

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, Allen County Clerk.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on August 1, 2017.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, Virginia and Mark Peters, citizens and Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, were present to observe the meeting.

Richard Weilert & Kenneth Lott, Allen County Citizens were present to discuss concerns about the Humboldt Bridge.

Commissioner Daniels offered condolences to Catherine Feese's family. She was a wonderful Sheriff's office employee and will be missed.

Richard Weilert, landowner, discussed the Humboldt Bridge. He stated years ago he was allowed to ruffraff the river bank to save it. Mr. Weilert explained the bridge would have been hit by a fallen cottonwood had it fell south instead of east, it would have fallen on the bridge. It didn't hit the bridge, but has caused a log jam. Mr. Weilert stated the city has been out sawing off branches after he visited with them. He explained how it was taken care of earlier was not successful and wants to know what the county's future plans are to fix this. Mr. Weilert stated there should be right of way, so who cares if it makes a land owner mad. He stated he paid for copies of the bridge file so he has all the vital information on the bridge. He discussed the load limit being raised on an 85 year old bridge a few years ago and wanted to know why something like that would even happen considering the age and condition of the bridge. Mr. Weilert discussed the history of the rest of the bridge file. He reported it is one of only a few single Marsh Arch Bridges and is historical. Why out of 85 years in May of 2014 was the limit raised? He stated it doesn't make any sense to him or any engineer. He then discussed load limits and exceeding limits. He wants to know if anything is being done.

Kenneth Lott read a letter he constructed concerning the bridge, river pile up and other roads. He complained that the roads between Iola and Humboldt were not being mowed by the county, but landowners. He thinks the Public Works Director needs to remember he is employed by the county.

Mr. Weilert discussed more concerns with bridge limit weights, road limits, culvert limits and wants them returned to what they were years ago. If the bridge goes out, then Humboldt is dead.

Commissioners stated they have been getting bids and feel they have been dealing with it. They requested Mitch to find out a date for the next bridge inspection.

Joe Weiner joined the meeting. He explained he had contacted the US Corp of Engineers out of Tulsa and they referred him to Kansas City who has the authority and they said the El Dorado is responsible. He explained the work could be done with a crane or put rock in the river. The core would require a permit if rock is put in it. The only delay is the Kansas Wildlife and Parks permitting, which takes 30 days. They have to watch for spawning times for certain fish. He discussed who's responsibility it is for the bridge. KDHE and FEMA and NRCS have stated the bridge is the county's but the water is KDHE and NRCS. Joe explained that if the state declared a disaster and then the responsibility is theirs. Commissioners asked Joe about a cost estimate? He can't really give a cost due to lack of knowing which one of his proposals happens.

Russ Gardner joined the meeting.

Cole presented pictures he took of Humboldt River Bridge last week for review. He reported as he sees it there are two problems; one is the new cottonwood that fell last fall and the other is

the pile that has been there for several years. Discussion followed on what he thinks needs to be done. Joe stated KDWP will allow a boat in the water if someone wants to cut limbs off the tree. Commissioners asked Joe for a proposal to cut the limbs. The park is owned by the City of Humboldt and would like permission from the city to get a landing area to work from. Cole reported Mr. Rinehart has approved to have the county or contractor to get in to get to the pile up. Commissioners wanted on record the brush had been done before when Bill King was Public Works Director. Mitch stated he was an employee at that time. Joe estimated a cost of \$1,000 if the county or city will help with equipment and time. Joe stated he would be the one in the boat cutting. Commissioners approved Joe Weiner to start with working on the bank pile up.

Mr. Weilert stated the paperwork is also about completed on putting it on the National Registry.

Mitch reported the mowers are out, but the rain has delayed some of the work.

Cole stated Bettis Company will start work Thursday on the Humboldt streets.

Mitch stated the insurance still wants two bids on the repair for the airport hangar and they haven't gotten them. Commissioners approved Mitch will go ahead on the repairs and the insurance will pay what they pay. Mitch will fix the correct way to keep the overhead doors from caving in every time the wind blows hard. Mitch reported on the structural; the steel is fine for the most part, there are a couple of steel parts that need replaced to complete the new door.

Rodney Burns, Rodney Burns LLC., discussed the 2018 budget. Commissioner Williams moved to make the levy around 64.000 mills. Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Williams moved to have the hearing on August 29, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Tony Thompson, Allen County Regional Hospital Executive Director, Loren Korte, Allen County Regional Hospital Trustee, and Larry Peterson, Allen County Regional Hospital Financial Director, were present to present updates. Loren stated that Harry Lee and Debbie Rowe's terms are up this year in December. Commissioners will be taking names under consideration for replacing these two as they have met their term limit.

Larry presented the 2015-2016 Audit, Independent Auditor's report and Quarterly Income and Expense reports for hospital only. He reviewed some of the high lights of where the hospital stands. Larry asked if they want to review costs backwards on why the shortage from what was estimated or forward on projections of income. Commissioner Williams asked about maybe having fresh eyes to make these projections since the other company (BKD) was so far off. Discussion followed on that topic.

Tony discussed changes in strategic planning due to health care and demographics. They used to do strategic planning for 10 years, then it went to 5 years, then to a rolling 3 years. Commissioner Williams stated he felt new eyes would be able to look forward without preconceived ideas. Discussion followed. Chairman Talkington asked how the hospital makes sure things are working the way they should. Tony stated much of it is done through committees and such.

Chairman Talkington asked about a recent mammogram issue on not being able to do any longer due to lower standards. Tony stated there was letters in June and July that went out to patients. Loren stated the patients were notified immediately and mistakes happen. Commissioner Williams explained his concern that Allen County citizens were taken care of properly.

Chairman Talkington asked if they thought the finances would be taken care of the hospital's expenditures or if they foresee the county having to help. Larry explained currently they are

cash flowing, but not making enough to do it without sales tax. They are looking to have the sales tax renewed when time comes. Discussion followed on space issue needs and growth for the hospital.

Tony discussed model units that could be used for an option. He discussed Dr. Schwab's needs for room and equipment. Tony stated they need to focus on surgical growth.

Tony explained how Medicare works; it takes a while to get the reports as they are based on the past.

Loren discussed the cost to have clinics go into the Cities of Moran and Humboldt and the benefits to Allen County citizens.

Bryan Murphy, Allen County Sheriff requested to carry over vacation hours for Roy Smith of 52 hours and Patrick Cash for 110 hours. He stated they both have these hours scheduled on the books. Commissioner Williams moved to approve the carry over for 6 months on both employees. Chairman Talkington seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Sheriff Murphy reported on the Investigation on EMS is complete. He explained their base line to go against what was collected. There was no contamination from punch holes and nothing incriminating. EMS changed protocols and lock box procedures. Discussion followed.

Phil Dreasher, Stephen Euston, Bukaty Companies representatives, discussed 2015 – 2017 cost summary and reviewed and discussed projections for 2018 in detail.

Commissioner Williams asked about a Health Savings Plan and/or Health Reimbursement Plan and asked Phil to look into setting up one. Consumer driven health care was discussed. Phil stated consumer driven health care maybe look at Tell-a-doc Program for an option. Discussion followed on how well it works.

Russ Gardner, citizen, discussed opening a restaurant in Gas. They are two weeks away from opening. He wanted to know where the community economic development committee was at. He stated they are about out of money, but that is their problem; sewer problems, parking lots, old trees. He stated he was going to have to dig it up. Russ asked if the county could chip and seal the parking lot. No action was taken. He stated Dollar General will be coming in across the street and will probably have an asphalt parking lot. Alan explained it is Economic Development and growth. Russ stated they will be hiring for long term positions. Commissioners stated they could not help on parking lots due to a state statue in place that forbids the commission from doing such, but when the application process is set up, he will be able to apply. Russ stated he doesn't want money, just help on the parking lot. The commissioners stated once again they cannot help that way.

Mitch reported that February 2018 will be when the Humboldt Bridge is scheduled for review.

Alan discussed adding 10" for \$6,000 for the proposed replacement of the 911 tower. Discussion followed. It is estimated to be \$221,000 for the entire project. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the 10" addition on the 911 Communications Tower. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Alan discussed contracts with Heartland. Commissioners approved Alan to proceed with the draft contract.

Alan discussed the Tax Foreclosure Sale.

Chairman Talkington asked about Alan serving as Allen County Regional Hospital Trustees Board attorney representation. Alan stated he would excuse himself if it should ever have a conflict come up. Discussion followed. Alan stated he serves as Counsel for the Allen County

Foundation and serves on Thrive's board, but not as counsel. He is mostly there as KOMA and KORA information.

Commissioners discussed support for the Southeast Kansas Area Transit District #10. Chairman Talkington moved to approve signing a support letter. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers – 8/4/17-\$238,130.34 & 8/8/17-\$18,642.94
- b) Payroll Changes
- c) Clerks Journal Entries: #44-46
- d) Abatements: RE, Value 2340, \$543.26, Year 2016

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until August 15, 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