

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

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on May 9, 2017.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, Heather Bosler, Humboldt Union representative, Chuck Apt, as a citizen, Ron Boren, Boren's Roofing, Larry Walden, citizen and Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, was present to observe the meeting.

Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, discussed the LaHarpe Senior Center. He presented information on either fixing the current heat and air unit or to replace the current heat and air unit. The old system was purchased in the early 1980's. The old cooling system uses R22 refrigerant; this being obsoleted at this time. The bid was from Tholen's Heating and Cooling, Inc. to repair will cost \$400 to \$900. Tholen's Heating and Cooling, Inc. submitted a proposal to replace the current heat/air unit with a Trane XB80 80,000 BTU furnace, Trane XR13 condenser, Trane up flow coil 25 ft. line set for \$5,728.05. Currently the LaHarpe Senior Center is without any air conditioning which commissioners felt with activities in there it would too hot for them so with declaring it an emergency Chairman Talkington moved to approve the purchase of a new system. Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 2-0-0.

Chuck Apt acting as a citizen asked the commissioners about the 6 people on the Economic Development Fund Advisory Group committee and he wanted clarification as to who chooses the persons. Chuck will be submitting 6 names for the committee later in the next couple of weeks. This group is only for assessment of aid. Bill Maness, Economic Development Director's group is the recruiting group; this group will only be for policy and procedure for application. Chuck anticipates this to be 2 stage steps – one for policy and format and 2nd experienced group who will set on the board for assessment of applications and recommend applications to the commission. Discussion followed.

Ron Boren asked about the repair of the airport hangar. Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, stated he has only received one bid out of three and he has turned them in to insurance; one bid, one says too busy, one hasn't responded. Mitch stated at this point he is waiting on the insurance's response. Discussion followed.

Ron Boren asked about mowing at the airport and Mitch stated it was too wet to mow without leaving ruts in the runway for power parasails.

Mitch presented bids for 9th Street, Bridge Street at the City of Humboldt. Bids were received from Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc. for 9th Street at \$305,198.90 and Bridge Street for \$93,850.20 for a total of \$399,049.10 this will be milled and overlay; Killough Construction, Inc. for 9th Street at \$340,933.60 and Bridge Street for \$123,651.00 for a total of \$464,584.60 this will be milled and overlay; and O'Donnell & Sons Construction Co., Inc. submitted a no bid – too far to haul their equipment. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the bid from Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc. Chairman Talkington seconded, motion passed 2-0-0.

Mitch presented information on the need of filling an old truck driver position that has been vacated for a few years. Commissioners tabled this decision for now.

Nathan Fawson, Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center Executive Director, Job Springer, SEKMHC Financial were there to present budget information. Nathan discussed 1996 as interim therapist and the room was a closet so he expressed his appreciation of the support of Allen County and 2000 bursting at the seams the second building across the street from the current building. He explained the \$149,115 is a \$29,000 increase more than last year's budget request of \$120,000. Their mission to provide, advocate and coordinate quality mental health care.

Nathan stated most of the increase of cuts from State of Kansas over all about a 3 million dollar cut over the last few years. He explained in detail the areas that were cut and the results of those cuts. Nathan explained cuts from Medicaid and the result in causes. Some of these cuts were in higher level management jobs and not filling positions when persons leave SEKMHC. Discussion followed. Nathan encouraged the commissioners to reach out to the local state representatives expressing the effects of budget cuts to center such as SEKMHC. Nathan stated they still provide for the same people even with cuts but it is tough on the providers. He reviewed charts of their services. Chairman Talkington asked if they remain the same is it because of funding and staff. Nathan stated if a new person called to get in it would take a couple of weeks before they could get someone in to see a person. They try hard to meet the needs of the people with the resources they have in both funding and staff; some of this is due to other entities closing down that provided that service earlier. Discussion followed. Nathan explained the purchase of the building south of SEKMHC will be able to provide chemical abuse services by providing the extra space. Nathan stated they are asking more from Allen County due to the chemical abuse than they are from the other surrounding counties. Chairman Talkington stated they are in the review process now of the 2018 budget request and strongly will take under consideration in increase request.

Bill McAdam, citizen, stated the City of Moran needs \$150,000 to keep the Moran Grocery store open.

Bill discussed the proposed walking bridge over South Washington Street and need to move it over so if the State Street Bridge ever needed replace or repaired they might have to put a driving bridge over S Washington Street Bridge. Commissioners reported it is the City of Lola property and a Thrive project.

Bill expressed the need for a road to continue from 1300 Street (Marshmallow Lane)/Horville Road to US Hwy #54. Commissioners stated that was probably not going to happen.

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, discussed the sheep barn project. Alan discussed bonds for the project; which was the Diebolt bid of \$18,099 which was increased due to the insulation. He would like to have half down. Alan requested the commission sign to sign so it could be completed by July 15, 2017. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve. Chairman Talkington seconded, motion passed 2-0-0.

Chairman Talkington asked Alan what he thought of the discussion on the wind farm. Commissioner Daniels stated it wasn't an urgent thing but does need to be taken under consideration soon. Discussion followed on the changes in taxes due to action from the legislators. Larry asked about ice factors and slinging ice on cows or vehicles. Larry asked about depreciation schedules for wind turbans. Discussion followed.

Commissioners and Alan discussed the Economic Development Fund Advisory Group.

Larry stated he has been working at the Lola Senior Center, Inc. for a purchase of an additional little storage shed. He explained they needed the extra space to solve some of the issues. They also need a cart to pull out into the other building. Discussion followed. Larry requested lumber to build shoe racks for them. Commissioner Daniels suggested to visit with Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds to work on shoe racks proposals. Sheriff Murphy suggested to look into a Conax storage unit. Discussion followed.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers – \$18,450.32
- b) Payroll Changes
- c) Clerks Journal Entries: 27-28

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until May 23, 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