

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.

Kim Riebel, Public Works employee, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, Thaniel Monaco, BG Consultants, Corey Schinstock, City of Iola, Anthony Maness, Sheriff candidate, and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Kim Riebel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the May 14, 2024 meeting and the May 16, 2024 special meeting.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Thaniel Monaco, BG Consultants, presented Change Order No. One (1) for the Airport Industrial Park Improvements. He explained the change order includes the lift station. This change order will change the substantial completion date to December 15<sup>th</sup> and the final completion date to December 27<sup>th</sup>. The addition of the change order will increase the amount \$628,183.20 to become a total of \$2,601,323.10. Discussion followed. Commissioner Lee moved to accept Change Order No. One (1) with Nowak for the Airport Industrial Park Improvements. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mary Heard, Hospital Board, joined the meeting.

Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, reported on conflict-of-interest letters emailed yesterday. This is a requirement from the Department of Commerce for the airport project. Jessica explained the need for the letters. Commissioner Lee moved to approve Chairman Symes signature on the confirmation of no conflict-of-interest letters. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels explained the history of the project. This puts us one step close if not shovel ready for an industrial park on the west side of the airport.

Commissioner Daniels stated they have closed the intersection at Hawaii and 1100<sup>th</sup> St. He spoke with the job foreman and they were saw cutting the asphalt due to needing to put in drainage pipes.

Commissioner Daniels said he had been speaking with Cole Herder, Humboldt City Administrator, and they are not wanting to do anything with the speed changes on Hawaii Rd just yet. Commissioner Daniels said he feels like we need to go ahead and get the change made at Industrial Rd., going from 45 mph to 30 mph. There will be a stop sign there. Discussion followed.

Paul Zirjacks, citizen, asked about the house at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Cherokee. Commissioner Daniels stated they are doing a market analysis before placing a listing price. Discussion followed.

Chairman Symes asked Robert Johnson, County Counselor, how the pandemic backload with the judicial districts is coming along. Bob stated it is getting better. They then discussed the addition of zoom meetings when the pandemic hit. Commissioner Lee asked about the clients within the juvenile detention. Chairman Symes explained some of the numbers. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Lee asked Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, for any updates from Thrive. Lisse stated they are continuing to get Allen Regional Transit ready to be their own non-profit. She said it is going very well. Lisse reported they are waiting for the next round of USDA grants to open up. They had previously gotten one specific to lola; to work with low-income individuals to upgrade and make their houses safer, could renovate or rehabilitate houses that need repair. Lisse explained the projects that they were able to complete with the first grant. They will be applying again for this next round. They are hoping to apply on behalf of Allen County this go round, and widen the area. The resident has to complete an application and provide proof of low income. It will be a first come first serve basis, with each house allowed up to \$10,000. Commissioners asked if the names on the waiting list would still be there? Lisse stated no, they would have to reapply since they plan on opening it up a broader area. Discussion followed.

Terry Sparks, Hospital Board, joined the meeting. Loren Korte, Hospital Board, joined the meeting.

Chairman Symes asked the Hospital Board members if there is anything they would like to update the commission on. Terry stated they are doing as well as can be expected. Reimbursement in health care is very difficult. On the positive side the BJC and Saint Lukes merger created a link to a system that is very strong. Commissioner Lee asked if we had seen anything with this merger. The ground work is still being laid as this is such a large merger. Terry stated they are starting to see a slimming down on administration. Health care like any other business is you get big or you get out. They do have an interim administrator. Commissioner Lee asked with the regional VA clinic, will this benefit the hospital at all? Terry is hoping there will be collaboration between the two entities. Just this year pain management practitioner went from 1 day to 2 days a week as the need was there. Terry said the remodels are paying off. Discussion followed.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:30 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Loren Korte, Hospital Board, Terry Sparks, Hospital Board, Mary Kay Heard, Hospital Board, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:50 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:51 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Loren Korte, Hospital Board, Terry Sparks, Hospital Board, Mary Kay Heard, Hospital Board, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:11 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) April monthly report from District Court

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$85,042.42
- b) Payroll – Enrollment form for Lisa Dobyns
- c) Payroll – Vacation carryover for Gary Henderson, 22 hours
- d) Payroll – Mileage reimbursement for Shannon Patterson, Bruce Symes, Jill Allen
- e) Clerks Journal Entry #16

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m. until Tuesday, May 28 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

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Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner