

Crawford County Commission met pursuant to adjournment with these members present: Steve Black, Presiding Commissioner; Rob Cummings, Commissioner District 1; Jared Boast, Commissioner District 2; De Dee Hamilton, Representing County Clerk; and the following proceedings were had to viz;

Attendees at the beginning of the meeting included Karen Sikes, Kim Cook, Linda Kitchen, Walter Kitchen, Cynthia Redburn, Sue Greenstreet, Dave Vanderwerf, Lynn Vanderwerf, Danny Brown, Dennis Roedemeier, Mark Pfeiffer, Rob Sikes, Amy England, a Sheriff's Deputy, and Walter Korte.

9:00 a.m.: Meeting opened with prayer from Dennis Roedemeier.

9:03 a.m.: Rob Cummings made a motion to accept the Crawford County Commission Meeting Agenda of February 21, 2023. Jared Boast provided a second. All in favor; motion carried.

Roll Call Vote was held as follows:

Steve Black – Yea

Rob Cummings – Yea

Jared Boast – Yea

9:03 a.m.: Rob Cummings made a motion to accept the Crawford County Commission Meeting Open and Closed Minutes of February 14, 2023. Jared Boast provided a second. All in favor; motion carried.

Roll Call Vote was held as follows:

Steve Black – Yea

Rob Cummings – Yea

Jared Boast – Yea

9:05 a.m.: Karen Sikes gave the Treasurer's report for the month of January. Kim Cook gave an update on the Recorder's office transactions.

9:10 a.m.: Steve Black asked for citizen's participation. Linda Kitchen wanted to compliment Road District 2, and asked what happened on Lick Creek Road. Jared Boast addressed the question and explained the issue with the road. Linda Kitchen said the District had done their best, with rain causing so many problems.

9:15 a.m.: Brian Clark addressed the commission to voice his displeasure with the condition of his road.

9:20 a.m.: Walter Korte had questions for the commission regarding the purchase of the Cuba Free Press building from Rob Viehman for the Coroner's building. See attached. Walter Korte asked Steve Black: "When did you hear of the deal with the building?" Steve Black replied,

"Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>". Walter Korte asked, "How many days after hearing of the sellers intent, did the county decide to sign a contract to purchase?" Steve Black said, "February 14<sup>th</sup>." Walter Korte asked, "Did the county engineer look at the building and inspect it prior to the purchase contract?" Steve Black said, "No, the building is only 18 years old and all three commissioners looked at it and agreed it was in good condition." Walter Korte asked, "Did the county pay full asking price? If so, why did the county not counter offer?" Steve Black said, "The county paid full asking price because it was reasonable and they knew it could have been higher." Walter Korte thought there should have been a counteroffer. Steve Black said the cost was under \$100 per square foot, so that was a fair asking price. Walter Korte asked, "What was the cost of the building when Mr. Viehman built it, and when was it built?" Steve Black answered, "It was built in 2005 and Viehman did not say how much it cost to build." Walter Korte told the commission he was concerned about how the negotiations were handled on the building. He asked Steve Black if he, or anyone related to him, or anyone working for the county, or anyone associated with the county in a professional or personal matter profited from the approval of the transaction? Steve Black stated no. Walter Korte addressed Steve Black, stating that all the questions he just asked, were asked of him when his family sold property to the county, by Kim Schweider. Walter Korte wanted to know if Steve Black had consulted with Mr. Schweider about the purchase of the Viehman property? Steve Black said no. Walter Korte asked if Kim Schweider had any input? Steve Black said no, that he had taken the Prosecuting Attorney's advice to avoid breaking Sunshine Law requirements, and that he and the other commissioners had independently met with Rob Viehman and discussed the purchase. Walter Korte stated that he did not appreciate the innuendos toward his family from Kim Schweider and if that type of thing keeps happening, people won't want to do business with the county. Jared Boast stated that the commission wanted to keep things as transparent as possible, and thanked Walter Korte for coming in.

9:30 a.m.: Steve Black asked Jared Boast for the number to call if there were problems with the roads in Road District 2. Jared Boast advised those present of the correct number. Steve Black relayed a message to Jared Boast from Michael Montgomery on McPherson Road. He said Montgomery does not want any more gravel to be put on McPherson Road; he wanted fill to be with asphalt, no more gravel, to stop graveling over the chip and seal and go back to asphalt.

Rob Cummings reminded the commission that they needed to discuss the roof on the annex building next week. Topic will be put on the agenda for that time.

9:45 a.m.: Pat Schwent and Roberta Loscuito entered the meeting.

9:50 a.m.: Vanderwerf's exited the meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the eleven bridges seeing major improvements in Road District 1. Danny Brown said Road District 1 could apply and had received more grant money because so much of the district was federal land, versus the amount of federal land in Road District 2.

9:55 a.m.: Rob Cummings made a motion to redeem \$3667.31 to Roberta Losciuto on 339 Liberty Road in Steelville. Jared Boast seconded the motion; motion carried. Pat Schwent and Roberta Losciuto exited the meeting.

10:00 a.m.: Rob Sikes told the commission that the road crews did a great job fixing the road he had complained about last week.

10:01 a.m.: Cindy Redburn had questions about Walter Korte's questions; specifically regarding the county having a county engineer. Jared Boast advised that Great Rivers Engineering has done Road and Bridge work for years for the county. He said Stack Design had been employed before he and Rob Cummings were commissioners. Jared Boast said Stack did not receive a salary from the county; he was just used as needed. Rob Cummings commented it was per job. Cindy Redburn asked how he was paid, Jared Boast said by hourly rate, with an itemized bill. Rob Cummings added that other firms had been used in the past, it depended on the specialty for the job; and that Great River Engineering was aware of everything about the county and it would cost more if another firm had to learn about the county. Cindy Redburn asked if there had been an appraisal on the Korte building. The answer was no, the county engineer gave a replacement cost analysis. Cindy Redburn remarked about the bid coming in so high and Jared Boast said they didn't expect it to be so high, but wanted things done right with the design and they needed the right contractor. Cindy Redburn said she was happy with the way things turned out.

10:10 a.m.: Jared Boast made a motion to adjourn the February 21, 2023 Crawford County Commission meeting. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

The Commission adjourned to meet February 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

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Steve Black, Presiding Commissioner