

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

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Mark Griffith, Allen County Road & Bridge Director, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Rodney Burns, Auditor, Jessica Thompsen, Thrive Allen County, Vicki Moss, Iola Register representative, Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Lee led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment. There was none.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported on the two military planes that stopped at the airport last week.

Mitch reported on the work for the new cell. The clay is not packing enough to pass inspection. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Daniels asked about the hangar doors and electric lines at the airport. Discussion followed.

Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, presented a new project list from Bettis based on the agreement with the State of Kansas. Work is scheduled to start this week if possible. Discussion followed.

Mark reported on a phone call from Commissioner Daniels regarding the two curves west of Humboldt that were closed several years ago. An issue is arising with citizens still using the curves. Discussion followed.

Rodney Burns, Auditor, presented the County's 2022 audit. The airport fund was in the red due to the federal projects. The ambulance, airport, and the emergency telephone funds were over budget. Discussion followed.

Discussion followed on ways to ease the budget process next year.

Rodney presented an audit contract for 2024 (audit of 2023 fiscal year) and a budget contract for 2024 (preparing the 2025 budget). The prices are remaining the same, audit for \$17,200.00 & \$3,000.00 for the federal single audit, and budget for \$1,400.00. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the contracts as presented. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Gary McIntosh, citizen, joined the meeting. Gary presented information regarding Allen County Animal Rescue Facility (ACARF) and Your Community Foundation. Your Community Foundation would like to establish endowment account to help sustain ACARF. Discussion followed. Gary is requesting the county to donate \$30,000 toward ACARF through Your Community Foundation. This \$30,000 is the interest accrued on an account set up with a donation that a previous commission approved to the Your Community Foundation. He would just like approval to transfer this over to the start of the ACARF endowment fund.

Darrin Barnett, Twins Motor Ford, joined the meeting.

Michael Burnett, EMS Director, and Tim Leitnaker, American Response Vehicles, joined the meeting.

Chelsea Lea, citizen, joined the meeting.

Michael Burnett, EMS Director, presented the updated quote for the EMS remount. This updated quote includes getting the chassis from Twin Motors Ford versus going through ARV. Commissioner Daniels moved to accept the quote with the chassis purchase from Twin Motors for a total of \$215,506.03. Commission Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels asked about the security measures being taken in the ambulances. Michael has gotten a preliminary bid. Discussion followed.

Michael presented the commissioners with a 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter update. Discussion followed.

Michael reported that they had to have a monitor repaired back in September. He will send the invoice over.

Chelsea Lea, citizen, requested to put the Christmas light display on the south side of square. Commissioners Symes moved to approve Chelsea to put up Christmas lights. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, reminded Mildred Conversation next Tuesday at 6.

Jessica reported that the City of Elsmore is applying for a SEED Grant. She is requesting a letter of support from the commission. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Letter of Support for City of Elsmore. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes for contract negotiation / possible litigation. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:58 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mark Griffith, Road & Bridge Director, Patrick Huff, Chad Clancy, James New, NexTran Representatives, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:13 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Lee reminding of the meeting tonight in the large courtroom at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is in regards to courtroom bond issue on the November ballot. They will start the evening giving tours.

Mitch reported he was just notified that the new hangar doors are done and will be here next Tuesday, it will take 3-4 hours to install them.

Chairman Lee stated he has been receiving calls about recycling. He will be going with Mark over to Coffey County to see how they operate their recycling. Discussion followed.

Commissioner reviewed the following documents:

- a) Solid Waste Financial statement for September 2023
- b) September 2023 Fund Status Report
- c) September 2023 monthly reports from District Court, Treasurer's office

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$65,659.43
- b) Clerk's Journal Entries – #51
- c) Payroll – Enrollment forms for Ashley "Nicole" Haney, Rhegan Fischer
- d) Payroll – Change forms for Kayla Garber, Dinah Glaze

- e) Payroll – Meal reimbursement for Jason Trego
- f) Payroll – September process service- Brenda Beth, Wayne Carson, Daren Kellerman, Steve Womack, Haley Donovan

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Symes moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m. until Tuesday October 17, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

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David E. Lee, Chairperson

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Bruce Symes, Commissioner

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Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner