

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, Allen County Clerk.

Bob Johnson, Iola Register, Heather Bosler, Humboldt Union, Larry Walden, citizen, and Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, was present to observe the meeting.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the April 25, 2017 meeting.

Ron discussed the parking lot project. He explained he wants to change some of the parking around. Discussion followed.

Sherrie presented KDOT Agreement for Capital Assistance Funds between Secretary of Transportation of the State of Kansas and Southeast Kansas Coordinated Transit Council and Allen County. Discussion followed. Commissioners had previously approved the grant. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Chairman Talkington's signature on the KDOT Van Grant. Commissioner Williams seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Talkington discussed whether they should agree to put off decisions and not act upon when it is first presented. Discussion followed. Commissioners Daniels and Williams stated they thought a policy isn't necessary but common sense.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported Allen County received 3 to 4 inches throughout Allen County this last weekend.

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

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, joined the meeting.

Jerry Hathaway, Allen County Attorney, stopped in to say "Hi".

Chairman Talkington opened the Communication Tower bid opening at 9:00 a.m. Only one bid was received from Hayden Towers for \$215,000. Alan requested to review and make sure the bid was what is what it should be. Commissioners will look at next week. Chairman Talkington requested to have a third party uninterested person to see if they felt the tower indeed needs to be replaced. He thought it would be a good idea as did the other two. They will see if a structural engineer thinks it should be replaced. Alan suggested Schwab Eaton. The bid is good for 60 days and start to completion is 4 to 6 weeks. Discussion followed.

Alan stated generally where the commission wants to go on EMS. In Humboldt they are keeping the station open but new ambulances are taller and will not work in the old stations. Same way with Moran. Alan stated he thought they should build. Chairman Talkington stated he didn't think it needs to have two bays. Commissioners visited with Cole about the City of Humboldt. Cole stated he isn't saying the ambulance has to be tied to the Fire Station because the Fire Station is a city issue and ambulance a county issue. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels said he thought the county could save money having a "cookie cutter" design for both City of Humboldt and the City of Moran. Discussion followed on need. Alan explained the City of LaHarpe had built a Fire Station from Diebolt and the cost was about \$50,000. Larry Walden asked about the Fire Station in Moran supposing to have ambulance with it. Commissioner Williams stated he had looked at that and it was an old grant and didn't feel like there is anything to it. Larry thinks an existing building should be able to work and remodel an existing garage.

Commissioners will look into different options. Alan will visit with Michael Burnett, Ambulance Director, to discuss options. Cole expressed his opinions. Cole stated if Humboldt actually pursued a new Fire Station then there might be the option to use their current station. More discussion followed on Humboldt's Industrial Park and future items. Larry asked if they need a new large ambulance, why not get a smaller one. Discussion followed.

Janice Porter, Director of ACARF, Dawn Murray, Carlyle and Julie Payne, City of Iola, joined the meeting to discuss ACARF donations from the county. Janice presented a letter of Memorandum of Understanding for review. MOU:

Letter of Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of Understanding between Allen County Commissioners, Allen County, Kansas and the Allen County Animal Rescue Facility (ACARF), LaHarpe, Kansas.

1) Purpose:

We have asked to be a line item in the County Budget. This memorandum is to address the responsibilities that ACARF has to meet to justify such a line item.

2) Duration of Agreement:

The agreement will commence on _____, and will continue for 1 year, upon which the County and ACARF will reevaluate goals and responsibilities.

3) Responsibilities

The Allen County Animal Rescue Facility is tasked with accepting dogs and cats picked up by the Allen County Sheriff's Department from unincorporated areas of Allen County. They will hold these animals for the State required three days in "Stray Hold", during which time their owners may claim them. After the three day period is up, they become the legal property of ACARF, and may be adopted out to the public. ACARF will be responsible for all food, housing, medical care, and veterinary bills of these animals.

Any animal brought to us as a result of a court order will be kept, at our expense, for a period of two months. After that, the current daily board fee will be charged.

Any animal brought to us injured may, at our discretion, be euthanized at our expense if deemed too severely injured for us to save without extraordinary measures.

She stated they would like to help aid the sheriff with animals outside of the cities. She stated they have not been taking to many animals (dogs) over the last few years. Commissioner Williams asked if the commission would like to make a head line by making it a line item in the budget. Discussion followed. Sheriff Murphy stated if it is made known then they will have tons of calls and they are set up to get strays and abandon dogs. They have to hold the stray dogs for three days before they become their property. Dawn explained she lives in Carlyle and there used to be tons of stray dogs. They believe it is because ACARF is there to take it to. They always try to accept stray dogs and cats. Commissioner Williams stated it is a benefit to Allen County since the population is going down on strays. Chairman Talkington stated he did not feel that the county should do a line item in the budget but should pay if an animal was taken at that time. Discussion followed. Larry suggested it be under consideration until next week. Commissioner Williams stated a \$1,000 dollar line item. Janice offered to come up with numbers if needed. Commissioner Daniels stated if they closed their doors the community would probably see more strays. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels requested to table the decision at

this time. Alan can review the MOU and Janice will forward numbers to Sherrie to send out to the commission.

Bill Maness, Economic Development Director, presented documentation for consideration on a standing Economic Development for Allen County. This is due to the activity to the south of Allen County. Mary Kay Heard joined the meeting. Some of the items are lodging, hospitality and retail are the key sectors of Allen County's economy. Bill explained when B & W and Monarch Cement send their business travelers to Chanute or Iola for accommodation as there is no place for them to stay in Humboldt. He explained this is in no way of slighting the current business owners. He recommends a 7 person committee and look at the applications for new economic development. Bill would have recommendations of a board. The county commission would still have the final say in who qualifies for the monies. Bill explained not handing monies out until it is established or such. Discussion followed on retail or other established businesses. Bill explained the purpose, supporting existing lodging, support of new lodging, support the existing and new hospitality, support existing and new retail, scope, administration, authority and timeframes, review the process, release of funds, disclaimer and claw backs the commission can include. Commissioners Daniels and Williams thought this is a good idea. Chairman Talkington state he fills like the county should help the hospital. Discussion followed. Bob Johnson stated the taxes paying towards the hospital is a sales tax which comes thought a lot of different areas not property taxes.

Bill requested \$300,000 be set aside for economic development funds on top of the current economic development for recruiting businesses. Chairman Talkington asked about where Southeast Regional Planning Commission fits into the scheme of things. Discussion followed.

Cole stated CDL Electric will be expanding into Humboldt. They will be employing 12 people and hope to expand in the future. He stated what they build as construction trade and such. They will be utilizing Neighborhood Revitalization and in a few years will be paying all their taxes into the community. Bill stated good things will happen if we are prepared to deal with them. Commissioner Daniels stated if the community doesn't grow then the hospital will not grow. Cole stated he doesn't see manufacturing in the list. He would like to see that included for consideration. Bill stated we need to prepare for the future. Commissioners will table the conversation on whether or not to set aside monies for now.

Mary Kay Heard, Iola Industry Chairman, is having their annual meeting Iola Industry June 13th and would like an official representation from the county commission. Discussion followed on who to have on the committee. Commissioner Williams stated he would serve if the board so desires. Mary Kay stated if the other commissioners would like to rotate at the meeting would be good. The next meeting is at June 5 at 4 o'clock at Community National. Commissioner Williams will attend that one.

Larry Walden, citizen, discussed a health fair last week that he attended. There is a lot of interaction between lots of entities. The exercise programs are overlapping, nursing homes, cities and hospital are all different but could be coordinated exercise programs. He would like to see the commission make an organization appearance before starting something already in progress.

Larry reported there is no action of any kind of at the old hospital site by G & W. Discussion followed.

Bob stated ACARF is more than just the animals that get taken out to there but it is a service to the entire county not just cities; a worthwhile effort. Alan stated it could be considered a health issue.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers - \$35,899.60
- b) Journal Entries - #23 & #24
- c) Abatements: RE Value 619, \$107.98, Year 2016

PP Value 868, \$121.38 Year 2016
TR Value 162, \$20.82 Year 2016

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until May 9, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission room of the courthouse.

Jim Talkington, Chairperson

Thomas R. Williams, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner