

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman Jerry Daniels, Commissioner William "Bill" H. King, Commissioner Bruce Symes, and Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk.

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Rick Danley, Iola Register, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Robert & Juanell Garrett, and Paul Zirjack, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Paul Zirjack led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on April 16, 2019.

Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, discussed landscaping in the courtyard around the Law Enforcement Center. He received a bid from TLC Garden Center to install 2 Emerald Green Arborvitae for \$74.99 each, 4 Purple Pride Beautyberry for \$36.00 each, 1 Myke for \$30.00 and 1 cubic yard of Coco Hardwood Mulch plus labor of \$330.00 for a total of \$699.97 on south and North East side of the Jail building. Commissioner King moved to approve the bid from TLC Garden Center. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Ron presented bids for the work on the east end of the courthouse to remove the glass and aluminum section of barrier walls taper in sheet rock and all joints where the wall is removed and relay tile floor section where needed. Bids were received from Whitworth Construction, Inc. for \$5,250; Hofer & Hofer for \$7,200; Superior Builders, LLC for \$13,685. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes moved to accept the low bid from Whitworth Construction, Inc. for \$5,250. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Cole Herder, Humboldt City Administrator, joined the meeting.

Commissioner King discussed the appraiser's position. Commissioners approved to start the process of replacement.

Commissioner King asked to discuss Cara Barkdoll's, Allen County Register of Deeds, request for a pay increase of \$7,073.04. Currently she makes \$52,394.16; her request is for \$59,467.20. Discussion followed. Chairman Daniels stated he feels the county has been really good at pay increases for the county employees. Counselor Johnson stated she makes a valid argument on the percentage of pay putting a gap between Register of Deed's and Treasurer's and Clerk's wages. Commissioner Symes stated currently Allen County's Register of Deeds is in the upper wage of Kansas counties survey that is a current report. He stated he appreciates what she does. Commissioner King stated he had a problem with it because she doesn't have the responsibilities the other two office have. Commissioners tabled a decision until a later date.

Terry Call, Zoning/LEPP/Ambulance Billing Director, joined the meeting.

Commissioners discussed road priorities once US Hwy #169 is complete with Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director. Discussion followed on when, where and how soon monies and roads will be scheduled. Mitch said the state has put up counters on the county roads.

Sid Fleming, City of Iola Administrator, joined the meeting.

Commissioner Symes discussed sending a letter to the state transportation secretary to see if they might know more about the funding. Chairman Daniels suggested inviting Daren Petrowsky, KDOT Regional Representative, back to the meeting.

Mitch explained the process he does for prioritizing road work for the commission to consider with his budget as we get into 2020 budget time. Chairman Daniels asked to get an updated plan to the commission.

Mitch stated they are up and crushing again and using it on the roads. They got some new cold patch from Whitaker, his is coarser than the Ottawa Plant. Discussion followed on road supply. Commissioner Symes stated he is still interested in a pothole filler. Mitch explained what the machine does. Commissioner King discussed making asphalt when they can't get it from an asphalt plant. Commissioner Symes asked about making our own asphalt. Mitch and Commissioner King agreed it isn't cost effective to have our own. Discussion followed on other places or options to get asphalt. Chairman Daniels stated what was patched has been a really good job.

Chairman Daniels expressed his appreciation from the entire County Commission to Rick Danley, Iola Register reporter, since this is his last day of reporting for Allen County Commission, as he is moving to Minnesota.

Cole reported Don Kress gave up mowing Mount Hope Cemetery for the City of Humboldt. Discussion followed. Cole is still suggesting the county provide rock for the cemetery. Don will be continuing as sexton and Kevin Cress will continue to help with the graves.

Larry Walden, citizen, discussed a little bit about future decisions to help the commission down the road. He summarized his points. Medicare will allow St. Luke's to expand to Fort Scott Hospital (that is currently closed). Larry stated it would make a difference in location of ambulance stations. He went on to explain: The antenna would have to wait because of the ambulance stations, he complained about the cost estimates of the buildings. Larry wants the ambulance stations put on hold and install the tower; he gave his reasons effecting road and bridge, the small cities in Allen County. While we have the money, build our own tower and save on rent. Chairman Daniels stated the ambulance station in Moran is having rent paid.

Representative Thompson joined the meeting.

Larry proceeded with ambulance buildings; several reasons to not proceed with the building of ambulance station. He doesn't make deliveries any faster, does not improve the care of the patient; that doesn't benefit any one and the tower does.

Larry stated on 2020: ambulance contract expires unless it is mutually extended; which he thinks it should be at least for two years. Hospital contract expires. Operation will determine what happens with the ambulance. First full year of the wind tower PILOT. Ambulance stations built in 2020. Suggest commissioners take the decision power and agree with his suggestions. Hides money and put in an escrow account for a time to build.

Larry presented a map with hospitals located on it. His main point is Crawford and Bourbon Counties have 100 bed facilities. Page 2 he gave his own thoughts in paper information. Page 3 Hospice information. This is why he doesn't think the commission should put an ambulance station in concrete. Page 4 explosion with the county commission. Final pages refers to the Sheriff; showing dead zones with current and proposed tower RFPs.

Fact is St. Luke's took over the ambulance in Anderson and Marion counties. So, he thinks the commission should hold off on building the stations.

Representative Thompson reported on a visit with Margo Williams as to how Anderson County utilized the ambulances and crew. Discussion followed. Representative Thompson stated the commission should visit with St. Luke's about running ambulances for Allen County. He suggested the commission also visit with some from Anderson County's Hospital.

Larry stated the ambulance stations should not be priority, but the tower should be. Commissioner King asked if the commissioners were okay with him checking into this. Representative Thompson suggested the commission visit with Vicki Mills at Anderson County Hospital and a retired Anderson County Hospital employee Dennis Hatchberg; they stated he could. Counselor Johnson stated St. Luke's is still reviewing the books of Allen County Regional

Hospital. Discussion followed. Chairman Daniels stated he has already had several discussions with professionals in Anderson & Neosho Counties; no perfect way to do it.

Larry stated he thinks the tower should be built in place of the ambulance stations. A heated discussion followed. Larry asked Chairman Daniels if he wanted to go outside to work it out.

Cole stated the Humboldt building will not accommodate the new ambulances ordered. Commissioner Symes stated working conditions affect job satisfaction and morale, which in turn can influence job performance. Chairman Daniels stated he does hope St. Luke's bids on the ambulance service, but he has expectations for stations and placement.

Bill and Tom McAdam joined the meeting to discuss the ambulance station in Moran. He reported he got a call and they said the heater wasn't working. He called a service person; they stated it needs to be replaced. The new furnace/AC would be \$6,000 for a 3-ton furnace and \$2,600 Air. Tom stated he didn't receive enough rent to replace these items. Bill stated something would have to be done before next winter. Bill stated it needs to be replaced; it has been in there for 30 years; might be able to patch it to try to get through. No action was taken at this time.

Commissioner King moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Daniels, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner King, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:51 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:06 a.m. No action was taken.

Sherrie reminded the commission of a proclamation for EMS Week:

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, Emergency medical services is a vital public service and the members of emergency medical teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, Access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, Emergency medical services have traditionally served as the safety net of America's health care system; and

WHEREAS, Emergency medical teams consist of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others and approximately two-thirds of all emergency medical services providers are volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the members of the emergency medical service teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, Americans benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals and it is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; and

Whereas, Injury prevention and the appropriate use of the EMS system will help reduce national health care costs:

NOW, THEREFORE, we the board of county commissioners of ALLEN COUNTY, STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim the week of May 19th – 25th of 2019, as

Emergency Medical Services Week

In Allen County and encourage all residents to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Commissioner King moved to make this proclamation and recognize Emergency Medical Services Week May 19 to May 25, 2020. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Payroll – 1-year anniversary for Diane Rogers

- b) Payroll – process servicer papers for March 2019
- c) Clerk's Vouchers – 4/17-\$155,265.66 & 4/22-\$28,865.50
- d) Abatements: RE Value 2402, \$429.90, Year 2018

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Symes moved to adjourn. Commissioner King seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. until April 30, 2019.

Jerry Daniels, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, County Clerk

William H. King, Commissioner