

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, Allen County Deputy Clerk.

Robert Johnson, Iola Register, and Roy Smith, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on October 31, 2017.

Gary McIntosh, Foundation, Job Springer, SEK Mental Health, Cole Herder, Humboldt City Administrator and Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, joined the meeting. Gary explained about the packet he had given commissioners. Job stated there are many different kinds of funds at the foundation. Gary discussed the environmental fund. He also explained matches. Gary asked that the commissioners consider contributing to the foundation. Kansas Healthcare Foundation makes matches. Allen County Regional Hospital has a foundation as well. It is a fund within the community foundation. Job explained this is the last opportunity for the county to put in money, a chance to make better earnings than elsewhere. Alan said it mutual funds. The earnings rate is about 5% right now. Gary said the county could have an individual investor for the money, in case someone asks why send it to Kansas City.

Terry Call, EMS Financial Director, joined the meeting.

Larry Walden, citizen, joined the meeting.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported he needs some grader tires before winter. He will have bids next week.

Mitch explained the old hangar will be worked on soon.

Sid Fleming, Iola City Administrator, Michael Burnett, Ambulance Director and Tim Thyer, Iola Fire joined the meeting. Michael discussed the EMS building project. He contacted four contractors for bids. Larry asked why a half bath. Tim and Michael explained. So far only one bid has come in from Cleavers. Alan said a formal RFP should be done and sent out to the contractors. Commissioner Daniels said a floor plan needs to be agreed on first. Commissioner Talkington mentioned City of Humboldt. Cole said he's waiting to see a footprint and get an idea for lot size needed. Commissioner Daniels asked about transferring current items from current station. Tim said some items would be transferred and kept. Commissioner Daniels stated he likes floor plan presented today. It needs to be kept simple, a turnkey building, contents to be hashed out later on. Cole said that \$132/square foot sounds high, but it does include a lot of features, such as heat & air, plumbing, etc. Cole discussed some options in Humboldt. Larry asked if builders locally have been asked about this building project. Cole said he'd be interested in knowing what the parking requirements will be as well. Commissioner Talkington said he agreed someone with building knowledge should be a part of this project. Sid pointed out those could potential bidders though. Cole said per Humboldt code, an engineer needs to sign off on projects. The next step is getting the RFP finalized.

Michael presented the 3rd Quarter review.

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk, joined the meeting.

Terry discussed billings and runs compared to 2016.

Bryan Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, joined the meeting.

Alan Weber, Allen County Counselor, discussed the Federal Tax Bill pending in the house that eliminates bond refinancing and he wrote a letter to Lynn Jenkins suggesting to keep the sections out of this bill that attacks municipal interest.

OFFICE OF THE ALLEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ALLEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Jerry Daniels, District #1
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November 7, 2017

The Honorable Lynn Jenkins
1526 Longworth, House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Proposed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act H.R. 1 introduced by the Honorable Mr. Brady of Texas to the House Ways and Means Committee on November 2, 2017

Dear Representative Jenkins,

My name is Jim Talkington. I am a constituent and am the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas.

I am writing to strongly urge you to strike Section 3601 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act which proposes to eliminate a broad category of tax-exempt bonds issued for the benefit of ALL charitable 501(c)(3) organizations (hospitals, colleges, schools, retirement communities, etc.) effective December 31, 2017. It also severely restricts the ability to use tax-exempt bonds to finance public infrastructure projects such as airports and utilities – even if owned by a State or municipality. Also eliminated are bonds for single family and rental housing, charter schools, manufacturing facilities, student loans and many public-private partnership financing structures.

The elimination of tax-exempt financing will force issuers and borrowers, like our organization, to pay higher borrowing costs to finance critical infrastructure projects which are cornerstones of the communities you represent. These higher borrowing costs likely will be passed on to users of the facilities that we finance with tax-exempt bonds.

These provisions will have the unintended consequence of harming your constituents by increasing costs for these public purpose projects.

In addition, and most important to Allen County at this time, I urge you to delete Section 3602 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act which proposes to eliminate the ability to issue tax-exempt advance refunding bonds after December 31, 2017. For most organizations like ours, this proposal is secondary in importance to striking Section 3601, which will altogether eliminate our ability to issue tax-exempt bonds. However, if our ability to issue tax-exempt bonds is retained, preventing organizations like ours from refinancing our tax-exempt bonds by taking advantage of lower interest rates before our outstanding bonds can be called, will have significant negative financial consequences for our organization.

Currently, Allen County is working on an advance refunding issue for Allen County Regional Hospital which will result in long term savings of nearly \$2,000,000.00. These savings are essential for Allen County to continue to provide quality medical services to our rural area.

I would be happy to discuss this matter with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Jim Talkington, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Allen County, Kansas

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Chairman Talkington sign. Chairman Talkington seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie discussed sick leave payout and longevity pay. Discussion followed on what other counties and state does. The discussion was tabled.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerks Vouchers - \$5,324.54
- b) Payroll Changes
- c) Clerks Journal Entry - #66-69
- d) Abatements: RE, Value 4682, \$643.40, Yr 2017
Oil, Value 16,788, \$2408.26, Yr 2017

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned until November 14, 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

Jill Allen, Allen County Deputy Clerk