner Moody asked if this would pertain to just one builder and Mr. Emerson stated it does not. Commissioner Wood asked if he needs an answer today.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: Commissioner Wood requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss items that would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client Relationship.

On motion (25-362) of Commissioner Moody and second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss legal advice pertaining to RHID 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 10:35 A.M. 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 10:25 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:32 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item One continued: Mr. Emerson explained the Housing Needs Assessment being the first step and that he believes this is of value to the county regardless of the RHID program.

On motion (25-363) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to pay \$13,500 to Novogradac for the Housing Needs Assessment.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Moody, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson stated Mr. Joshua Albin will be at the meeting on September 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM. He mentioned he will be discussing the survey. Commissioner Blair asked if he will have the survey results and Mr. Emerson confirmed. Commissioner Wood stated he has heard people are calling about taking the survey and asked if they will be counted and Mr. Emerson stated the deadline has come so they will not be counted.

Item Three: Commissioner Wood mentioned time clocks again stating EMS and Sheriff's Department use one. He stated he would like the other two Commissioners to really think about using these for the other departments. He stated he is not accusing

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anyone of anything but that he thinks they could run a little tighter than what they have been.

Item Four: Commissioner Wood discussed the Clerk's storage building and that he discussed with CTEC. He stated they decided not to use CTEC to build the building but that they could possibly help with some parts later on in the building process. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson where they stand with bids for this building and Mr. Emerson explained he was waiting to hear about CTEC and that he will be ready for the bidding process on Friday.

Item Five: Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson about the property tax sale and Mr. Emerson explained where they are at in the process.

Item Six: Commissioner Wood discussed dust control and how the county would handle it for another year and then turn it over to a company. He stated he wants to set up a work session to get this discussed before dust control starts next year.

Item Seven: Commissioner Wood stated he has been looking at the bills and stated he would like to have a work session on allowing individuals a per diem when it comes to using their county credit card. He asked Mr. Emerson to set up a work session for this.

Item Eight: Commissioner Moody stated he received a text from a constituent about a dilapidated house on Gooding Road and he would like to get this in the hands of Zoning Administrator May Smith and asked if Mr. Emerson could take care of that.

OLD BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

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

On motion (25-364) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees 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 Coby Hinton attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:51 AM. 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 10:41 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:48 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.

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On motion (25-365) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employee's 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 and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:58 AM. 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 10:48 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:56 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (25-366) of Commissioner Moody and second of Commissioner Blair to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss contracts 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, and Road and Bridge Coordinator Alyssa Edwards present. The open meeting will resume at 11:12 A.M. 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 10:57 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:04 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Nine: Mr. Emerson discussed Road and Bridge Department switching to regular hours starting next Tuesday.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: August 29, 2025- 8:30 AM Work Session to sign end of the month bills and payroll vouchers.

Item Two: September 02, 2025- Ms. Jasmine Kyle with SEK Humane Society addressing financial assistance.

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Item Three: September 19, 2025- Mr. Joshua Albin discussing Comprehensive Plan Survey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Item One: September 1, 2025- The Courthouse will be closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

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 [August 26, 2025](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:05 AM 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 08/28/2025 11:20 AM/amended BKW 8/28/2025 11:45 AM](#)