

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

Nick Reynolds, The Humboldt Union, Eric Spruill, Iola Register, Roy Smith, Allen County Undersheriff, Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor, Mark and Virginia Peters, Robert Garrett, and Paul Zirjack, citizens, joined the meeting.

Counselor Johnson led the flag salute.

Commissioner King moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege contract negotiations. 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 8:33 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 8:43 a.m. No action was taken.

Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, reported Allen County got hit again with wind and several inches of rain. Discussion followed. The crews are picking up trees and fixing washouts again.

Mitch reported the set off a blast yesterday and now has more rock to crush. They are using quite of bid of rock with the washouts.

Mitch presented pictures of the issues Iola Industries property has along Elm Creek with washouts. They requested county help. Discussion on who owns the property, permits required and liabilities. Commissioner King asked Mitch to ask Schwab Eaton to look at it. Commissioner Symes commented Mitch should visit with Iola Industries first.

Mr. Zirjack asked about the State of Kansas helping counties with bridges. Discussion followed. Mitch stated it is mostly bridges affected by flooding.

Chairman Daniels discussed the striping at the airport probably needs to be repainted next year. Commissioner King asked about the fueling system. Mitch stated they can still get fuel, but the receipting had issues. Chairman Daniels asked Mitch to aggressively pursue grants available. The airport striping has to be special paint and contract out to do striping. The airport budget is hurting this year so it might be on next year's list.

Counselor Johnson discussed resolutions changing speed limits. Mitch will review the areas of road that will be changed back since the highway project is completed for now; not all will be changed back. After reviewing Commissioners expect to take action on August 20, 2019 to be effective September 1, 2019.

Commissioners asked Mitch about crushing rock. Mitch stated there is a lot of water in the quarry right now and they are pumping currently.

Counselor Johnson reported a low water bridge that has washed out on 1600 Street and Idaho Roads. Mitch has it on his list. Discussion followed the other low water bridges and wash outs. Commissioner King allowed the commissioners all get out and review roads and other areas. He stated the State requires motor graders to have CDL's. Mitch stated his back hoe guy has given two weeks' notice which makes him down 3 employees.

Rodney Burns, Rodney M. Burns, CPA, LLC, was present to work the budget. Commissioners all discussed back and forth on 2020 budget on cuts or increases. Chairman Daniels stated we need to get where the employees are making good wages and level them out. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes stated we have good employees and want to keep them. He suggested the commissioners suspend their own increases in 2020. Discussion followed. Mr. Zirjack asked about the Windmill monies that will be received next year. Counselor Johnson stated in a resolution the commission has committed it to the USD's in Allen County. Rodney stated the commission is \$200,000 some under the tax lid but putting it back in will raise the levies 1.4 mills.

George Levans, citizen, joined the meeting.

Commissioners continue discussing what if the mill levy went up and kept monies the same. Discussion followed on salaries going down to 3% instead of 5%. Commissioners agreed by consensus on a possible 4% maximum, with a possible 3% COLA for all but commissioners and a possible 1% merit raise for employees. Commissioner Symes stated leading by example and not taking a salary increase in 2020. Commissioners requested Rodney to restore some in Public Works Department.

George Levans, citizen at 1050 2400 Street for 50 years and he is not happy with the roads, there is 5 or 6 landowners out in the area that feel the same way. He is upset about building airport hangars and can't lose the hospital. As far as mowing isn't getting it, cut the intersections and trees, it is a death trap especially on the dusty roads. His low water bridge is out again, when it rains there is a gap between the bridge and road, neighbor needing an entrance and still waiting. He isn't going to call Road and Bridge again; he is tired of hearing excuses and wants to know reasons. Commissioner King stated this has been a hard year with the weather. Mr. Levans stated the washboard stops are a problem. He thanked the commissioners for listening. Chairman Daniels stated he doesn't remember as wet of a winter, wet spring, highway construction detours and wet summer. He commented usually you don't have to mow your yard in August but this year has been wet.

Robert Johnson, I, joined the meeting. He requested the county have a Christmas tree on 8th Street and Bridge Street; right in the middle of the intersection. It would be there about two weeks. Commissioners approved.

Chairman Daniels opened the Allen County Primary City of Iola, Ward 3 Election Canvass at 10:00 a.m. There was only one provisional ballot which was counted. Commissioners finalized the results; the Election Day results stand the same. Canvass ended.

Commissioner King moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Daniels, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner King, Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:11 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:16 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Symes reported on the Farm Bureau's Annual dinner.

Rodney returned with Draft 8. Commissioners reviewed. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the 2020 budget for publication to have the hearing on August 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 8/8/19-\$315,960.05 & 8/12/19-\$2,802.47
- b) Payroll – Jami Clark, new hire Appraiser position
- c) Clerk's Journal Entries #46

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 10:28 a.m. until August 20, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

Jerry Daniels, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

William H. King, Commissioner