

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

Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, Bryan Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Dalton Glasscock, Heartland Area Land Owners, and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Lee led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meetings on June 27, 2023.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment. Dalton Glasscock with Heartland Area Land Owners, introduced himself and the company he represents. They work with landowners on education when solar and wind projects are being talked about for their areas. Discussion followed.

Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, reported that the electric that needs to be buried will cost roughly \$29,000 and it will be done by Heartland Rural Electric. The poles and line need to be buried in order to build new hangars. Discussion followed.

Chairman Lee asked about the litter fence. Mitch stated 4 out of the 10 have been assembled and are in place.

Chairman Lee reported on a report of a walnut tree that was damaged by spraying of the noxious weeds. They have done one round of spraying in the county, and now the Johnson grass has come up. They are now going back out and for that. Discussion followed.

Mitch reported that his budget for the Airport has gone up slightly. Utilities and phone charges have gone up. He added \$230,000 to budget for the construction of 5 new hangars. Discussion followed.

Mitch stated most of the increase in Noxious Weed was in personnel. The increase will fund the extra part time help to start spraying earlier in the year. Discussion followed.

Mitch stated he increased his engineering fees for the solid waste fund. Other supply and equipment costs have increased so he increased his budget for that. Discussion followed.

Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, reported dust control is scheduled to be here tomorrow. He has had to reimburse a few people due to the delay. Mark is still looking at a way to be able to do this in house. Discussion followed.

Chairman Lee asked about the MowerMax. Mark stated it should be here at the end of the month, last he spoke with the company.

Chairman Lee asked about the new mowers. Mark stated they are working very well.

Commissioner Daniels asked about Bettis and their scheduled to be here. Should be in August.

Mark stated his increase is partially due to trying to schedule in all the paved roads to be re-chipped. Discussion followed.

Darolyn "Crickett" Maley, County Treasurer, joined the meeting.

Judge Daniel Creitz & Dina Morrison joined the meeting.

Dennis Wall, citizen, joined the meeting.

Mark explained he has been trying to add a few more employees to the road crew and he is trying to attract and retain the CDL operators.

Judge Creitz & Dina Morrison presented the courts budget request. Overall, there is a decrease of \$11,919 from last year. Discussion followed.

Crickett Maley, Treasurer, increased her budget in computers and office supplies. Publication costs have increased. Discussion followed.

Misty Rice, Register of Deeds, attributed her increase in budget to training. She does plan to attend training and conference. Discussion followed.

Sheriff Bryan Murphy, stated majority of his increase is in personnel and vehicles. He is hoping to only have to purchase one vehicle next year.

Bryan reported the jail is having some issues with their HVAC system. He had Design Mechanical present a plan to replace the HVAC system. Discussion followed.

Bryan is asking again about changing from KPERS to KP&F. Moving to KP&F might help attract interested individuals. Currently sitting at 5 employees short. Discussion followed. What other benefits could we possibly look at to help attract those individuals. Bryan presented starting pays for surrounding counties for their jail staff.

Commissioner Daniels would like to wait until next week to make a decision on the Design Mechanical quote for the HVAC.

Chelsie Angleton, 911 Communications Director, reported her budget for dispatch is showing an overall increase of 2%. She has requested an increase in her part time pay. Her overtime is also increasing as they are short staffed currently. Discussion followed.

Chelsie stated the emergency management budget has a 1.5% overall increase. Discussion followed.

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk, reported the majority of her increase is personnel and postage.

Shannon stated her election budget increase is due to conducting 3 elections next year. There will be a Presidential Preference Primary in March, Primary Election in August, and the General Election in November. Some of the expense from the Presidential Preference Primary will be re-imbursed by the state. With the cost of postage increasing, she adjusted the budget for such for mailing out ballots.

Dennis Wall, citizen, came to voice his concerns about the county's noxious weed spraying. Discussion followed.

Jami Clark, Allen County Appraiser, joined the meeting.

Dennis Wall is also concerned that his road is now a bicycle route. He states the people do not want to the bikes on the road. Discussion followed.

Jami Clark, Appraiser, explained the she has an employee who is looking to retire at the end of 2024. She has added the amount for payouts for that retirement to her 2024 budget.

Jami reported that SAM is increasing their rates 10% for 2024. This is for the GIS mapping.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Attorney Client for courthouse security. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:25 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:35 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Attorney Client for courthouse security. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:36 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:41 a.m. No action taken.

Shannon explained that the Moran Senior Center Board is short 2 members due to the passing of Nelda Cuppy and June Terrill. Nelda's position will be appointed by the City of Moran. Commissioner Symes moved to appoint Carlin Kay Lewis for the Moran Senior Center board, to fill the unexpired term of June Terrill. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes moved to hold a special meeting for the purpose of working the 2024 budget on Thursday, July 20, 2023. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mitch reported that Steve Strickler just text him requesting equipment to help load his trailer for recycling. Mitch and Mark both said their equipment is in use and will not be available. He will let Steve know.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Allen County Zoning Regulations for Commercial Solar Energy Systems
- b) Letter from Raymond James
- c) 104th Annual Meeting invitation from Allen County Farm Bureau
- d) Kansas Public Notice No. KS-Q-22-135
- e) EMC Insurance claim
- f) Kansas Housing Resources Corp Payment Remittance
- g) Thank you letter from Elsmore Community Ruritan Club
- h) Thank you letter from Biblesta Committee
- i) CTD10 May 2023 minutes
- j) June 2023 Solid Waste Financial statement
- k) June 2023 monthly reports for Appraiser's office, Attorney's office, Clerk's office, District Court, Public Work's office, Register of Deeds' office, Treasurer's office
- l) June 2023 Fund Status Report

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers \$591,885.76 & \$70,398.34
- b) Payroll – Enrollment form for Cody Craft
- c) Payroll – Change forms for Jason Garber, Kelsey Lampe, Hailey Willis
- d) Payroll – Meal reimbursement for Jason Trego & Haz-Mat reimbursement for Jeremy Hopkins
- e) Clerk's Journal Entries – #34
- f) Abatements – RE, Value 85,884, \$20,041.04, Year 2022

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Symes moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m. until Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

David E. Lee, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner