

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

Mitch Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Mark Griffith, Allen County Road and Bridge Director, Crystal Richey, Allen County employee, Vicki Moss, Iola Register Representative, Robert Johnson, Allen County Counselor, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, Michael Burnett, EMS Director, Shane Lamb, FMS North America Tires, and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Lee led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment. Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, reported they will be hosting the Elsmore community conversation at 7 pm this evening at the United Methodist Church in Elsmore.

Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, reported that the Hydro Seeder was delivered yesterday and they received the training.

Mitch presented updated information regarding pricing for tire disposal from additional counties.

Mitch reported his two seasonal employees in noxious weed will be leaving at the end of August and he has someone else to be available to sell chemicals through September.

Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, asked when the new fuel tanks arrive can he do a year contract instead of bidding out every time we need fuel. Discussion followed on the benefit of a contract.

Mark reported that road and bridge share a truck with noxious weed. He is asking if he can look at the price of purchasing a new one for road and bridge. The current truck is a dually. During the summer the truck is used for noxious weed. And then when spraying is done the equipment attached is swapped out and they put the plow and salter on and is used for snow removal. Discussion followed.

Mark reported the MowerMax will be here Thursday or Friday. The trainer should be here next week to begin training.

Michael Burnett, EMS Director, reported that the transits do not really fit into Allen County's operations. We put about 150,000 miles on an ambulance a year just on transfers alone. One option he has looked into and priced is remounting the bodies onto new chassis. The queue for this would be about 2 years and they would have our ambulance for roughly 3 months. The cost of remounting is estimated to be \$200,000 - \$250,000. A new ambulance is running roughly \$300,000 to \$350,000. Chairman Lee suggested going ahead and putting our name in the queue and continuing to look into options. Discussion followed.

Jason Trego, Allen County Emergency Manager, joined the meeting.

Patty Sanborn, SEK Inc, joined the meeting.

Patty Sanborn, SEK Inc, introduced herself and gave a little bit of background on SEK Inc. They have started a housing coalition. She reported on a conference being held November 14 & 15, 2023 in Independence, KS. She is asking that the county send a representative to this meeting. Discussion followed.

Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, reported on a conference call with Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM). They are currently validating the submissions of damages from the storm on July 14, 2023. There are certain thresholds the counties have to meet as well as the State for federal funding to be available. Discussion followed.

Mitch reported that the truck used by noxious weed is a 2013 and has 78,000 miles.

Commissioners revisited the information provided by other counties on tire disposal. Mitch reported that he and Jared are still working on the permit and new tire site. Commission Symes stated that he would like to tighten up the policy on the charges for tires. Discussion followed. Chairman Lee asked if Mitch could get policies from the counties he has reached out to.

Commissioners asked about a new site for the lithium battery items. Mitch stated he is checking on the permitting to have a dedicated site or container.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) July 2023 monthly report for Noxious Weed
- b) May, June, and July 2023 financial reports for Allen County Fair Board

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$54,579.95
- b) Payroll – Mileage reimbursement for Kevin Turner
- c) Payroll – Cell reimbursement for Brian Rutherford
- d) Payroll – Vacation carryover for DeWayne Zimmerman, 52 hours and Jeremy Hopkins, 56.25 hours.

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m. until Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

David Lee, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner