

Dawes County Joint Planning Minutes  
Crawford Community Building – Crawford, NE  
April 19, 2017  
6:00 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting at three locations: City Hall, D & S Market and the US Post Office, as certified and filed in the City Clerk's office at City Hall. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice as being available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

Jane Dailey welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Those in attendance: John Hynes, Clarice Hynes, Bev Dyer, Tim Bosak, Connie Bosak, Kim Engel, Kristina Harter, Ed Kuhnel, Dave Nixon, Deb Cottier, Daniel Bennett, Diane Clark, Valerie Wade, Nancy Kile, Brenda McDonald, Jane Dailey, Twila Satchell, Larry Olson, Sam Dyer, Roy Norgard (arrived approximately 7:30 p.m.), Jonnie Kusek.

The tour of the new fire hall site and the new Dollar General store was moved to the end of the meeting, for those interested. Dave Nixon mentioned several other locations in Crawford that would be worth viewing, including the "Hitch n Post" and The Gallery.

Kim Engel provided an update on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and requested participation in their online Community Health Survey. Focus groups had met in Crawford to identify some of the perceived needs of the community. The CHIP is updated every three years. If you have not done so already, everyone is encouraged to complete the online survey "2017 Community Health Survey" on [www.pphd.org](http://www.pphd.org).

Valerie Wade and Brenda McDonald, Prevention Specialists with Region 1 Behavioral Health, reported on their services available in the Region 1 area, which covers 11 counties. Services are available in alcohol and substance abuse programs, under-age drinking and smoking, opioid and prescription drug research, the drug take-back program. Mention was made of the Life of an Athlete event at Chadron State College on July 18-19, 2017.

Kristina Harter provided some information on the upcoming Eclipse on 8-21-2017, stressing importance of hospitality. Information is also on the [discovernwnebraska.com](http://discovernwnebraska.com) website. Many activities are being planned but plans should also accommodate the possibility of inclement weather. Dave Nixon stated that Crawford is hoping for a good turnout since it is within the range of totality.

Kristina shared a draft of their NW NE Trails Guidebook / Recreational Trails Guidebook that will provide information and maps for recreational trails. Three thousand books will be printed by May 31 and a digital copy will be available online. The NW NE Trails Association will promote and maintain non-motorized trails in Dawes and Sioux Counties.

Kristina summarized their grant programs: the Improvement Grants and the Promotion Grants.

There was no report from Tim Buskirk on the other Trails Project.

Deb Cottier reported on the Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) project that is part of Crawford's efforts to attain the status of a Leadership Certified Community. This status can assist with funding for economic development opportunities. Deb, Starr Lehl and Terry Rajewich (NPPD) will conduct surveys with some of the Crawford businesses on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

Jonnie Kusek of Panhandle Trails in Alliance explained the services and opportunities for inter-city transit in the panhandle. Jonnie is based in Alliance with Panhandle Trails which manages the calls for inter-city travel including Chadron, Crawford, Hemingford, Alliance, Scottsbluff and Bridgeport. Everyone is encouraged to attend a public information open house on 4-25-17 at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library I Scottsbluff from 5-7-pm. Letters of support for the need of intercity bus and public transit services are requested – send to Jonnie Kusek, 816 Flack Avenue, Alliance, NE 69301.

Twila Satchell presented information on the noise caused by 54 trains passing through Crawford. The feasibility study estimates up to \$632,000 to address both crossings. Suggestions included talking to the offices of Senators Deb Fischer, Ben Sasse and Tom Brewer. Hyannis also addressed this issue and might be a good resource to contact.

Sam Dyer shared some annual and upcoming activities of the Crawford Chamber of Commerce. Their next meeting is May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Jane Dailey announced the Crawford Community Clean-up day will be held April 22, 2017 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm followed by a picnic in the park. Crawford will not be receiving any assistance from the Big Event students from Chadron State College.

Nancy Kile continues to work on local Native American history and awareness, particularly as it pertains to White River and the history of Crawford. The conditions in White Clay were briefly discussed. An online resource is [www.whiteclayredo.com](http://www.whiteclayredo.com).

Due to the time, there were no committee discussions. Daniel Bennett of Panhandle Area Development District (PADD) briefly mentioned that he is working on the possibility that there may be some changes that could be made in city ordinances that could assist with nuisance property enforcement. PADD itself can also directly perform nuisance abatement if certain conditions are met.

Next meeting will be July 26, 2017 at Chadron State College.

The April 19, 2017 Dawes County Joint Planning meeting concluded at approximately 8:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jane Dailey

*Jane Dailey*  
5-9-17

*Daniel A. Kile*  
5-16-17