

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, County Clerk.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on May 30, 2017.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, Heather Bosler, Humboldt Union representative, Larry Walden, citizen, Chuck Richey, citizen, David Lee, citizen, John Fewins, Elsmore resident and Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, was present to observe the meeting.

Chuck Richey, discussed the citizen bridge. He doesn't think the county should put money towards helping pay for it. The cost should have been included and someone should have known. Discussion followed. Commissioners stated they don't think they will be included in that discussion.

David Lee, citizen, appreciates the commissioners and the county service they provide. He explained he is pro-economic development. Tax dollar monies and getting into the banking service. Hoping the roads and bridges are all taken care of with extra dollars, county's precious resources are the employees. Banking institution or government. Hospital falls short of revenue projections and would like to see them helped. Iola is well covered on the committee. No one from the eastern part of the county, look at the whole county, not just Iola. Committees could reach out to the city councils. Commissioners assured David that it will be a county function. Discussion followed on what is good. Commissioner Williams discussed the new revenue streams; not for just new toys or just put it away without a thought process. Commissioner Daniels stated he looks at it as a grant function, not a bank; they have given good raises in the last few years. He stated the figures there will be a couple businesses in the eastern side of the county. Discussion followed on other items and ideas that would go through the Economic Incentive Committee. Chairman Talkington stated he is for economic development, but he sees this committee as a bank and has expressed his opinion of the committee and what it will be doing. Commissioner Daniels stated he has been told that this community will not attract doctors or other businesses if there is not a future in Allen County. Union workers don't shop Walmart. Medical Arts building would still need a parking lot even if G&W didn't come to Iola. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels explained the complaints for not giving gravel to a non-profit organization and not helping farmers. He went on to say there is a law (statute) that prohibits counties donating gravel and the federal government gives very good subsidies to farmers to keep them going. Commissioner Williams' goal is just to leave Allen County better than when he came in. Discussion followed on what each commissioner thought would happen with the monies for the economic development.

Larry Walden has studied and the commissioners have taken themselves out of the decision making.

Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Daniels stated with who is on that board, it will be well represented.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, discussed the loader for the landfill quarry. He has found a used one 4941 hours on this CAT loader for \$287,742.00 and would have to pay more than that if purchasing a new one. Discussion followed on warranty and machine records. Commissioners approved him to make the purchase.

John Fewins, City of Elsmore, stated the monies are in the budget for one tanker to fix roads within the city. Mitch reported he would have that scheduled.

Mitch reported they are reclaiming Dakota Road from Kentucky to US Hwy 169.

Commissioners asked about the road into Mildred, unincorporated city. Discussion followed about signage and clean up around Mildred.

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, discussed the information on the tower inspection by Second Site Systems for \$3,683.60; this is to have the review. Hayden Towers is very reputable, and will not climb the tower if the opinion is that the tower is fine. Allen County would have to find a new tower support. Commissioner Williams moved to hire Second Site Systems for tower inspection for \$3,683.60. Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Talkington discussed having someone with the county review the building of the new G&W.

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, Angela Murphy, 911 Communications Director, Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor and Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk. The time is now 9:09 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:19 a.m. No action was taken.

County Clerk, Sherrie L. Riebel asked commissioners if they wanted to go through the budget before making a decision. Commissioner Williams stated that any significant increase should be discussed with the commission. Bob Johnson asked about the tax lid. Sherrie explained. Carry over of possibly 10% was mentioned. Economic development, should it be in two separate line items; Thrive and Incentive Program. Thrive - \$30,000 & Incentive - \$150,000. Sherrie will further discuss this with Rodney Burns, Auditor. Commissioner Talkington asked that all department heads come in to discuss their budget. 15 minutes per department head was recommended. No tax lid election on September 15<sup>th</sup>, commissioners agreed. Ambulance fund or general fund for the EMS payment? Commissioner Williams said to use the ambulance fund to keep it cleaner. Commissioner Daniels asked about another line item for ambulance facilities. Sherrie explained the general fund may be better for something like that. Commissioners agreed. The fair building fund was also mentioned.

Gary Parker, citizen, expressed his concerns on economic development instead of county needs. He used an example of him inheriting lots of monies; first he would look at his and his family health, and then looking at this roof if it needs attention then would look at needs for others. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels expressed those decisions don't come easy and have been discussed in detail. Chairman Talkington stated there are three different opinions and they have been discussing in detail.

Gary stated the wind farm persons have allowed him money to have an attorney look at the contracts between him and them.

Larry would like to have the paper report the commission intends to be the last resort for the funding. Bob Johnson stated they do.

Larry stated the county should go out for bid for auditors, as when they become friends they tend to overlook things.

Commissioner Daniels wanted to remember the 73rd anniversary of D Day and would like to remember all the people who were involved.

Bob Johnson reminded the commission that City of Iola residents are part of the County as well as everyone that resides in the county.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers – 6/5/17- \$93,520.63 & 6/6/17-\$23,285.67
- b) Payroll Changes

c) Clerks Journal Entries: 29-31

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until June 13, 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