

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

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Eric Spruill, Iola Register, Paul Sorenson, citizen, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, was present to observe the meeting.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on December 30, 2019.

Paul Sorenson led the flag salute.

Sherrie presented Resolution #202001 for review. She explained Allen County runs on a cash bases so they opt out of GAAP.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 202001

A RESOLUTION EXEMPTING ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 75-1117 (SUPP. 1978), 75-1120 (SUPP. 1982), 75-1121 (SUPP. 1988), AND 75-122 (SUPP. 1983) SO AS NOT TO REQUIRE ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS TO MAINTAIN FIXED ASSET RECORDS AND OBSERVE FIXED ASSET ACCOUNTING PRACTICES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS:

WHEREAS, Allen County, Kansas has determined that the financial statements and financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2020, to be prepared in conformity with the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120(a) are not relevant to the requirements of the cash basis and budget laws of this state and are of no significant value to Allen County, Kansas or the members of the general public of Allen County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, there are no revenue bond ordinances or other ordinances or resolution of said municipality which require financial statements and financial reports to be prepared in conformity with said act for the year ending December 31, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas, in regular meeting duly assembled this 7th day of January 2020, that the said Board of County Commissioners requests the Director of Accounts and Reports to waive the requirements of said law as they apply to Allen County, Kansas for the year ending December 31, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Board of County Commissioners shall cause its financial statements and financial reports of the said municipality to be prepared on the bases of cash receipts and disbursements as adjusted to show compliance with the cash basis and budget laws of this state.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS

Commissioner King moved to authorize Resolution 202001. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie presented Resolution 202002 for review. This resolution allows other employers in Allen County to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone when commissioners approve. She

explained this Resolution happens every five years. Sherrie explained to the commission that they could do more or less than the \$1,500. The commissioners asked about utilization. Sherrie explained the county has a waiting list and one church in Humboldt is utilizing.

Resolution No. 202002

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALLEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN
RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEN COUNTY,
KANSAS,

Section 1. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, the Board of County Commissioners expressed its intent to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) student loan repayment program.

Section 2. Allen County has been designated a Rural Opportunity Zone pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,222.

Section 3. Allen County Commissioners hereby obligate Allen County to participate in the ROZ student loan repayment program as provided by K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223 for a period of five years, which shall be irrevocable.

Section 4. Allen County agrees to pay in equal shares with the State of Kansas the outstanding student loan balance of any resident individual for five years, if the resident individual meets the terms of qualification provided by the State of Kansas in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, and the appropriate rules and regulations. The number of qualified resident individuals receiving such payments will be subject to the availability of funds.

Section 5. Allen County intends to enter into partnerships with Cities, Employers, and Foundations for the direct sponsorship of Rural Opportunity Zone Applicants. Sponsored Applicants must meet all qualifications of the ROZ program. All sponsorships will be subject to ROZ student loan repayment rules and regulations.

Section 6. The maximum student loan balance for each qualified resident individual to be repaid jointly by Allen County and the State of Kansas shall be \$15,000 over a term of five years.

Section 7. Allen County shall allocate \$1,500.00 a year for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas to qualified resident individuals. Allen County shall revise its ROZ budget on an annual basis and shall inform the State of Kansas of any changes to the annual allocation. Allen County shall submit their obligation in full to the Department of Commerce before the first day of September each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be published once in the official county newspaper and shall be in effect from and after its date of publication.

Adopted this 7th day of January 2020 by the Board of Allen County Commissioners, Allen County, Kansas.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS

Commissioner Symes moved to approve Resolution 202002 with \$1,500.00. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie reviewed her yearend list for appointments with the commission.

Commissioner King moved to reappoint Walt Regehr, Jr. to the SEK Mental Health Board Consolidated board for the term of 1/1/2020 to 12/31/2022. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes moved to reappoint Andy Dunlap and John F. Brocker, as his alternate to the Regional Planning Revolving Loan Committee. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Daniels moved to reappointed Bill King, Nicholas Lohman and Jean Barber to the Multi County Health Board. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioners discussed appoints to the Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging Board. They requested Sherrie to find out times and meeting dates for this board. They will discuss it next week.

Commissioner Symes moved to reappoint John F. Brocker to the Executive Committee of the Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, joined the meeting.

Sherrie reported the City of Moran has nominated Nelda Cuppy to serve on the Moran Senior/Community Center Executive Board. Commissioner King moved to reappoint Nelda Cuppy to serve a term from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022 on the Moran Senior/Community Center Executive Board. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes moved to reappoint Jean Barber to serve on the Public Building Commission for a term that will expire 2/2023. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Daniels moved to reappoint Bruce Symes to the Juvenile Detention Board. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner King moved to name lola Register as the Allen County Official Newspaper for 2020 but to publish in Humboldt Union as well. Commissioner Symes seconded; discussion followed. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported parts to the crusher are showing up and working on getting it fixed. Discussion followed.

Mitch stated the construction guys will be pouring pads in Moran site next week. Discussion followed. Mitch as long as the weather holds out.

Mitch still out patching pot holes up north of lola. Chairman Daniels discussed leaning signs due to strong winds. Mitch black tops first then gravel.

Commissioner Symes asked if Allen County was having to purchase rock yet. Mitch stated not yet, trying to reserve best they can.

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

Commissioner King discussed the Perry building Ken Rowe stated they wanted to donate to Allen County. He presented pictures and stated it was a big problem for Allen County due to a lot of clean up and cost of fix up. He stated a gift is a nice gesture but not if it is cost prohibited. Commissioner King stated there is a Rowe building right behind the Perry building and south of the Elks Club building. Discussion followed on the condition of that building. Commissioner King discussed other building that might be available. Chairman Daniels stated there might be more to visit about.

Ken Thompson, 9th District House Representative, joined the meeting.

Commissioner King discussed a request for a change on the front of the Humboldt Senior Center.

Commissioners adjourned to the Conference Room for meeting with the Legislators.

Darolyn "Crickett" Maley, Allen County Treasurer and Jamie Clark, Allen County Appraiser, joined the meeting.

Caryn Tyson, Ken Collins, 2nd District House Representative, joined the meeting to visit with commissioners and office heads.

Chairman Daniels started off by thanking the Legislators for helping Allen County obtain the big grant from KDOT.

Representative Thompson stated the session will start on Monday, January 13, 2020. He commented it is a big sacrifice for legislators to be representing in Topeka. Representative Thompson stated one of the big thing legislators will be looking to do would be to restore LAVTR which is Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction for local government. The last time it was paid to counties was around 1997 or so.

Representative Collins mentioned he is on the Rural Revival Committee which will be encouraging the legislators to look at the differences between Kansas small cities and Missouri small cities and why the Missouri side is prospering more than Kansas.

Senator Tyson stated this will be a very interesting session in Topeka. She loves her job and is looking forward to serving this year. Senator Tyson stated there will be around 20 different bills for property tax. She commented there will a shortage of appraisers before long so they will be addressing issues from the beginning to the end of appraisal process. One of the proposed changes would be to have an arbitrator in the appeals process. Second would be to put the proposed dollars that the taxpayer's valuation could create, so the taxpayer would know up front.

Senator Tyson stated one of the bills will be on pro-life. Another on changes in the process of appointing Supreme Court judges. She discussed highway transportation plan called "Forward". Senator Tyson mentioned issues with the Osawatomie State Hospital they are planning on working out to benefit law enforcement. Lastly, she spoke on changes needed to Scrap Metal legislation.

Cole asked about where funding would come from the state level if LAVTR was reestablished. Senator Tyson stated out of the General Fund.

Commissioner Symes asked about pending legislation on the "Dark Stores" or known as "Big Box Stores" in regards to appraisal. Representative Thompson stated the issue started in Johnson County and is really an urban problem. Senator Tyson commented Appraiser's and commissioners tend to pick the highest appraisal available to them. New legislation would address that values would be the same whether they are open or closed stores. She explained some examples of what has happened in Johnson County.

Jamie commented the changes should start at the state level as that is where they get their comps from. Discussion continued on proposed changes on procedures.

Commissioner Symes also asked about issues of placement of juvenile offenders and changes in current law. Representative Thompson commented changes were made about 3 years ago and it is a flip of the coin whether they good or bad changes depending on the situation. Commissioner Symes stated several counties have discussed pulling out of the SEK Juvenile Detention Center but haven't at this time. Discussion followed.

Chairman Daniels enquired about the legislator's thoughts on changing Daylight Savings Time. Senator Tyson stated Indiana and Arizona both had changed to not having Daylight Savings Time and Indiana has changed back to having it. She stated if the entire country went with it she would be for it but it has a big economic impact if so do and some don't. Especially the ones located near the other. Representative Collins gave some examples.

Sid asked about internet sales taxes. A short discussion continued.

Senator Tyson discussed fees for electric cars. Discussion followed.

Cole asked about Tobacco 21. Senator Tyson stated it is a federal thing. Discussion followed.

Senator Tyson stated the legislators will be looking at a "Big Tax Bill" that has a two year budget process.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the legislators to have taken their time to visit Allen County.

Commissioners reconvened back to the commission room.

Cole updated the commission on the ambulance barn and the industrial park at Humboldt. Cole discussed the clean up on the chemical spread and water conservation for the City of Humboldt. He stated if they hadn't gotten the clearance to use water on Friday, they would have had problems. Discussion followed. Commissioner King stated Allen County doesn't have potable water but could have provided tankers for fires or something as such. Cole stated they were only one hour away from asking for help. Discussion continued. Cole thanked the County and Sid Fleming, City of Iola administrator and everyone involved for quick notice on New Year's Day.

Commissioner King moved to go into executive session for 10 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, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:19 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:29 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner King moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege for land acquisition. 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 10:30 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:35 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Symes moved to authorize pay increases cost of living of 2% with merit up to 2% but not more than 4% overall per employee. Commissioner King seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Counselor Johnson discussed the Sales Tax Election. The bond personal are working with Counselor Johnson to get it ready. Commissioners agreed that the election should be April 7,

2020. Counselor Johnson stated commissioners need to decide whether they want to go from the current .25 of a cent to a 3.8th of a cent. Since the City of Iola might end its future allocation towards the hospital. Discussion followed.

Chairman Daniels reported Coffee with Commissioners will be January 16, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at Elsmore City Hall.

Commissioners reviewed the annual inventory from the Services to the Elderly van.

Commissioners reviewed the monthly treasurer's reports for December 2019.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$66,731.73
- b) Payroll – pay increase & position change for Misty Rice, department transfer for Donald Leapheart.
- c) Journal vouchers - #77 to #82

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner King moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m. until January 14, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

Jerry Daniels, Chairperson

William H. King, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

Bruce Symes, Commissioner