

Crawford County Council met in Regular Session on May 13, 2025, at 6pm. All members present. Also present was Auditor Marples and Attorney Reger.

Minutes – 12/30/2024. Members present were Riddle, Menke, Stroud, Breeding, Mason. Members absent were Stevens and Smith. Scott was not on the council at that time. Motion to approve by Breeding, seconded by Mason. Stevens, Scott, and Smith abstain. Motion approved with a vote of 4-0-3.

Minutes - 4/8/2025. Members present were Riddle, Breeding, Smith, Mason, Stevens, Scott. Stroud was absent. Motion to approve made by Breeding, seconded by Smith, Stroud abstained. Motion approved with a vote of 6-0-1.

Parks Grant fund creation – Attorney Reger developed ordinance for approval. There was one mistake that said Clerks department. Riddle one lined it and wrote Parks Department. It will allow the parks to hold funds from Community foundation and hold donations, it will allow for her to make payments consistent with the purpose of the grant. It will also allow for her to put donations in there. Question from Mason about soil and water using a checkbook. Reger detailed this was a safer way of tracking claims. Auditor Marples will ask the state when they come down about claims. Reger recommended emailing SBOA to ask about someone else to purchase and then reimburse them. Motion to approve ordinance made by Scott, Mason seconded. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Stevens made a motion to take \$25,000 out of Harrison County Riverboat to Utilities and \$25,000 out of capital projects to maintenance to give to the parks for the remainder of the year. Breeding seconded the motion. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Clerks Grant Election Ordinance – Fund 9160 for E-Poll Books. Motion to approve made by Stroud, seconded by Scott. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Additional –

Highway Dept Fuel paid out of Highway Dept Gas Oil and Lube - \$175,000

Highway Dept Professional Engineering Service paid out of Crawford County Bridge Fund Bridge Inspections - \$110,000

Judges Office Mental evaluation claim paid out of Judges office Evaluations - \$1200

EMA Replace batteries paid out of tower fund repair and maintenance - \$25,000

Motion to approve made by Stevens, seconded by Breeding. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Transfer –

Health office Manager transfer to PO Box rental \$84. Motion to approve made by Mason, seconded by Stevens. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Appointment for Tourism Board – Reappoint Mark Stevens. Motion to approve made by Breeding, seconded by Mason, Stevens abstained. Motion approved with a vote of 6-0-1.

Coroner Allison Howell – Part time pay. Has 2 deputy Coroners would like to revisit \$1000 to be put into parttime line. Motion made by Stevens to take \$1000 Additional out of General fund, seconded by Breeding. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

House bill 1194 requirements discussed. Has \$5000 in autopsy fund. But one costs between \$2000 and \$5000. Four were done last year.

President Council Member Riddle – states the Attorney Greg Reger, who represents the council, brought it to his attention that he has received numerous emails with questions. Breeding made the motion that any questions need to be forwarded to the Council President or Vice President and then they will submit to the Lawyer. Seconded by Smith. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Auditor Marples – Xsoft Contract. \$464,300 over 6 years. Knows that the tribal money has \$175,034. Money that they gave to counties who needed assistance. State says they can use it for anything. It's not like the ARPA. Wouldn't pay maintenance until up and running. Discussion about comparison with current software pricing. Joe Wray from GUTS spoke up about they do not have the accounting financials. Motion to table made by Mason, seconded by Breeding. Motion to table approved made by 7-0.

Commissioner Dale would like to have references from people that GUTS deals with. Would like to know any issues with two different systems. Said Commissioners would like to look over this stuff because they have run into issues in the past with two different systems.

Slide on Fredonia Road – Commissioner Dale said they would need to have money in place before the contractor can start work. They contacted 3 different firms. 2 responded they would not certify. E&B Paving said they would stamp it and guarantee the project. \$431,210 contract. Bypass road is \$61,000. Total is \$492,000. The slide is an emergency. They have a meeting with FEMA but can't guarantee it will be paid by them. Breeding would like them to spend out of 1173 and supplement out of General fund. Discussion about ledger corrections. Breeding assured Dale that he will vote to give them money when they need it. Discussion about 1176 does not fund. Need a line item called Fredonia Slide to do an additional appropriation for \$500,000 from Cash to that line. Will need to be advertised and signed next month.

Notice from Sheriff Office – Discrepancy Attorney Reger looked at a few things. Was the Matron appointed by a Safety Board. She was only appointed by the Sheriff. That is an issue because the law speaks about the safety board is supposed to appoint the Matron. Definition of Correction officer versus a deputy. Doesn't know the difference between pay. Scotts interpretation is that the Matron should be paid the same as a Correction officer and the Sheriff's interpretation is that the Matron should be paid the same as a deputy. IC 36-8-10-5. Matron has to be a member of the department. Have the powers and duties of the department and is entitled to the same salary as other members of the department who have the same rank, grade, or position. Attorney Reger asked does the correction officer or a deputy of the same rank, grade, or position have the same powers of the Matron. Breeding asked Sheriff Howell if the correctional officer has the same powers as the Matron. He responded no. Breeding asked if they correctional officer has the same powers as the Deputies. Howell responded they have Blended powers to where they serve the same purpose. He stated that the Matron does a lot more such as special duties with the female inmates sending them to medical. Breeding asked if in the past we paid her the same as a first deputy and he responded close to but no because they were calling her by Office Administrator so she was making the same as the Chief Deputy in the Auditor's office. Name was changed by recommendation of Matron by Jacque Clements. Attorney Reger said it's up to interpretation and the council needs to define it. Scott pointed out that there is a difference between Prison Matron and a Jail Matron. The Prison Matron comes from the Sheriff. The Jail Matron comes from

the Safety Board and the Indiana Code quoted was referring to cities. There is a county one that is similar. Scotts opinion said that correction officer is doing similar jobs as the Matron. Motion made by Smith to table to look into it more, Mason seconded. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Auditor Marples asked about jail commander and dispatch supervisor because Breeding made a motion all raises to pay out of LIT but they are not paid out of LIT. Currently they are paid out of County General and fund 1222. Scott asked if they can do \$2000 stipend that is separate from salary. It will need to be put on the salary ordinance. Attorney Reger said that they can legally pay our of Public Safety. Auditor Marples said she can see if it will fund and send an email and then advertise. Motion was made by Breeding to Switch them to public safety contingent upon there is money to fund it and then advertise it, seconded by Smith. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

Being no further business to come before the Council, motion to adjourn made by Mason, seconded by Stevens. Motion approved with a vote of 7-0.

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Wendy Marples, Crawford County Auditor