

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

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Mark Griffith, Allen County Road & Bridge Director, Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor, Jami Clark, Allen County Appraiser, Vicki Moss, Iola Register representative, Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, Jonathon Goering, Thrive Allen County, Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, LaDonna Krone and Dorcas Romary, Biblesta Parade committee, Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Daniels led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Daniels asked for public comment; there were none.

LaDonna Krone and Dorcas Romary, Biblesta Parade committee, 64th year and requested \$1,500 for this year's parade. Commissioner Lee moved to pay the \$1,500. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk, stated "26 years ago, God open the door for me to serve as Allen County Clerk. With the support of God, my wonderful husband, my family, my church, my staff, and the outpouring support of the wonderful people of Allen County I have been able to serve a community that I love. I am submitting my retirement letter to Governor Laura Kelly to be effective September 30, 2022. I have been very fortunate over the years to serve with some of the top county commissioners of Kansas."

Mitch reported his current Noxious Weed director and his helper is leaving employment. He is posting within and if there is not anyone wanting that position he will publish. Discussion followed.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, Robert Poydack, Allen County Regional Airport Manager, were present. Mitch presented minutes on the Allen County Regional Airport Board meeting. Mitch reported the Double Dog (plane) stop this Sunday going back home to fuel. Discussion followed on meeting times.

Commissioners discussed the curtesy vehicles at the airport and fuel usage. Robert stated there has been several times all the vehicles are at; they have been respective enough to fuel up when they come back.

Mark Griffith, Road and Bridge Director, reported he has to order more pipe to install cross drains. They are the ones he had bid out.

Chairman Daniels discussed some work that needs to be done around Sewer District #1. Discussion followed. The lagoons themselves need some work. There will be a reorganizational meeting on August 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Mark reported they have all their blades running now. He elaborated on where work is being done.

Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, discussed ARPA funding and what has been spent, what is obligated, and what is still to come. Discussion followed.

Lisse stated Thrive is a part of a SEK Regional committee for upcoming State funding. Discussion followed on water, sewer and other infrastructure. Cole discussed smaller areas in comparison to larger metro areas. Lisse stated housing, child care and work

force are the top issues within Southeast Kansas. She reported on findings discussed at a meeting with other SEK counties and interested businesses.

Jonathan Goering, Thrive Allen County, discussed the B.A.S.E. grant and infrastructure at the Allen County Regional Airport.

Jonathan reported on land banks for Allen County at the meeting held with Commissioner Lee, Counselor Johnson and himself; where they might work and where they might not. Jonathan will be visiting with the Cities of Iola and Humboldt on land banks. Cole stated there would be challenges on land banks regardless if Humboldt or Iola or the county. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes stated he felt if each city were to do that, he feels that Allen County would be a better fit. Discussion followed. Chairman Daniels stated it should be a county wide so that it is not duplicating. Cole explained tax involvement when a land bank or not; it would be easier to have one than several. Commissioners suggested to visit with the cities and go from there; land banks for Allen County are not off the table. Lisse stated it is a numbers game when working and including individual community land banks. Discussion continued.

Jason Trego, Allen County Emergency Manager, reported on a fire west of Iola, he assisted the fire department with providing water since it was a super-hot day. With the Allen County fair coming up the National Weather Service in Wichita will keep him up to date, regardless of rain or shine.

Jami Clark, Allen County Appraiser, reported she had more trouble with her vehicle; several items need to be updated to keep it safe for driving; \$4,000 plus for fixes. Sherrie reported there is \$40,000 in the Special Equipment fund which was put in from the Appraiser's office over the years. Discussion followed on new truck or fixing. Commissioners approved her to do what she needs to. Mark stated the county crew might be able to use it for mower persons. Commissioners stated to get bids.

Cole presented information on the 75% tax credits that the City of Humboldt is utilizing. He explained.

Commissioners discussed a meeting request by Anderson County Commissioners about NextEra Energy Transmission lines expansion and project. Discussion followed on legalities of involvement. Commissioner Lee will attend the meeting on August 8, 2022.

Chairman Daniels moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:05 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jonathan Goering, Thrive Allen County, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:20 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:20 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jonathan Goering, Thrive Allen County, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:25 a.m. No action taken.

Sherrie discussed a note for the back of the Revenue Neutral Rate letter.

Commissioners discussed the MOU agreement between Commissioner Symes moved to approve. Commissioner Lee seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes discussed Allen County would not be using the RNR for Allen County; with the same levy but valuation is higher. Chairman Daniels discussed things out of commissioner control but services still must go on. Discussion followed.

Travis Wilson, citizen, joined the meeting.

Commissioners continued to visit with Rodney Burns, auditor, via phone concerning budget cuts.

Commissioners discussed the General Transportation.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Tax notice info
- b) Hospital info from Terry Sparks
- c) Thrive Allen County letter on Kress Building
- d) Allen County Fair Board quarterly reports.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$275,148.53
- b) Journal Vouchers - #43
- c) Payroll – new employees Billy L. Meins and Hailey Willis
- d) Payroll – 6 month pay change for Chad Thompson

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m. until Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

Jerry Daniels, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

David E. Lee, Commissioner