

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman Bruce Symes, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner David Lee, and Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Jeremy Hopkins, Allen County Road & Bridge Director, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Tim Stauffer, Iola Register, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Bruce Boetcher, BG Consultants, Jennifer Hill, Attorney, Terry Johnson, citizen, and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Terry Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the August 20, 2024 meeting.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Jeremy Hopkins, Road & Bridge Director, reported they are on schedule with the chip sealing. They will be moving to the cities next.

Jeremy reported the bridges needing overlayed have been completed.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the hangar has been delivered to the contractor. Discussion followed.

Mitch stated one of the noxious weed departments seasonal employees is done. There are only two employees now, one in office and one spraying.

Mitch reported the electric has been put in at the landfill.

Commissioner Daniels reported on the airport conference he attended last week with Mitch Garner & Robert Poydack. Discussion followed.

Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County, presented a pay application from Nowak for the sewer line portion of the Airport Industrial Park Project. Discussion followed. Commissioner Lee moved to approve the pay application to Nowak in the amount of \$314,871.23. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jared presented close out documents for the water line portion of the project and the final pay application from Bennet. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the pay application from Bennett Construction in the amount of \$39,101.20. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Steve Green, citizen, joined the meeting.

Bruce Boetcher, BG Consultants, presented progress reports and maps for the Airport Industrial Park. Bruce explained the maps. We are at about 50% completion in terms of contract time. Discussion followed.

Chairman Symes opened the RNR Hearings for Allen County, Kansas, Allen County Rural Fire District No. 2, Allen County Rural Fire District No. 3, Allen County Rural Fire District No. 4, Allen County Sewer District No. 1, and Allen County Sewer District No. 2 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners listened to comments from Rex Heap, Humboldt, Mike Bright, Petrolia, Curtis Weiland, Petrolia, and Steve Green, rural Moran.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202408, A Resolution of Allen County, Kansas to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate.

Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202409, A Resolution of Allen County Kansas Rural Fire District No 2, to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202410, A Resolution of Allen County Kansas Rural Fire District No 3, to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202411, A Resolution of Allen County Kansas Rural Fire District No 4, to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202412, A Resolution of Allen County Kansas Sewer District No 1, to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202413, A Resolution of Allen County Kansas Sewer District No 2, to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman Symes – Aye, Commissioner Lee – Aye, Commissioner Daniels – Aye.

That concluded the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearings.

Chairman Symes opened the 2025 Budget Hearing. No public comments were given. Commissioner Lee moved to approve the 2025 Budget for Allen County as published. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Bruce Boetcher, BG Consultants, back to discuss the preliminary plat. Discussion followed on what is needed for the county and the city.

Richard Huthsing & Will Rogers, Halcomb Construction, and Jared Brooks, Schwab Eaton, joined the meeting. Jared explained a little bit of the history of the soil liner area of the landfill project. Commissioner Lee asked how the testing worked for finding out if the soil was good or not for the liner. Halcomb Construction is asking for a 90-day extension. Jared believes that they could get the cell done within 45 days to where they could get their sample sent in, and then the remaining 45 days they could do finish work. Jared recommends granting at 45-day extension to get the cell to substantial completion. Halcomb asked in the spring for an additional \$129,072 due to the bentonite issues. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the full change order payment of \$129,072 and a 60-day extension. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Floyd Thompson, Biblesta representative, requested a donation for \$1500.00 for the Biblesta event. Commissioner Lee moved to approve a donation of \$1500.00 towards the Biblesta event. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Robert Johnson, County Counselor, discussed Resolution 202414 A Resolution Authorizing And Providing For The Calling Of A Special Election In Allen County, Kansas, For The Purpose Of Submitting To The Electors Of The County The Question Of Imposing A One-Half Percent (0.50%) County-Wide Retailers' Sales Tax For The Purpose Of Funding Emergency Medical And Ambulance Health Care Services In The County. Discussion

followed. Commissioner Lee moved to approve Resolution 202414, with an amendment of adding a 5-year sunset date. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:10 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jennifer Hill, Attorney, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioner reconvened at 10:20 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go back into executive session for 10 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:21 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jennifer Hill, Attorney, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:31 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Trade Secrets. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:33 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:43 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) July monthly report for District Court
- b) Letter from KWORCC regarding premiums

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$940,024.79
- b) Payroll – Change form for Dinah Glaze
- c) Payroll – Vacation carryover of 22 hours for Heath Womack

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m. until Tuesday, September 3 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

Bruce Symes, Chairperson

David Lee, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner