

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman David Lee, Commissioner Jerry Daniels (by phone), Commissioner John F. Brockner and Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk.

Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, Jeremy Hopkins, Road & Bridge Director, Kevin Turner, Noxious Weed Director, Rick Aiello, employee, Anthony Maness, Sheriff, Camille Lavon, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Sarah Haney led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on February 10, 2026.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment. There was none.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported yesterday the concrete guys were framing everything up yesterday at the airport hangar.

Jeremy Hopkins, Road & Bridge Director, presented a bid for dust control. He only received one bid. Scotwood Industries for \$1.41/gallon, this is the same as last year. Proseal did not submit a bid. Commissioner Brockner approved Scotwood for \$1.41/gallon and to keep yearly resident charge at 2.37 per foot. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jeremy presented tire bids. JD Automotive was the only bid received for a total of \$75,099.65. Sigg Tire and Ken Pratt were no bids. Jeremy explained all trucks/equipment getting new tires. This will purchase all tires, and the shop will replace them as needed on the trucks/equipment. Commissioner Brockner moved to accept JD Automotives bid of \$75,099.65. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jeremy reported they are beginning the bridge project on Oregon. The road will be closed for a few days.

Jeremy stated he plans to put up "no through truck" signs on West Virginia for when the project in Bourbon County begins.

Jeremy reported they had MSHA training last week and wants to thank Iola Fire Department for coming and doing the first aid training.

Kevin Turner, Noxious Weed Director, requesting commissioners' signatures on his annual report he must submit to the state. Discussion followed on the controlled chemicals being reported on. Brockner moved to sign the noxious annual report. Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Commissioners signed the report.

Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, reported on the Carlyle community conversation. She estimates there were around 15 residents. They stated the roads are so much better, they like they have the oldest Presbyterian church, installation of solar lighting along streets for safer walking areas, the newer 911 street signs, very proud of the storm shelter and that they are on the trail. Areas that could use help: drainage for the ditches, flashing light on the stop sign on Texas (Jeremy has those ordered), more sheriff presence on Texas Rd, tree trimming, still would like a playground with possibility of a pavilion, welcome to Carlyle sign (Mike Church is working on this). They concluded that their priorities were the flashing light on Texas Rd stop sign, drainage, tree trimming, and then the playground.

Marcia stated the next conversation will be in LaHarpe on March 24th.

Chelsie Decker, 911 Communications Director, requesting approval to attend the Navigator Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada on April 19-24, 2026. Chelsie will be teaching one class and Jason will teach 2 classes. Chelsie explained the conference and the costs associated. Approximately \$3,080 of the cost will be paid by the academy for them teaching the courses. The cost to the county would be around \$3,000. She also added the cost for taking an additional staff member which would cost an additional \$2,500.00. Commissioners would like to wait until March 3 meeting to decide.

Camille Lavon, Economic Development Director, reported on The Rural Champion Grant for the amount of \$20,800. She explained what the grant will help with. She is asking the commission to approve and sign a letter of support for the Rural Champion Grant. Commissioner Brocker moved to support the application. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Bob Franklin, citizen, joined the meeting.

Chairman Lee asked if we need to come up with a parking plan for the courthouse employees when the road work on 54 comes through. Discussion followed.

Chairman Lee stated Mitch is going to work on the county's solution to the recycling topic. The commission is not ready to publicly announce the solution. Once it is fine tuned then it will be a 6-month trial. Paul Zirjacks, citizen, voiced his opinion. Mitch presented tonnage reports that show what the City of Lola brings in and all the counties that bring to our landfill. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Trade Secrets. Commissioner Brocker seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:11 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Camille Lavon, Economic Development Director and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:21 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Brocker seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:21 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, Shannon Pattertson, Allen County Clerk and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:26 a.m. No action taken.

Sheriff Anthony Maness reported the leadership training went very well. They will be hosting two more training classes next month. One class will bring in training for veteran suicide awareness. One other class that will be coming is a train the trainer. Discussion followed.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) January dept report: Register of Deeds

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 2/13/2026-\$109,639.43
- b) Payroll – Enrollment: Alexander Manley, Katie Weide
- c) Payroll – Reimbursement: Kay Shults mileage
- d) Payroll – January process service: D Kellerman, M Nelson, B Plumlee, P Cash
- e) Clerk's Journal Entries – Prior Year #51, Current Year #4

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Brocker moved to adjourn, Chariman Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. until Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

David Lee, Chairperson

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

John F. Brocker, Commissioner