

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

Robert Johnson, Iola Register representative, Randy Slocum, Allen County Fair Board President, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, were present to observe the commission meeting.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes of January 23, 2018.

Ronald Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, addressed the commission concerning rock for a parking lot east of the Iola Senior Center, Inc. on State Street. He presented information presented to him. Alan stated he had visited with Joyce Adair concerning activities at the center. Commissioners requested Ron to hold off until Joyce makes a request. Commissioners tabled the request.

Cole Herder joined the meeting.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, requested Commission sign Governmental Entity Resolution to Lease, Purchase and/or Finance contract for 3 years for a grader with Foley Tractor Company (Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation). Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, has reviewed and stated it was fine. Commissioners approved the signatures.

Commissioners stated the airport hangar is coming along; the weather has hindered some of the work.

Mitch reported the bid will go out today on the rock crusher. Whatever they get the rock crusher will last more than 20 years.

Commissioners asked about extra land around the Allen County Regional Landfill to the west. Alan explained what is going on with the property and how it is tied up in liens and such.

Cole reported EDA had sent a letter to the City of Humboldt concerning utilities expansion. He stated they are still working on an application for utilities.

Larry Walden joined the meeting.

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, discussed some policy changes for Allen County Employee Policy Handbook. He explained the changes are because of an audit by the State of Kansas concerning Hope Unlimited. Changes proposed are:

A-1. Policies Established. The following policies, guidelines and other provisions for personnel administration in the County of Allen are established to:

- (a) Promote and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of County service.
- (b) Develop a program of recruitment, advancement and tenure that will make County service attractive as a career.
- (c) Establish and maintain a plan of performance evaluation and compensation based upon the relative duties and responsibilities of each position to assure a fair wage or salary to all employees.
- (d) Establish a workplace that insures equality of opportunity for all of its employees without consideration of race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identification or any other protected characteristic. Further, these policies establish that

the County will not tolerate any acts of harassment or retaliation for making a good-faith report of harassment or violation of County policies.

- (e) These policies and guidelines are to be considered administrative procedures for the convenience of Allen County and do not create any contractual employment rights. All employees are considered to be at-will employees for the purpose of County employment both during their designated training period and at all times thereafter. At-will employee means that the employee is hired with the understanding that the employee's job may be terminated (with or without cause) at any time by the employee or by the employer.
- (f) For the purpose of this policy the term supervisor shall be used in reference to any elected or appointed official who actively supervises employees.

C-2. Recruitment. It shall be the policy of the County to provide equal opportunity to all qualified persons to enter County employment on the basis of demonstrated merit and fitness without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, military status, genetic history, *sexual orientation*, *gender identification* or any other protected characteristic. The laws also prohibit employers from retaliating against employees who file discrimination complaints. Separately, employers are prohibited from discriminating or retaliating against an employee who is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. Anyone found to be engaging in any type of unlawful discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Whenever there are vacancies, the County shall first seek to fill said vacancies by promotion in accordance with the terms of ARTICLE C-5. If said vacancies cannot be filled by promotion, then the County shall advertise those vacancies and give everyone, including current employees, a chance to apply.

X-3. PAYABLES. Except for the issuance of Treasurer's checks and tax disbursements as provided by law, Allen County shall pay its obligations *biweekly*. Vendors must submit detailed vouchers to the Allen County Clerk who shall review the vouchers and prepare them for submission to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval. After approval by the Board, such vouchers will be paid by checks issued by the Clerk and Treasurer with their facsimile signatures and signed by one of the commissioners (generally the chairperson)

Modification of Employment Application:

The heading under the Allen County Application For Employment should read:

It is the policy of the County to provide equal opportunity to all qualified persons without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, military status, *genetic history*, *sexual orientation*, *gender identification* or any other protected characteristic.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve. Commissioner Talkington seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Alan requested the commission appoint Carol Olson to serve on the Zoning Board replacing Marvin Stanley who resigned. Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Carol Olson to serve. Commissioner Talkington seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Alan discussed the upcoming zonings in February. Discussion followed.

Alan updated the commission on the Ambulance Stations and suggested to get an engineer to help in design. Alan will get some price checking on engineers/architect. Commissioners discussed past designs and whether those would work. Alan explained those plans were for a

larger station. Commissioners approved for Alan to check with architects. Commissioner Talkington stated he didn't think it needs to be Cadillac; there would be metal buildings available. Chairman Williams stated if they are in the middle of a town they need to look nice. Discussion followed requirements for the stations, land and costs.

Darrin Petrowsky, Kansas Department of Transportation Regional Director, discussed summer projects: safe routes project in lola, US Hwy #59 to Moran (25 day working calendar), Allen to Neosho junction  $\frac{3}{4}$  in overlay, US 169 Delaware road (Tank Farm Road) to Minnesota 7.12 miles totally replacing the concrete replacing with concrete. Discussion followed on what all would be detailed: 1<sup>st</sup> sequence will be Hawaii to north of Minnesota Road and includes the two north ramps of Hawaii and all the ramps at Minnesota Road; 2<sup>nd</sup> sequence will be Delaware Road south to county line. Darrin stated the contract limits how long they can be closed. Discussion followed. They have set up a 290-working day with a 40-day clean-up for this project. Darrin stated the official detour will be US Hwy #54 to US Hwy #75 down back to K #39 to US Hwy #169. He stated the county roads won't have legal weigh semis on them. Commissioner Daniels expressed his concern of business that relies on semis to deliver goods and services to Allen County businesses. Darrin stated the project is scheduled for June 4 being the latest they can start and as soon as contracts are let. Commissioners expressed their appreciation of Darrin's help in taking care of all of the questions and needs.

Commissioner Talkington asked about changing speed limits while this detour might happen on county roads. Commissioner Daniels discussed posting weight limits. Darrin stated they staged the work so that Humboldt has large truck traffic at all times. Commissioners stated this project will be through farming season and such. Discussion followed on weight limits on bridges, box culverts and black top roads.

Darrin explained the "Safe Route" and that it will include building ADA routes around 4 block area of schools.

Darrin stated they are looking at the over pass at Moran in 2020 letting with detours using US 59 to 75 to K39 but in the future.

Carol Ross, lola Housing Authority reported in 2012 she had asked for monies to file a class action suit and Allen County Commissioners gave her \$1,000. And Community National put in \$1,000. They couldn't use HUD monies. The suit was won and there was \$92,038.00 awarded to them. This is not tied to HUD and could be used community wide. They would like to see if the commission had any suggestions.

Carla Nemecek, Southwind Extension Executive Director and Jerry Middendorf, Allen County Fair Board representative, discussed the beef barn received last week. Yutzy Construction sent in a bid for \$112,000 and a bid from Waverly Post Frame Structures for \$49,793. and they spent 18000 last year under their 30,000 so they need an advancement from next year and the rest of the monies from last year. New bidder and feels they do a nice job. 125 years for fair. Alan stated if commission were good with the bid he and Carla will visit with the contractor. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the low bid. Commissioner Talkington seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Randy Slocum, Allen County Fair Board President, presented 2017 annual report information on the Fair Board. He explained this is the 125 Fair so they are looking to do big things. Randy reported they had made monies but barely. The state taxes they have to pay takes most of the monies and 2<sup>nd</sup> largest bill the Fair Board has would be utilities. Discussion followed sales tax exemptions and qualifications. Chairman Williams stated the City of lola should help on

utilities as it brings people into the City of Iola businesses. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels stated since the county is fixing the buildings but the buildings belong to the City of Iola, he would think they could help.

Bryan reported the state is not interested in helping with the towers but is looking into broadband help.

Alan stated he is having the same contractor for ambulance stations look at a Fire Station for volunteer fire District #2.

Commissioners reviewed the annual reports of Elsmore Township and Fire District #2 City of Iola.

Commissioners reviewed the 2017 inventories of 911 Communications department, 31<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Allen County Office, Allen County Commission Office, and Allen County Clerk's Inventory.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$23,321.68
- b) Payroll Changes-
- c) Clerk's Journal Entries: #4 & #5
- d) Abatements: RE Value 6354, \$1227.76, Year 2017  
RE Value 3918, \$641.78, Year 2016  
Special Assessment, \$300.00, Year 2017

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until February 6, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

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Thomas R. Williams, Chairperson

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

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Sherrie L. Riebel, County Clerk

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Jim Talkington, Commissioner