

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.

Vickie Moss, Iola Register, Terry Call, Allen County EMS Financial Director, Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, Roy Smith, Allen County Undersheriff, Lisse Regehr, Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, Patrick Cash, County employee and Paul Zirjack, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Roy Smith, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on November 9, 2021.

Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, joined the meeting.

Patrick Cash, employee, echoed the Sheriff's request to pay essential county employees for Allen County. He explained his opinion about the essential pay for essential employees during COVID.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, still patching, ditching, mowing and trimming trees. They put camera's up at the land fill and need to have cameras at the shops. He will get bids for cameras.

Mitch discussed maintenance on the crusher, but it is up and running. A mower is down as well.

Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, discussed the additional storm shelter request to the northside of Iola, which is county not city. A storm shelter could easily be placed on the new Allen County Rural Volunteer Fire Department property. Jason's rough estimate would be \$47,978 for a 10'X12' Storm Shelter. He explained there are several houses in the "Berg Addition" and another 10-15 houses within a mile of this area. Discussion followed. The county would need to provide rock/gravel for parking. Commissioners will take under consideration; Jason will get a firm price.

Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, reported Thrive Allen County is going to apply for 5310 to continue to serve the county citizens. She needs comments for Thrive Allen County to apply for this grant. She is applying for the 5310 for Thrive to be able to have funding for out of county medical appointments. Jessica stated Thrive's objective are to increase transportation options in Allen County, provide quality customer experience for transportation services, improve access to out-of-county medical care and governmental appointments. She expressed the opportunity is address the needs of Allen County residents currently lacking reliable transportation options, implement easy - to-use non-emergent transportation system in Allen County that provides out-of-county services to residents, monitor usage of non-emergent transportation system. Jessica presented a solution, she recommended to apply for 5310 status as Thrive Allen County for transportation service. This will allow Thrive Allen County to continue to provide non-emergent transportation services; to purchase one new vehicle to add to the non-emergent transportation fleet. The vehicle would include a mini-van that is wheelchair accessible. They would be able to hire two new positions; one full-time transportation coordinator and one full time driver. The transportation coordinator would organize the various schedules for the drivers, track usage, and provide other oversight for the program. The drivers will drive the vehicles based on the schedule the transportation coordinator establishes. Jessica pointed out riders have already expressed appreciation for the services provided. Over the past year, Thrive Allen County has provided 1,188 trips to Allen County residents for non-emergent transportation services averaging 4,000 mile a month. 62% of the riders were elderly and 84% were disable.

Sherrie asked about match for the 80/20 grant, who would pay the 20%. Jessica stated they have a different grant to pay for their portion of the grant. They just wanted to get commissioners comments; they are not asking for any county monies. Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, stated the transportation will continue whether they get this grant or not. They are just looking for other funding sources.

Jessica explained the financial and technical benefits are the investment in non-emergency medical transportation; it is estimated to have a 11 to 1 return on investment for the community and medical facilities achieved through savings from reductions in short-stay hospitalizations that can be prevented through timely medical transportation trips. Chairman Symes asked what the 11-1% on investments are based on? Lisse stated so many were having to miss or reschedule trips which are costly to both the rider and the facility.

They stated Thrive Allen County would continue to serve as back up for the public transportation system offering in-county rides when needed.

Sherrie requested to use the Assembly Room on May 24, 2022 for a Kansas Budget Class. It would normally have the commission meeting. Commissioners approved to use the Commissioner's Room for their regular meeting on May 24, 2022.

Sherrie requested approval from the Board of Commissioners for Chairman Symes to sign the Kansas Transportation 5311 Grant for July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the application for the 5311 State Grant. Chairman Symes seconded; motion passed 2-1-0. Commissioner Lee voting "No".

Sherrie reported Allen County has until December 6, 2021 to have a policy and procedures in place for the President's mandate on COVID. She stated Phil Drescher, Bukaty Representative would be coming to explain it.

Sherrie presented the commission with a corrected page 83 from the 2020 Allen County Audit.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes for attorney client, Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:10 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:30 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for attorney client, Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:31 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:41 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Monthly report from District Court
- b) Certificates of levies for County of Allen, Sewer Districts 1 & 2, Fire Districts 2
- c) Adds for Allen County: Gas Value 6822, \$955.42, Year 2021
- d) Escapes: Gas Value 109, \$15.24, Year 2021

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 11/10/2021-\$436,347.67 & 11/15/2021-\$57,268.41
- b) Abatements – RE Value 152, \$35.94, Year 2020
PP Value 3570, \$575.04, Year 2020
RE Value 271, \$60.30, Year 2021
PP Value 8034, \$1274.62, Year 2021
- c) Journal Vouchers - #71 & #72

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m. until Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

Bruce Symes, Chairperson

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

David Lee, Commissioner