

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 Mark Pfeiffer, Cindy Redburn, Sue Greenstreet, Charles Cunningham, Jax Jensen, Darin Layman and Andy Keeven.

9:00 a.m.: Andy Keeven opened the meeting with prayer and exited the meeting.

9:00 a.m.: Rob Cummings made a motion to accept the Agenda for October 3, 2023, Jared Boast provided a second. All in favor; motion carried.

Jared Boast made a motion to accept the Commission Meeting Minutes from September 26th, 2023; Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

Steve Black read an email he had received from a taxpayer who was opposed to the mandates Collector Pat Schwent had imposed for the delinquent real estate taxes owed on his mother's property. The mandates resulted in the taxpayer being unable to get the taxes paid. Discussion was tabled until Pat Schwent could respond to the situation.

Amy England entered the meeting. Karen Sikes entered the meeting.

9:12 a.m. Steve Black asked for updates from county officials. Karen Sikes presented copies of the bank statements for the county accounts to the commission. Darin Layman advised that MRPC had applied for COVID funds for the county jail and they were awarded to the county. The amount awarded was \$156,000, and has to be used by June of 2024.

Steve Black gave an update on the meeting last week with the Soil and Water District and the Extension Council. Both organizations toured prospective locations in Steelville for relocation of their offices. Additionally, STE has lowered the rent for a building being considered from \$1500 to \$1000 per month for the 2700 square foot building, for a term of five years. There would be no utilities and no upkeep costs to the county for use of the building and any remodeling that needed to be done would be done at the expense of STE.

There was no citizen participation.

Discussion was held regarding a free program being offered for a CPR class for the road crews, as they are first responders. Danny Brown will determine some available dates for the class for those interested.

Jax Jensen asked about the availability of a place for a free personal self-defense class that could be offered. Several places were suggested.

9:30 a.m.: It was decided that procedures for selling surplus inventory would be left as they had been.

Pat Schwent and a taxpayer approached the commission regarding property at 5838 Old Hwy 66 in Leasburg. Jared Boast made a motion to allow the redemption and the release of surplus funds in the amount of \$15,907.90 for the property at same address. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. Pat Schwent and the taxpayer exited the meeting.

The commission discussed bids for snow removal at county properties. Jared Boast made a motion to use the same specifications as last year, with the addition of the coroner's building in Cuba. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. Bid information will be in the newspapers in the coming weeks.

9:50 a.m.: Discussion was held regarding whether holiday pay would be paid to an employee who was on leave and had exhausted all paid time off. General consensus was that the employee would be paid for the holiday. More discussion was to follow when Pat Schwent is back in the meeting.

10:00 a.m.: Pat Schwent entered the meeting. Karen Sikes exited the meeting.

Jared Boast gave an update on work that had been done on the roads in District 2. Mound Road in Bourbon and West Springfield in Leasburg have been repaved, significant patching has been done on Brand Road and paver patching is being done on Wright Road today.

Danny Brown also gave an update on bridgework that had been completed on Delcour and Cedar Lane in Road District 1. There was significant savings to the county because county workers were able to do the work, as opposed to having to have the work bid out and done by a contractor.

10:10 a.m.: Steve Black advised Pat Schwent of the email he had received regarding a taxpayer who is not being allowed to pay the delinquent taxes on his mother's property. Pat Schwent explained that this situation did not involve just delinquent taxes; that because the taxes were not paid before the tax sale held on August 28, surplus taxes and the resulting consequences are now attached to the property. She added that this had been explained to the taxpayer. Surplus taxes and the issue that resulted were not mentioned in the email to Steve Black. In situations involving surplus tax, the taxpayer must appear in person before the commission, for the redemption. This taxpayer has POA for his mother but is not able to appear in person for the redemption, and he was not willing to grant temporary POA rights to his brother, to appear instead. Procedures governing this type of situation are covered in state statute Chapter 140, as well as in the tax redemption policy that was established in Crawford County on November 3, 2015.

10:25 a.m.: Steve Black advised Pat Schwent of the discussion held earlier regarding leave policy and employees receiving holiday pay. Steve Black added that the handbook covers the situation and avoids any legal issues. Pat Schwent disagreed; she had spoken with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and thought that it needed to be added to the handbook, as policy. More discussion followed regarding FMLA and benefits included for protection under FMLA, and that holiday pay is under FMLA protection.

10:35 a.m.: Cindy Redburn, Jax Jensen and Charles Cunningham exited the meeting.

10:45 a.m.: Pat Schwent exited the meeting.

Jared Boast advised that there would be no Crawford County Commission meeting on Tuesday, October 17 and added that the courthouse would be closed on Monday, October 9, in observance of Columbus Day.

10:48 a.m.: Jared Boast stated that this was the first time the commission had ever seen bank statements for all the Crawford County bank accounts.

10:50 a.m.: Corky Stack gave an update on the tuckpointing that was being done on the courthouse and an update on the coroner's project. The coroner's project should be done by March of 2024. Corky Stack exited the meeting.

11:05 a.m.: Jared Boast made a motion to adjourn the October 3, 2023, meeting of the Crawford County Commission. Rob Cummings seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

The Commission adjourned to meet October 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Steve Black, Presiding Commissioner