

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman William "Bill" H. King, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner Bruce Symes, and Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk.

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, Terry Call, Allen County EMS, Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, Carla Nemecek, Southwind Extension District Executive Director, Carly Dreher, 4-H representative, Michelle Meiwes, Commissioner Candidate for District 2, Juanell & Robert Garrett, and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman King led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on August 11, 2020.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported asphalt patching and work on the Elsmore Road and 4400 Street. They are not working on ditching as they need all hands to work on the road. Discussion followed.

Mitch discussed a company doing environmental dirt work, Veteran's Worldwide Sales and Services, LLC., is tearing up the roads with all the hauling they are doing. Discussion followed on whether a fee could be assessed to them. Counselor Johnson will check into that possibility. Mitch stated he understood they will be in the area up to another four years.

Terry Call, Allen County EMS, discussed warranty on the generators at the two new ambulance stations. He shared a couple of different options for the commissioners. Terry stated the generators were only under warranty with certified technicians pulling maintenance. Sheriff Murphy stated the generator at the jail is different because it is programmed to kick on every weekend for testing since they house inmates. He pays \$3,000 per year for maintenance on the jail generator.

Chairman King asked who was responsible for keeping the generators filled up. Terry stated the ambulance crews would be.

Angela Murphy, 911 Director, joined the meeting.

Terry continued to update the commission on a couple of issues at the new stations. The back flow has a new kit, he has finished work on the benches, and the contractor is sealing the floors at Moran Station. He said the field by the Moran Station is wet and they are trying to figure out why. They are still working on that.

Carla Nemecek, Southwind Extension District Executive Director, and Carly Dreher, 4-H representative, discussed the 2020 Kansas Virtual 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes event to be held Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23. They requested permission to use the assembly room for this event due to the needed quick internet service; the room has not been open for public events. There will be 14 young adults from Allen, Bourbon and Neosho County. Commissioners approved the use of the room and expressed "Good Luck" to the 4 H'ers.

Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, discussed the SPARKS/CARE project for the courthouse and other county buildings. Commissioners stated they would like for Ron to prioritize for the funding approved for the public buildings first then the ones used by employees only.

Lisse Regehr, Thrive President & CEO, Jonathan Goering, Thrive Economic Development Manager and Becky Voorhies, Director of Health, joined the meeting. Lisse discussed the SPARKS/CARES plans for the current funding. She also stated SPARKS/CARES Phase 2 will include Kansas Commerce, so businesses will be able to apply for monies directly to the State. Small businesses for profit or non-profit will qualify with a 20/80 match with the businesses to come up with the 20%. Lisse stated this should open applications at noon on August 19, 2020. Businesses will not go through the counties to apply. Discussion followed on whether ag businesses would qualify. Lisse thought maybe the State would open up for ag applications later.

Larry Walden, citizen, joined the meeting.

Becky Voorhies discussed the CDBG-CV grant applications and where the county is on funding. The 2nd Round of the CDBG grant applications closed last Friday, August 14 but she requested commissioners leave it open until the funding is depleted. There had been 12 applications for the 1st Round of which only 10 qualified. There were 8 applied for the 2nd Round of CDBG funding of which applications are still being reviewed. Discussion followed. Commissioners agreed to leave open the 2nd Round of funding.

Juanell Garrett presented new COVID information to the commission. No action was taken.

Commissioners discussed the proposed 2021 Budget changes. Most department heads budgeted 5% on personal and kept steady the rest of their budget. With a 2% change on personal lowered budgets below 2020's expenditures. Discussion followed. Commissioners put the 5% back on the budgets but stated there might not be approved for a full 5% increase of wages in 2021 depending on COLA. Larry Walden stated employees should not be making a big increase in wages and should be expected to pay for part of their own health insurance. Discussion followed on how hard it is to get employees in certain jobs for the county. Michelle Meiwes stated she didn't see any county employee that overly rich; that 3% would barely cover costs of groceries and utilities. Commissioner Symes expressed his appreciate of all employees as did the other commissioners.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege for litigation. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:36 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:46 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Non-elected personal. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:47 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:52 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Payroll – Part time to full time – Reece Solander
- b) Payroll – Process Server payments
- c) Clerk's Vouchers - \$115,361.82

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 9:58 a.m. until Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

William H. King, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Sherrie L Riebel, Allen County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner