

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

Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Terry Call, Allen County EMS Financial Director, Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Chelsie Angleton, 911 Director, Becky Voorhies, Thrive Allen County, Carl Slaugh, Mike Russell and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Becky Voorhies led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on July 20, 2021.

Carl Slaugh, citizen, commented he is not representing the City of Iola but speaking as a resident. He pointed out the City of Iola and Allen County combine Fire/EMS in 2014; before that the City of Iola ran their own ambulance and the county had the rest of the county. Currently Iola has 28 positions authorized staff that runs the service; they are short two employees. For fire OSHA requires 4 on staff, 2 in the structure fire and 2 out plus supervisor. And structure fires (NFPA 1700 regulations) are supposed to have 15 people on a single family dwelling there for rotation in and out. That is why they call for mutual aid. 2,144 EMS and 310 non-EMS runs so the majority of commitment is for EMS service; Probably only 6 average a year of structure fires and getting fewer and fewer as smoke alarms are installed. Carl gave statistics about when 3 units were out on transfers/runs; in 2018 there were 36 times, 2019 there were 29 times, 2020 there were 22 and so far in 2021 there have been 26 times. Terry Call stated even though there were 3 units out doesn't mean they were all on transfers out of the county. Carl stated in 2019 there were 3 times when 4 units were out at a time, 2021 two times when there were 4 units out at one time. There are times when decisions have to be made which one has priority. That becomes an issue (infrequently) when someone has to make a decision that is why they exercise mutual aid mostly from Chanute. The city has adequate staff to support both the EMS and Fire. Some people feel the county is subsidizing the City of Iola's Fire operation but financial figures would not bear that out for what it would cost to run a fire operation. Commissioner Lee asked about employees. Carl stated there is typically 9 employees on each shift plus supervisor, a red, blue and white shift giving 28 total employees. He explained what the make-up is; 13 are paramedics, 5 advanced EMT's, 8 are EMT's. So, the City of Iola is primarily able to serve the EMS service and secondarily the fire calls. The 310 fire calls are not necessarily fire calls, they are anything that is not EMS. Vehicle responses or anything not EMS. Discussion followed rescue and hazmat usage. Carl nor Terry had the information currently. 6 ambulances (2 are in Humboldt and 2 in Moran), and 5 and when you have 9 some are on vacation or sick leave or training so staffing is greater for that day. Carl stated FLSA covers rules of fire vs EMS.

Bryan joined the meeting

Mike Russel, citizen, discussed ambulance services. On behalf of the senior citizens in Allen County. Discussion followed on his concerns about costs before Medicare kicks in once inside the ambulance. Terry explained AMR does the same service as what Allen County would do; no charge if no transfer.

Lori Stone, Hospital Auxiliary treasurer, requested for the Allen County Facilities Board to be able to purchase the cash register and software for payroll deduct because that is the main people who use the gift shop. Discussion followed on what their services would be; sodas, candies and other concessions employees purchase or guests. When St. Luke's took over the hospital operation, they brought in a new Point Of Sale (POS) system for the Cafeteria. They claimed that for legal reasons they could not provide a secondary system for the Gift Shop, since it was a separate legal entity. In order to piggy

back off of the Cafeteria POS system, St. Luke's provided us with a quote for a compatible POS system to put in the Gift Shop. The Auxiliary is hesitant to purchase the system since this would take their profits for the next year and a half. So, they decided to see if the Facilities Board would consider purchasing this POS system for them. The Facilities Board voted to make the purchase, but felt they also wanted to get the Commissioners OK, before making the purchase. She explained 80% of their services are hospital employees and St. Luke's will not be able to do payroll deduct. Point of Sale cost would be \$10,500.56 is the initial cost of the software and the Auxiliary would pay for the annual software approximately \$500.00 per year. Mrs. Stone explained the history of the gift shop was self-sufficient before COVID. They gift financially back to the hospital; employees are all volunteers in the gift shop. They also market the hospital back to customers. Payroll deduct is a convenience for the employees of the hospital but not the gift shop, great ambassadors to the hospital. Chairman Symes asked if the Gift Shop would still function if this software was not purchased? Mrs. Stone stated she couldn't answer that but explained there would probably be less gift items and not sure the future. Commissioner Lee asked about a time line? Mrs. Stone stated they can't open due to COVID until St. Luke's opens up. Commissioner Daniels stated he would like to know why with St. Luke's doesn't let them in. Mrs. Stone stated due to COVID because St. Luke's hasn't opened up.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported dust abatement has started. They 10 trucks; three yesterday, three today and hopefully four Wednesday so they will be done with dust abatement. He explained the areas and hopefully finishing tomorrow. Some of it will be the KDOT detour; down 4200 Street and by the houses located there.

Mitch stated crews still trimming trees, mowing, ditch work (little wet yet), working putting in entrance pipes and other normal functions. He is planning on chip and seal starting next week.

Commissioner Lee asked if they were crushing gravel, Mitch stated they are doing blasting then moving the crusher back in. Discussion followed on blasting. Just running main crusher, for road rock.

Chelsie Angleton, presented Memorandum Of Agreements between Allen County Emergency Communications and Anderson County Emergency Communications, Anderson County Emergency Communications and Allen County Emergency Communications, Allen County Emergency Communications and Labette County Emergency Communications, Labette County Communications and Allen County Communications, Woodson County Sheriff's Office and Allen County Emergency Communications, City of Chanute 911 and Allen County Emergency Communications and a payroll item for review and approval. Chelsie explained they use surrounding counties only for help when systems are down between counties, back and forth. Chelsie explained when the last time was when they took Anderson County calls. They covered for other counties and other counties cover for Allen County. If they on calls and more comes in it also rolls to the next agency. Commissioners will review and take action next week.

Becky Voorhies, Thrive Allen County, discussed CDBG grants for Storm Shelters. She explained the information:

Allen County  
CDBG- Community Facilities  
Storm Shelter Project

Maximum Award Amount	\$ 750,000
Application Deadline	October 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
Award Date	On or around January 22, 2022

Choose Architect	08/03/2021
Finalize locations	08/23/2021
Public Hearing	10/12/2021
Publish public hearing	09/23/2021

Other important information:

- This is a competitive grant- based on need, leverage and local effort
  - 100 Points available
- 10 bonus points for not having a CDBG grant in the last 5 years.
- Allen County is eligible to apply for grant funding.
- Twenty-Five percent (25%) match is required- receive full 20 points if match if 1:1.
- Beneficiaries must meet the low-to-moderate income guidelines- we might have to survey depending on storm shelter locations.

There 3 locations are in unincorporated cities; Mildred, Carlyle and Petrolia. They would have to have restrooms in the storm shelters. ADA requirements...a decision would have to be made within a few weeks. Savonburg does meet the requirements for low to moderate income to qualify for grants.

Rodney Burns, auditor, presented Draft #3. He reviewed what changes in wages and such would change or add. Chelsie explained she needed back up stations and wanting to take care of her employees. COLA was discussed for 2022. Bryan discussed his needs in jail, cost of a vehicle bumped it up. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels stated he thought 2% COLA and 1% Merit would be sufficient.

Rodney discussed the Tax Lid funds going into this year's budget to help carryover.

Chairman Symes discussed Airport Budget. Discussion followed on hangers and rent costs.

Commissioners discussed budgets and employee wages and benefits.

Sherrie discussed an email from Larry Peterson concerning the St. Luke's Facilities Board to pay for PTO payment of \$9,045.78 for:

- HCA (\$9,045.78): This invoice is essentially for two types of items:
  - PTO payout (\$19,388.28): This is for the termination PTO payout for an employee when they left employment with HCA on 07/31/20. They had a full PTO bank (288 hours) of hours when they left their employment. This is the amount of money that was received on their final paycheck from HCA.
  - Misc. Credits (\$10,342.50): These are a variety of credits that HCA issued on the final invoice. These look reasonable and consistent to the credits that person had received for the period that they had been under a management agreement with HCA.

Commissioners will take under consideration.

Sherrie requested a decision for BlueCross BlueShield. They are asking if Allen County would like their plan to cover COVID-19 claims and testing at \$0.00 cost share for members of your plan. The two options they give are until 1) 12/31/2021 or 2) The end of the pandemic as reported by the federal government. Phillip Drescher, Benefits Consultant Bukaty Companies, stated fully insured plans are giving this to their members. Self-funded plans get the choice. He stated he doesn't think Allen County would need to provide this "extra" benefit. COVID-19 claims can be coverage as any other illness but it is the commissioner's decision. Discussion followed. Commissioners agreed the county doesn't need to provide the "extra" benefit.

Sherrie updated the commission on the SEK Regional Meeting to be hosted on September 23, 2021.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege, negotiations. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, Charles Apt, III, Attorney via phone. The time is now 9:52 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:12 a.m. No action was taken.

Sherrie updated the commission on Fred Beck's request for a road vacation. Anderson County is processing it.

Sherrie reminded the commission they need a replacement for Sandy Hildiger on the Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging board. Their next meeting is August 10, 2021. Commissioner Lee will attend.

Sherrie asked about Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging request for funding. Commissioners are still taking under consideration

Sherrie presented a purchase order for approval for the 5311 General Transportation Grant for 2022. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie mentioned several entities have requested ARPA funding.

Sherrie informed the County Court Committee will be meeting on August 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Those on the committee is Daniel Creitz, Judge, Chairman, Tod Davis, Judge, Dina Morrison, 31<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Chief Court Clerk, David Lee, Commissioner, Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, Andi Garrett, citizen and Toni Manbeck, citizen. Discussion followed. Commissioners suggested either Jerry Hathaway or Robert Johnson also serve on that committee.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege, negotiations. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, Charles Apt, III, Attorney. The time is now 10:33 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:53 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege, negotiations. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, Charles Apt, III, Attorney. The time is now 10:54 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:09 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege, negotiations. Chairman Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, Charles Apt, III, Attorney. The time is now 11:09 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:14 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to non-elected personnel. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 11:20 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:30 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to non-elected personnel. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be

Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 11:35 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:50 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 11:50 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 12:00 p.m. No action was taken.

Rodney discussed a few more changes to items on the proposed 2022. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Lee reported there were 37 active Covid cases this week in Allen County. 23 active cases last week 7% were already vaccinated, 7% had variance, 86% were not vaccinated. Allen County went from 23 to 37 in seven days. As of yesterday 37%, of Allen County 12 and older have been vaccinated, 37% have had at least one dose, has 4 cases of the Delta Variance as of last 3 weeks.

Commissioner Daniels will be attending a State 911 Coordinating Counsel EMS meeting at the State House in late August.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Letter and audit from Reach Healthcare Foundation
- b) Initiation of Work for Proposed FY2022 AIP Project from Federal Aviation Administration.
- c) Letter of Resignation from Rachel Covey as Fire District #3 Secretary.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 7/22/2021-\$181,271.82 & 7/26/2021-\$969.74
- b) Journal Vouchers - #
- c) Payroll – Rehire Matt Komma for the Jail
- d) Payroll – New hire Frederick (Alex) A. Henderson as Equipment Operator for Road and Bridge.
- e) Payroll – Pay increase for Dana Dawn, position change/certification

With no further business to come before the board, Chairman Symes moved to adjourn, Commissioner Lee seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m. until Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

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Bruce Symes, Chairperson

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

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Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

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David Lee, Commissioner