

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, Robert Johnson, II, County Counselor, Becky Voorhies, Jonathon Goering, Thrive Allen County, Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator and Paul Zirjacks, citizen, 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 September 7, 2021.

Mitch reported employees working on the weekend and holiday due to the 7 inches of rain received. They are fixing roads. The chip and seal are still being done through this week. Discussion followed. Crews mowing, one truck down. Crusher is crushing, slowly because of the rain.

Chairman Symes asked about a new tractor what was done with the old tractor. Mitch explained the disposal process.

Chairman Symes requested that Mitch review roads 3200 Street between Texas Road and South Dakota Road. A citizen had concerns about road conditions and trees in the right of ways.

Jonathon Goering, Thrive Allen County, reminded the commissioners and citizens of the Fly Kansas Air tour next Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Jonathon reported on labor study, he is reaching out to largest employers to see if there's a need for such information.

Jonathon reminded the commissioners that the airport planning team will hear proposals this Thursday for master plan. A decision has to be made next Tuesday, September 21. The team will present their recommendation to commissioners next Tuesday.

Jonathon mentioned that Thursday BG Consultants will be in town sharing a report from their utility's expansion study. This concerns the airport, so airport planning team will also be invited.

Sherrie explained she forgot to have commissioners pick 2 alternates delegates for Kansas Association of Counties conference. Chairman Symes moved to appoint himself as 1st Alternate and Commissioner Lee as 2nd Alternate. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie reported on the SEK Regional meeting to be held on September 23, hosted by Allen County. She explained the plan for the day. Department heads will be there by 7:30 a.m. to set up. Registration is 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. at the recital hall, east entrance, at the Bowlus. She stated each room where each department will be for their individual meetings, which will be 9:30 – 11:30. There are 158 people expected to attend as of current. Lunch will be prepared by the jail kitchen and served at the North Community Building. Terry will make a two-sided map that shows the addresses of where the meetings and lunch will be. Representative Kent Thompson will be there to introduce Derek Schmidt and David Toland, key-note speakers for the event. Drawings will be done at the conclusion. Sherrie stated department heads will set up tables, chairs, etc. Wednesday morning. Vickie asked for clarification on what the Regional Meeting is. Sherrie explained. Chairman Symes invited the newspapers to be there possibly.

Chairman Symes stated there will be a stake-holders meeting at Marmaton Market September 23, Moran. He also mentioned that Sept 24-25 is the Keaton celebration, which he serves on the committee, so he won't be able to attend Marmaton Market meeting. Commissioner Daniels said he can be there.

Chairman Symes spoke about moving boxes containing old medical records from the basement to the room at the medical building. He talked to athletic director at ACCC, he will make sports team available to do such moving, on a day we designate. They will move the 400 boxes for \$400 dollars, one work day. Hospital will move from the room to the shredder vehicle. Commissioner Lee moved to accept the colleges bid of \$400 to move the boxes. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Terry will over see the day.

Chairman Symes opened the closing hearing for the CDBG-CV Becky reported Allen County was awarded \$132,000, which assisted 20 businesses in Allen County. A notice of the hearing has been published. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve, sign needed documents and close out the CDBG-CV. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Cole expressed his appreciation for all that was involved in the grant process.

Nathan Fawson, Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center Executive Director, discussed their past, present and future. He started with SEKMHC in 1996 as an outpatient therapist. He left at one point but returned to the center in 2001. At that time the center purchased the Colt building and has resided there since. They also included a building across the street, he wants to express how they have grown. They've also grown in staff and training and there is a need for more. He discussed challenges of the stigma of needing mental health help. With the demand for more creates a demand for more space and finances. The total request is for \$285,000. Nathan explained line by line. They are trying to be a certified community behavioral health center. They would be asking Allen County to cover 25% of the total costs due to they have six counties and Allen County actually gets 25% of their services. He discussed medical companies providing software are merging or shutting down. Discussion followed. ADA Compliance, an expense of \$15,000 would be Allen County at 100% because it is the Allen County facility, but likely to be an underestimate. They need to renovate all the restrooms and lower the windows for ADA requirements. Allen County has Humboldt and lola facilities. He continued to the other line items...3 months to get scheduled because of the number of needs and shortage of providers. After Hours Crisis would be hiring another person to help cover because right now deputies and such have to sit with a person until they can get help. They need to hire another substance abuse counselor. Commissioner Lee asked about video services; Nathan stated yes,100% since COVID. He went on to explain. Tele-a-help is in the schools as well. He will be approaching the other counties as well. They will continue to find ways to make this happen even if they don't get the grant. All are new people, already have the positions to meet the needs.

SEKMHC's ARPA funding request is below. Nathan should be available to present the request at any upcoming commission meeting, assuming they are Tuesday mornings.

Allen County	Total	Allotment Percentage	County Request
New Electronic Health Record	\$ 500,000	25%	\$ 25,000
New Financial Software	\$ 250,000	25%	\$ 62,500
ADA compliance	\$ 15,000	100%	\$ 15,000
New Med Provider	\$ 180,000	25%	\$ 45,000
After hours crisis services	\$ 70,000	25%	\$ 17,500

Substance abuse counselor	\$ 80,000	25%	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
			\$285,000

Debbie Bearden, Farm City Days Committee, requested to use the square for Farm City Days, Farm Bureau will return to having the Friday night community dinner. There will not be a tent but will serve food, inflatables instead of carnival, parade, vendors, and car show. This is the 50th year for Farm City Days. Friday and Saturday only this year. There will be a concert at the Bowlus on Sunday. Chairman Symes moved to approve use of the square for Farm City Days on October 15 and 16. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, spoke on behalf of Nobby Davis, Humboldt mayor. Humboldt just finished the sewer project out of necessity so they would not be fined. He explained the process. They are requesting help on the funding, as they are facing some serious water system issues. The project is \$12,987,895 to ensure a safe water supply to Humboldt Customers. The City of Humboldt will be receiving \$268,369 of ARPA funding themselves. They are also applying for KDHE funding for a 45% grant. Cole explained the processes for the water system. Water must be disinfected before it goes back into the river. Discussion followed. He reminded the commission that the city residents get taxed twice for services. Cole hasn't designated a specific dollar amount to request on what they need from Allen County.

Cole discussed Census numbers for Allen County. He mentioned specific numbers per person. If he was to make a specific request, it would be for the UV treatment system, which is \$249,000.00.

Georgia Masterson, Humanity House representative, requested a support letter from the Commissioners for applying for a tax-exempt status. She explained due to the rent of part of their building to the dance studio, the request for exemption was denied when they first applied. The dance studio moved out in December, so she reapplied. A governmental statement saying their services are beneficial is required. Commissioner Lee moved to support the request and sign the letter. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege – trade secrets. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Jonathan Goering, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:55 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:00 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:02 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:12 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney Client Privilege. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:14 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:24 a.m. No action was taken.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected. 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, Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk and Robert Johnson, II,

Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:26 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:41 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call, EMS Financial Director and Chuck Apt, Attorney, via phone. The time is now 10:37 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:47 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call, EMS Financial Director and Chuck Apt, Attorney, via phone. The time is now 10:57 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:07 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman Symes, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call, EMS Financial Director and Chuck Apt via phone. The time is now 11:08 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 11:18 a.m. No action was taken.

Chairman Symes discussed ARPA Funding for Allen County. Discussion followed on who, what, when and where. Chairman Symes discussed administration services. Discussion followed on in-house. If going out for bids, just asked 3 vendors to bid, should it be advertised for more? Discussion followed. Chairman Symes likes the process Thrive had used. Commissioner Daniels discussed a news article of a town in Western Kansas that refused to receive ARPA funds. Discussion followed.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Letter from Bukaty Company in regards to Biden's executive order
- b) Kansas Division of Property Valuation letter of compliance
- c) Personal Service Insurance, Inc endorsement letter for 2022 Mack Dump Truck
- d) Kansas Water Office letter for public meetings October 7th & 8th
- e) Monthly reports from District Court, Public Works, Noxious Weed, Register of Deeds, Appraiser's office, Allen County Solid Waste Financial Assurance Agency report, Allen County Budget summary and Allen County Clerk's office
- f) Fund Status Report
- g) Treasurer's Composition of Cash Balances and Investments
- h) Thirty-First Judicial District Administrative Order 297
- i) Hope Unlimited EFT Remittance
- j) Letter from Nathan Fawson, SEKMHC's ARPA funding request
- k) Letter from ACLU regarding HB2332
- l) Letter from Meritain regarding reinsurance contact and dates

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$157,836.67
- b) Payroll – reimbursement for Scott Reeder for meals and Sherrie L. Riebel for SEK Regional Meeting expenses.
- c) Payroll – New hire Ashley Pendergrass for Jailer
- d) Payroll – vacation carryover for Heath Womack of 12.5 hours to be used by March 1, 2022

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 11:41 a.m. until Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

Bruce Symes, Chairperson

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

David Lee, Commissioner