

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners' Journal

2026, **EIGHTEENTH** MEETING

CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE, COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
Girard, KS. **Tuesday, March 03, 2026 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.

Commissioners Carl Wood and Tom Moody were in attendance.

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

Chairman Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNDER THE HEADING BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING CONSENT AGENDA

On motion (26-101) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood that the consent agenda be approved including:

1. Approval of the **February 27, 2026** minutes of the Board of County Commissioners.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

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 26	93	That the consent agenda be approved including: Approval of the February 24, 2026 minutes, and Authorizing the Chairman to sign the previous week's vouchers
Motion 26	94	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 protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County Commissioners, County Counselor Jim Emerson, and Noxious Weeds Director Tommy Scales attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:20 AM. The Motion passed 3-0

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Motion 26	95	To approve the 2026 Noxious Weeds Eradication Progress Report and the 2026 Noxious Weeds Management Plan as presented
Motion 26	96	To approve the purchase of the extended warranty on the 6110M tractor
Motion 26	97	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 30 minutes to discuss individual employees regarding EMS, Maintenance Department, and Explore Crawford County 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 11:07 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 26	98	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss LEPP 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 Zoning Administrator May Smith attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:22 AM. The Motion passed 3-0
Motion 26	99	To recess the open meeting for a period of 15 minutes
Motion 26	100	To recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 15 minutes to discuss LEPP 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 Environmental Sanitarian Bill Towery attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:53 AM. 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

MESSAGES FROM APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Item One: 11th Judicial District Court Administrator Mac Young addressed the Commissioners. He provided the Commissioners with a copy of the Community Corrections Fiscal Year 2027 Comprehensive Plan. He explained this fiscal year begins on July 1st and explained some details of the plan. Mr. Young gave an outcome for Fiscal Year 2025 for Community Corrections of a 77.6% success rate and mentioned in the years past they discussed the statutory requirement of 75%. He gave more statistics and details for the program. Mr. Young discussed turnover and that two employees had left in 2026 and that it takes about two years to fully train a new employee. Commissioner Blair asked if Mr. Young is seeing a certain direction the individuals are going when they leave or are they leaving this type of service all together and Mr. Young stated he has seen both. Mr. Young mentioned recovery court and drug court and discussed these briefly. Commissioner Moody asked Mr. Young if they had more space available would they consider hiring more staff to be able to increase the number of participants in recovery

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

court and Mr. Young stated they absolutely would. Commissioner Wood asked if this program has to be housed in the Judicial Center and Mr. Young stated probably not but that it is designed to be in a court setting and that he does not know what issues they would have if they attempted to do this in a different location. Commissioner Wood mentioned a building close would possibly be coming for rent. Commissioner Wood asked if the 25 participants are just Crawford County residents and Mr. Young answered that majority are from Crawford County. Mr. Young discussed case load numbers across the district and that 524 are currently in Community Corrections and that roughly 60% are from Crawford County, 44% from Labette County, and around 16% from Cherokee County. Commissioner Wood asked if there is a way for Mr. Young to explain why Crawford County has a higher percentage besides a larger population and Mr. Young explained the direct correlation to population and the increase in numbers. Commissioner Wood stated he was unsure if Crawford County just has more illegals or drug activity. Mr. Young discussed more components of the comprehensive plan. He discussed financial breakdown for Community Corrections.

On motion (26-102) of Commissioner Blair and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the Community Corrections Fiscal Year 2027 Comprehensive Plan as presented and authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Blair asked if the backlog of work from covid is being caught up on and Mr. Young explained that they do their best but there are always new cases coming in as well.

MESSAGES FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC

NEW BUSINESS

Item One: County Clerk Lisa Lusker stated she received an email from the County Clerk in Greenwood County stating that the Southeast Kansas Spring Meeting will be on April 16th located in Eureka, Kansas beginning at 8:30 AM. She provided the Commissioners with a copy of this information and stated she just needs to RSVP by March 9th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item One: County Counselor Jim Emerson requested an executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Non-Elected Personnel.

On motion (26-103) of Commissioner Moody and the second of Commissioner Wood to recess this open meeting and go into a closed executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Explore Crawford County pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the individual employees. The County

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

Commissioners and County Counselor Jim Emerson attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 10:46 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 10:26 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 10:46 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Item Two: Commissioner Wood stated he got a follow up on the extended warranty for the tractor that they approved previously. He asked if he can get a check cut today that he can provide to Heritage Tractor and Ms. Lusker answered. Commissioner Wood asked Mr. Emerson if he needs any other paperwork to approve this and provided him the amount and Mr. Emerson stated as long as a motion was made they are good.

OLD BUSINESS

Item One: Ms. Lusker gave a reminder that today is the special election for the Frontenac City Sales Tax Question and that the polling place had moved to the Frontenac Senior Citizen Center and is open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. She mentioned they need to schedule the canvass for this election and was thinking March 10th or March 13th. Commissioner Moody stated he would recommend March 10th at 10:00 AM.

Item Two: Mr. Emerson provided the Commissioners with information regarding the 911 Advisory Board. He mentioned they have had discussions on reconstituting this board and the reasoning for this. Mr. Emerson stated he will have more information regarding this on Friday and would like a motion to reestablish this board.

On motion (26-104) of Commissioner Wood and the second of Commissioner Moody to approve the re-establishment of the Crawford County 911 Advisory Board.

Yeas: Commissioners Wood, Moody, and Blair

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Item Three: Commissioner Wood stated something new has come up on the 911 bill packet. He stated he has never seen the bill presented this way and Mr. Emerson explained and stated he will have to look at this.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED

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

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

On motion (26-105) 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 Explore Crawford County 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 11:09 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 10:54 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:06 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (26-106) 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 LEPP 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 11:23 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:08 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:18 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (26-107) of Commissioner Blair and second of Commissioner Moody to recess this open meeting and to go into a closed executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Comprehensive Plan 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 11:28 AM. The motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:18 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:25 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

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

On motion (26-108) 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 LEPP 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 Zoning Administrator May Smith attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume at 11:42 AM. The Motion passed 3-0.

Yeas: Commissioners Blair, Moody, and Wood

Nays:

Present but not voting:

Absent or not voting:

The motion prevailed.

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 11:27 AM and reconvened the Open Session at 11:42 AM with no action taken except to go back into open session.

UNDER THE HEADING FUTURE BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Item One: March 05, 2026- 5:30 PM Planning and Zoning Public Hearing located at the Girard Civic Center at 102 N Ozark St Girard, KS. More than one Commissioner may be in attendance.

Item Two: March 06, 2026- Opening of culvert bids.

Item Three: March 06, 2026- Opening of mowing bids.

Item Four: March 06, 2026- 10:00 AM Public Hearing to Vacate a road located in Martin Kane's 2nd Addition in the City of Arma, Kansas.

Item Five: March 06, 2026- Mr. John Copyak with Shasta Power discussing solar project.

Item Six: March 10, 2026- Zoning Administrator May Smith presenting a subdivision.

Item Seven: March 10, 2026- 10:00 AM The Board of County Canvassers will meet to canvass the ballots from the 2026 Frontenac Sales Tax Special Election with the Regular Session commencing immediately after the canvass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board of Crawford County Commissioners

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 [March 03, 2026](#) meeting of the Board of Crawford County Commissioners at 11:44 AM and to reconvene at the next regularly scheduled time with open doors.

Yeas: Commissioners Moody, Wood, and Blair

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 3/05/2026 1:20 PM/amended BKW 3/5/26 1:30 PM](#)