

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairperson Jim Talkington, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner Thomas R. Williams and Sherrie L. Riebel, County Clerk.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on April 4, 2017.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, Heather Bosler, Humboldt Union representative, John Fewins, City of Elsmore, Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, Larry Walden, citizen and Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, was present to observe the meeting.

Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, discussed the north parking lots. He got bids for cement and asphalt. Bids were received from J&J Contractors, Inc. bid was for concrete for \$70,500.00; Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc. for asphalt for \$72,325.00. Discussion followed on concrete verse asphalt and age. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve J&J Contractors, Inc. for concrete. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Ron discussed an area of green between the buildings and requested to have it concreted as well. Commissioners approved.

Cole reported the old city hall is vacant and they did a walkthrough of that building and the ambulance building. They would host, if commissioners were interested in seeing the old ambulance quarters. His thoughts were to make it into incubators where different offices share a building when they first start up and let them grow out after a few years. Discussion followed.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, received bids from Welborn Sales, Inc. for the signs for the over passes at \$1,799.68; probably 6-8 weeks for delivery and KDOT will hang them for Allen County once they come in. Commissioner Daniels moved to approved Mitch to purchase the signs from Welborn Sales, Inc. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Mitch reported the fuel truck at the landfill is shot. He will like to find one on Purple Wave.

Loader for the Quarry but the Quarry doesn't have enough money for one. They run \$550,000. He does have money in the landfill fund which they would use it as well. Commissioners requested Mitch to start looking and get bids.

Mitch reported they have been removing cement at the old hospital site.

Mitch reported Dust Abatement will be starting up.

John Fewins discussed chip and seal, but Mitch said there needs to be oil purchased by the City of Elsmore. John requested the county do some of the road work that needs attention. Discussion followed between him and Mitch.

Tom Nevans, Kiwanis representative, requested to use the courtyard on April 15, 2017 from 11:30 a.m. to noon for their annual Easter Egg Hunt. Commissioners approved.

Sherrie left the meeting to attend Budget Class. Jill Allen, Allen County Deputy Clerk, joined the meeting to take minutes.

Beth Toland, Allen County Community College, Early Childhood Program, talked to the commission. 17% of Allen County is living in poverty. She shared other statistical information. She passed out "Talk, Read, Play Allen County" to the Commissioners. She asked for support in 3

ways: 1. Use of courthouse lawn, 2. a personal commitment and 1. A commitment as Commissioners. She stated she will approach Humboldt as well. Financially they have 3 agencies that have contributed funds. However, more is needed as they proceed. She proposed that perhaps they could enhance the courthouse lawn in a non-permanent way: install a ground level chess and checker set. She has already talked to Ron Holman about this. They decided on a location on the lawn that would work best. Items discussed are outdoor xylophones, outdoor blocks and cart, giant connect four and story walks around the square and businesses. Commissioner Williams asked what the collaborating agencies are doing. Beth explained how the college has helped as well as other agencies. CHC is offering free dental screenings. She is proposing community play groups; 3 in lola and 1 in Humboldt. Commissioners approved use of the courthouse lawn. The outdoor blocks cost \$6,500.00 for a set. Beth said two sets would be great, but would be happy to have one set just to get things started. Commissioner Williams stated things like this come around and then in time, such plans get abandoned. Beth said there is a long term multi-agency commitment. Sheriff Murphy said the Greenbush birth to three is a phenomenal program. Mr. Walden asked if this is involved with Thrive. Beth responded no they are not, she represents Allen Community College. Commissioner Daniels asked for a quote with a cover letter. Beth said she will send such to Sherrie.

Kari Gull, Allen County Extension Office, asked if they could put Aging with Attitude Expo signs on the southeast and southwest corner of courthouse lawn on May 28. Commissioners told Kari to talk to Ron Holman to coordinate.

Alan Weber, County Counselor, discussed insurance. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Chairman Talkington sign the application and plan for the health insurance, Commissioner Williams seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

John Fewins told Commissioners that there will be a Fish Fry on April 29 sponsored by Virginia Lodge 315 of Savonburg. He has put fliers around the courthouse.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers – \$40,064.35
- b) Payroll Changes
- c) Journal Entry #17-19

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until April 18, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

Jim Talkington, Chairperson

Thomas R. Williams, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

Jill Allen, Allen County Deputy Clerk