

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

Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, Mitchell Garner, Public Works Director, Rick Aiello, employee, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Jared Wheeler led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on July 2, 2024.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the water line for the hydrant is in.

Mitch stated they are moving right along with the sewer line.

Mitch reported that Jason Trego had told him about a grant opportunity for a generator. The grant would be a part of the hazard mitigation plan and would pay 75% of the price. Mitch said he as a couple bids back but still waiting on one. Discussion followed on type of generator.

Mitch explained the process of a voucher system for the chemical sales. He is getting more information on this and who would participate in this area. Discussion followed.

Chairman Symes asked how the landfill project has been going. Mitch stated there was water standing in the new cell this morning after the rain last night. Discussion followed.

Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, presented two pay applications, one for the water line portion of the airport industrial park project to Midwest Engineering \$114,307.61 and one for the sewer portion of the project to Nowak \$220,549.15. Bennet has expectation to finish this week on the water line. They will test the water and then disinfect. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Chairman Symes' signature on the two pay applications. Commissioner lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jared reported they had promoted and offered technical assistance for a small business grant through Main Street America. There were 7 awardees in Kansas, 4 of those were in Allen County, Studio K, Mildred Store, Marmaton Market, and Iola Register. They received \$10,000, and could possibly get \$30,000 more with another application.

Ron Holman, House & Grounds Director, joined the meeting. Pastor Neely had asked Ron to pass along these requests for the Humboldt Food Pantry. There will be no expense to the county; they will pay for these themselves. They want another mini split put into the building. The back room where the receiving area is, they want to put insulation in there. They would also like to get an outside freezer. Discussion followed. Commissioners approved the requests.

Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, reported everything is at the title company now and waiting on that step before filing for the tax sale. Discussion followed.

Commissioners reviewed draft #3 of the 2025 budget.

Arlyn Briggs, citizen, joined the meeting. Arlyn stated he spoke to Terry Sparks about the Moran medical clinic. He was told it had an open-ended contract. He is asking if the

commissioner agree that this is correct. If it is that way, then it can be unused for a long time. He is still interested. They would like to provide a space for caregivers to take their charges if they need to conduct their own business.

Arlyn also wanted to visit about the incident at the jail. He feels mental health has reached a critical state. He thinks the county needs to take a look at the budget in regards to mental health. Discussion followed.

He discussed his facility in Gas City and how he intends to use it.

Mitch stated the parts are here for one of the fuel trailers are in so Broyles is coming to get it and put them in/on.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) June Fund Status Report
- b) June Monthly Report for Noxious Weed, Treasurer
- c) June Solid Waste Financial report

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers - \$37,624.83
- b) Payroll – Enrollment for Alyssa Sigg
- c) Clerk's Journal Entries –#22

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 2-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m. until Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

Bruce Symes, Chairperson

David Lee, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner