

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

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Mark Griffith, Allen County Road & Bridge Director, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Terry Call, Allen County Zoning, Ron Holman, House & Grounds Director, Vicki Moss, Iola Register representative, Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Lee led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the March 7, 2023 meeting.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment, there was none.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported on a pre-construction meeting, by telephone, for the new lighting at the airport. Bids received will be opened on March 27th at 1:00 p.m., and Mitch will bring them to the commission on March 28th. Discussion followed.

Mitch reported that a part time person for noxious weed will be starting today.

Chairman Lee asked Mitch about the new cell at the landfill. Mitch stated the construction of the new cell should begin March 27th. They have capped the wells already. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Daniels asked about the airport museum project. Chairman Lee read a drafted letter of support needed to apply for the grant. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, presented a letter of support for the bike trail coming through Kansas. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the letter of support, with Shannon Patterson, County Clerk, putting it on Commissioners' letterhead. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mark reported on available funds from the State of Kansas to help with an overlay project. He would like to put those funds towards the overlay on 1200 Rd. A quote from Bettis Asphalt for this project would be \$430,886.50. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the bid from Bettis for \$430,886.50. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mark reported he will bring an updated project list to the commission next week.

Mark stated he will be hiring 2 people for summer help.

Floyd Thompson, City of LaHarpe Days representative, joined the meeting.

Ron Holman, House & Grounds Director, presented a new bid for flooring at the food pantry. This would be for grinding and polishing the existing concrete floor; instead of placing tiles. There is a price increase of \$2000.00 from the original bid. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the additional cost for flooring. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Floyd Thompson, LaHarpe Days representative, requesting \$1000.00 donation for LaHarpe Days. Floyd informed the commissioners what they have scheduled so far for the event. Discussion followed on other events that we contribute and how much has been

donated. Commissioners asked to get the figures from the other events before committing to an amount.

Chairman Lee asked about the status of the state park legislation. Rachel Moore, Thrive Allen County, stated it is out of committee. Discussion followed.

The requested information on donations made to other events was reported to the commission. Commissioner Symes moved to approve a donation of \$1000.00 for LaHarpe Days. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk, requested on behalf of Debbie Bearden, Farmer's Market, to use the Southeast corner of the lola Square for weekly Farmer's Market. The begin date will be May 4th and run through October, from 5:05 p.m. to 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the request from Debbie Bearden for the Allen County Farmer's Market to use the Southeast corner of the lola Square. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Shannon requested to approve the annual retainer for network and pc labor from Advantage Computers. The quote is for \$1200.00 and then \$75.00 an hour. The price has not changed from last year. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the annual retainer for network and pc labor. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commission Symes moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for land acquisition. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:14 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor by conference call. Commissioners reconvened at 9:24 a.m. No action taken.

Commission Symes moved to go back into executive session for 10 minutes for land acquisition. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:25 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor by conference call. Commissioners reconvened at 9:35 a.m. No action taken.

Commission Symes moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes for contract negotiations. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:38 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, and Jerry Hathaway, Allen County Attorney. Commissioners reconvened at 9:53 a.m. No action taken.

Commission Symes moved to go back into executive session for 10 minutes for contract negotiations. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:55 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, and Jerry Hathaway, Allen County Attorney. Commissioners reconvened at 10:05 a.m. No action taken.

Mitch reported that Kevin Turner, Noxious Weed Director, passed his director's training he attended last week.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Monthly financial report from District Court and Appraiser's office

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$110,833.77
- b) Clerk's Journal Entries – # 8-14
- c) Payroll – Meal reimbursement for Kevin Turner
- d) Payroll – Process Servers for Brenda Beth, Travis Buck, Haley Donovan, Daren

- Kellerman, Dathan McMurtrey, Tyler Powelson, Steve Womack
- e) Payroll – Enrollment on Conner Moss
 - f) Abatements - RE Value 30,862, \$5853.54, Year 2022

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m. until Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

David E. Lee, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner