

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 Jill Allen, Deputy County Clerk.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on June 20, 2017.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, was present to observe the meeting.

Ron Holman, House and Grounds Director, stopped in to talk to the commissioners about LED lighting. He presented a bid from JASCO for a total of \$3,404.00. Take out flood lights and replace with LED flood lights, 50w LED flood lights and parts and labor. Chairman Talkington moved to approve the purchase from JASCO, Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Ron reported the parking lot work is progressing nicely. It is looking good.

Jerry Hathaway, Allen County Attorney, discussed his budget request. He stated his only increase is for professional services. He expected three first degree murder trials. Two out of three defendants want bench trials, which mean no jury. Commissioner Talkington asked about taking this increase back down. The case load and child in need of care cases has increased. Last year his office did eight termination of parental rights cases. There were over 75 child in need of care cases. So far this year there's been over 50 filed. These are labor intensive cases. The 5% was put in for wage increase, just in case. He also mentioned the increase for ads & notices. He discussed what has to be published and not just locally. He complimented his Assistant County Attorney Jaquie Spradling.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, stated the used loader has arrived.

Mitch discussed his budget requests. He talked about what was needed at airport, such as work on the hangars and taxi ways. Most everything remained the same on the airport. Commissioner Talkington asked about reimbursed expenses. Mitch said it is hangar rent, etc.

Mitch said he put a little increase into capital outlay in noxious weed, but could probably take some off of it because he already has a trailer. There is not much change on the noxious weed fund otherwise.

Mitch explained the increase in the road and bridge fund. This has to do with equipment. Repairing the roads is also an increase, for supplies, etc. 5% increase in wages is in there just in case it's approved. Commissioner Talkington asked if they fix tires. Mitch said they repair a lot of tires. Capital outlay is for road overlay. Commissioner Daniels mentioned that in the past items were put in different funds. Mitch said he may have done some things differently on this than it had been done before. Mitch answered questions about a crusher, newer ones should last more than 20 years. Allen County saves a lot of money crushing their own rock.

Capital outlay for the quarry fund is looking toward to a crusher.

Mitch stated bigger projects they're looking at are road work. You can't just tear up a road, because often times you come across bad spots, and then they need more gravel, built up, packed down, etc. It's not as simple as just tearing it out. Bob complimented the work of Mitch's crew southeast of Humboldt.

Commissioner Williams asked how Mitch's budget is looking this year towards year-end. Mitch said he'll be looking at this a little closer in the next month. Commissioner Daniels said he's received compliments on the landfill operation. Email billing was discussed. Mitch will look into this more.

Special bridge fund was discussed. It has to do with signage, tires and salaries. Two people are paid out of the special bridge fund. They fix pot holes, put up signs, cut trees that block the roads, etc.

Solid waste fund has the Bomag, which is the compactor, expense. He also needs a fuel truck.

Bryan Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, talked about the coroner fund and jail medical. He said jail medical depends on reimbursement. He said the pharmacy is good about working with them on using generics when possible.

The law enforcement trust and VIN are funds that are up and down. Monies that can go back into community.

The Sheriff fund has increased. He has asked for another position. The call volumes are down, but the cases being worked on more time consuming. He'd like to be able to put two officers on a shift together. This would help out with officer safety. There are costs up front associated with the new position. His funds will have to absorb some of the costs on utilities and commodities for the law enforcement center are about \$50,000 per year. 5% increase is put in for possible raise in wages. To encompass a new position is about \$85,000.00, weapons, vehicle, academy, wages, etc. Commissioner Talkington asked about the increase in registrations. Bryan explained these are the trainings and such that the Sheriff Office has to take. Impounding is towing fees and publications. Sheriff Murphy assured there will be two officers working together once the new position is approved and filled. Documentation needs to be added as to why a position is needed, per Commissioner Talkington. Commissioner Williams said to just put in writing why the position is needed.

Jail fund's main increase is the court security officer. The request is to create a line item, a person, to fill this position. Therefore not taking away of a correctional officer. There would be other duties for this person when court is not in session. He increased the overtime for corrections, due to being short staffed. There is a lot of turnover in these positions. The vast majority of the commodities and utilities expenses have been put to the jail fund. The jail is at 85% occupancy. Thermal went up in price, computer software contract. Training was increased because the jail staff is being sent to a week-long class in Salina shortly after they start work here. Food for the jail was discussed. The meals on wheels reimbursement is helpful. He said the kitchen head cook does a great job for finding the best deals for purchasing the food. Commissioner Daniels asked about the court security position. It will not be funded 100% out of the jail. Bryan explained who's filling which positions. This will be put in writing as requested by the commissioners of new/vacated positions.

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, shared an email from Rorik Peterson about an application.

Alan reported on analysis of the 911 tower. Alan recommends a replacement. Commissioner Talkington asked about lack of maintenance. He said the letter stated there is no immediate possibility of collapse. He said to look at the cost of rehabilitation. Commissioner Daniels said he agreed partly with Commissioner Talkington's thoughts. Alan said he could ask for some suggestions on what to do if it's not replaced right now. Angie Murphy, 911 Director, said it would be hard to find someone to do repairs. Alan said we are almost to our 60 day limit on bids. Hayden Tower Services bid is \$215,000.00 to replace the tower. Angie said she tried to get it painted in 2016 and was told they wouldn't do that and let people climb it. It was a critical climb team that climbed it recently. Commissioner Williams said we cannot afford to have 911 be down. He strongly suggests we move forward with it. Commissioner Williams moved that we go forward with the bid from Hayden Tower Services and replace the tower for \$215,000.00. Commissioner Daniels seconded. Motion passed 2-1-0. Alan will talk to Hayden.

Alan reported on a nuisance property near Iola. Sheriff Murphy served the individual. The resident requested a hearing by a handwritten note left for Alan. He will be given a hearing. Commissioners agreed on Tuesday, July 18 at 9:00 a.m. for such hearing.

Alan discussed his budget, only increase is 5% for potential wage increase. He mentioned his thoughts for the future as far as his position and maybe cutting back on hours.

Angie Murphy, Allen County 911 Director, said the only change in emergency management is 5% for wage increase. Her Emergency Management employee does dispatch work as well as Emergency Management. She received a reimbursement from the state for the Emergency Management that cannot be put in the 911 fund.

Angie discussed the 911 fund where tax money from the state goes. Next Gen takes most of this fund's money.

Angie went into more detail on the 911 dispatch fund. The personal services line increase is for another person. She talked about the increases. She also shared her inventory list with the commissioners to show what equipment may need replaced. She increased maintenance since she will pay for such out of her budget. She is asking for a 7.3% increase. She's hoping another staff member will cut down on the overtime expense. Her staff does quality assurance as well. Commissioner Talkington asked Angie to put in writing her reasons for another employee. Commissioner Daniels asked if the Emergency Manager would still dispatch if another employee is added. Angie said he'd still be half and half, he would do quality assurance rather than dispatch.

Commissioner Talkington moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Talkington, Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Williams, Angie Murphy, 911 Director, Alan Weber, County Counselor, and Jill Allen, Deputy County Clerk. The time is now 10:30 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for another 5 minutes, Commissioner Talkington seconded. Motion passed 2-1-0, the time is now 10:40 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:45 a.m. No action was taken.

Larry Walden, citizen, joined the meeting to discuss the letter the commission received from the Kansas Department of Aging for budget request. Upon discussion the commissioners agreed to maintain the current level of spending at \$2000.00.

Larry wants the commission to consider creating another department having to do with health. He explained.

Larry stated he has been working with Tony at Allen County Regional Hospital. He presented a printout from google having to do with the hospital. He pointed out mistakes. Commissioner Talkington asked if he'd talked to the hospital board, he stated he will tonight. He presented a plan for a mobile unit. He said doctors have been recruited that they no longer have space for. He said the hospital will come up with facts and figures to present to the commissioner at a later date. Larry said the mobile unit will come with equipment. It's a temporary clinic.

Commissioner Williams said department heads are talking about building towards the future. At year end it just rolls over, a special line item was mentioned. Alan said it's a question for the auditor.

Bob Johnson reported he had talked to Cole Herder, Humboldt City Administrator, about evening meetings in Humboldt. Cole said they'd have a place available for a meeting of an evening.

Commissioners approved the Allen County Services to the Elderly Van Policies and Procedures.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers – \$166,200.48
- b) Payroll Changes
- c) Clerks Journal Entries: #36
- d) Abatement: PP Value 148, \$22.56, Year 2016

There will not be a Commissioner Meeting on Tuesday, July 4, 2017 due to the holiday. With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until July 11, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

Jim Talkington, Chairperson

Thomas R. Williams, Commissioner

Jill Allen, Allen County Deputy Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner