

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman William "Bill" H. King, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner Bruce Symes, and Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk.

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, **Robert Garrett and Paul Zirjacks**, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman King led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meetings on August 25, 2020.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, discussed current road work on 4400 Street and 2600 Street south of LaHarpe. Chairman King mentioned how road work has to be touched up every so many years to keep the conditions of the roads acceptable. Mitch commented they are waiting on the weather to do patching and chip seal. The road reclaimer is fixed so they will be able to use it now. Commissioner Symes asked about Nebraska Road. Mitch stated they are taking it back to rock for the winter.

Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Michelle Meiwes, Candidate for Commissioner District #2, joined the meeting.

Chairman King asked Mitch about visiting with the windfarm persons. Commissioner Daniels stated in particular the Payment In Lieu of Tax (PILOT). Mitch stated they are planning on having a couple representatives come to a commission meeting. Commissioner Symes inquired if the windfarm company was up and running in sync.

Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, joined the meeting.

Commissioners discussed South Dakota Road still had some road work on it as well as a couple of box coverts that the windfarm company is responsible for fixing. Michelle Meiwes stated they must have been working on the road some as it is in better condition now than earlier.

Paul Zirjacks asked about the tech school at LaHarpe and if the current windfarm company will be employing any of the current students. It was decided that is a question for the company when the representatives come to a commission meeting.

Michael Burnett, Allen County EMS Director and Tim Thyer, City of Iola Fire Chief, joined the meeting to present a quarterly update to the county commission.

#### **SECOND QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **April:**

- Chief Thyer and Director Burnett have sat in on multiple webinars from the CDC, NFPA, Kansas Board of EMS, KB of EMS Region Six, KDHE, KLM and the SEK Multi-County Health Department. Discussions on COVID-19 (CoronaVirus) PPE, Testing, Responding, Reopening and Recovery.
- Chief Thyer and Director Burnett have had several phone conversations and emails regarding response to Nursing Home patients. (standing orders)
- Director Burnett renewed Allen County Ambulance Permit.
- We have had several employees tested after transporting patients that presented signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (protocol 36) At this time no positive results. Staff will continue to use PPE when responding to medical alarms that have signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

**May:**

- Chief Thyer and Director Burnett continue to receive information on reopening the State, Allen County and the City of Iola.
- Chief Thyer participated in a virtual SEK Homeland Security meeting. Minutes were kept.
- Deputy Chief Kimball has been working to schedule and coordinate water rescue classes for the Allen County Water Rescue Team.
- Chief Thyer has received word that IFD/Allen County Rescue has received a grant from Frontier Farm Credit of Kansas for the amount of \$2,000.00 for Grain Bin Rescue tools. A grain rescue tube and auger has been ordered from Danko Fire and Rescue Equipment. When the tools arrive they will be placed on Allen County Rescue One.
- 3 employees (Drybread, Ferguson and Ballou) have resumed Paramedic class/training at Coffeyville Community College.

**June:**

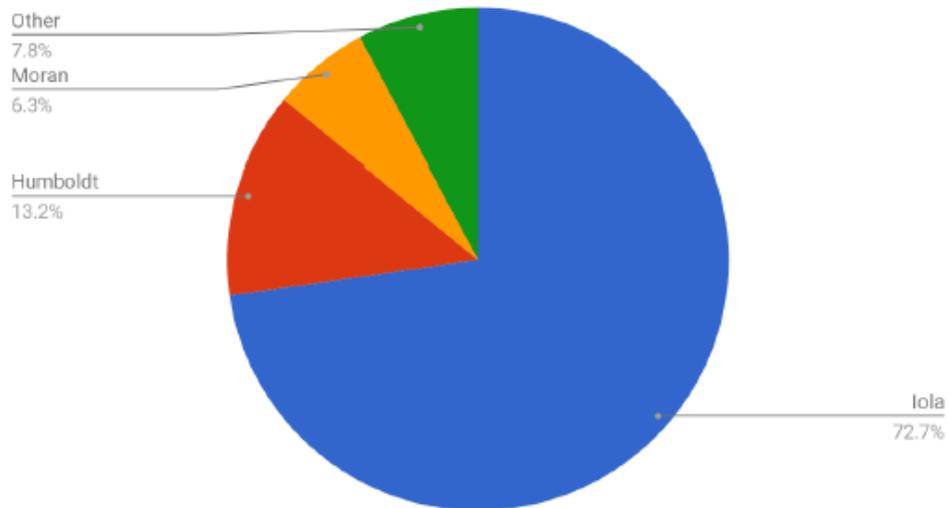
- Chief Thyer, Director Burnett attended the Trauma Review Committee meeting at Allen County Regional Hospital.
- Chief Thyer met with Kwik-Com personnel at the new Humboldt and Moran stations to discuss location and placement of Internet and Phone hardware for service.
- 3 employees (Drybread, Ferguson and Ballou) have resumed Paramedic class/training at Coffeyville Community College. This month they are attending Field Internships at Coffeyville Hospital.
- We have had several employees tested at Ashley Clinic after transporting positive cases of COVID-19 (protocol 36). Staff will continue to use PPE when responding to medical alarms.

**A LOOK FORWARD**

- Recruitment - Continuing to seek Paramedics by visiting with colleges and students that are finishing up with their paramedic programs.
- Continue to seek ways to be more cost effective to help offset the rising cost of supplies.

**EMS DATA**

**RUNS BY CITY (YTD)**

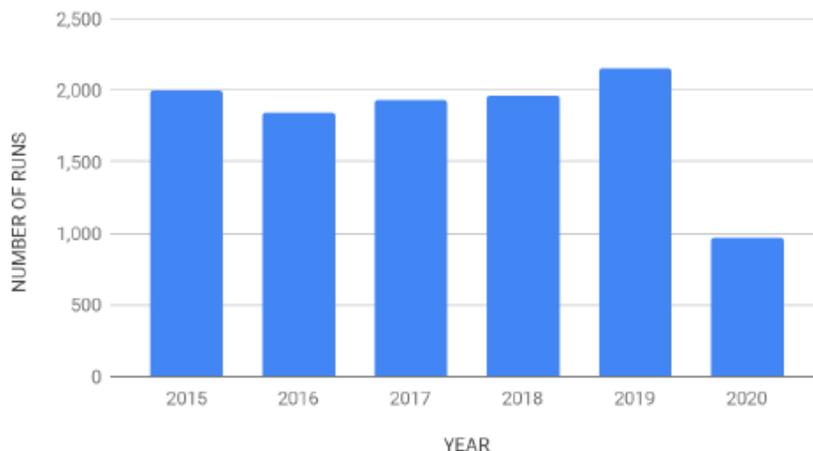


*Graph 1 shows the Runs By Zone-District using year-to-date numbers (Jan-June). This information reflects where calls for service originate. The Other category reflects unclassified runs and runs outside Allen County.*

Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, Becky Voorhies, Thrive Director of Health Programs and Jonathan Goering, Economic Director, joined the meeting.

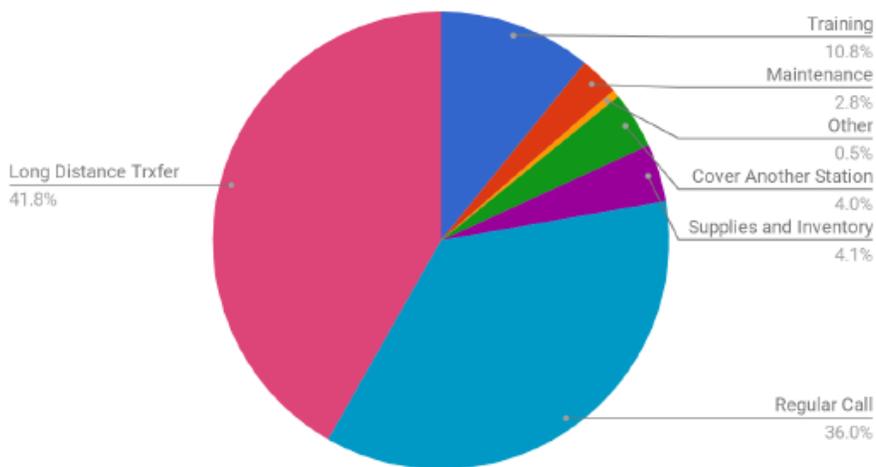
## EMS CALLS YTD – 2015-2020

JANUARY through DECEMBER



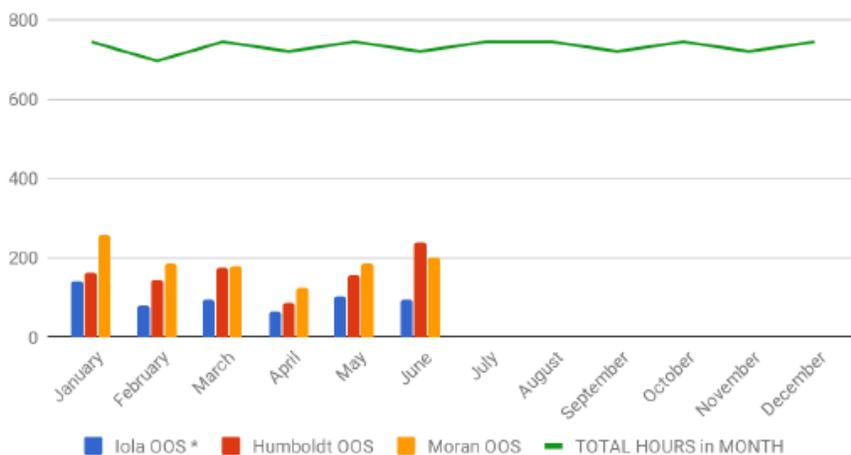
Graph 2 shows the total EMS runs year-to-date (Jan-June) from 2015 through 2020.

## REASON FOR OUT-OF-STATION



Graph 3 shows the YTD (Jan-June) percentage breakdown for the reason staff was Out-Of-Station.

## OUT-OF-STATION HOURS BY LOCATION



Graph 4 shows the Out-Of-Station hours by month by location compared to the total hours in each month. \* Since Iola Station cannot go to "status zero", Iola OOS does not reflect hours spent for Training, Maintenance, or Supplies & Inventory.

Director Burnett and Chief Thyer stated how nice the new ambulance stations are and how much they appreciated the county building them. They are all moved in. Chief Thyer discussed new policies and procedures they have had to do due to COVID-19 and Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE). Commissioners, Cole, Director Burnett and Chief Thyer discussed when the best time to have an open house for the new stations would be. Humboldt Ambulance Station's open house will be September 8<sup>th</sup> at noon and Moran Ambulance Station's will be September 15<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Larry Walden, citizen, joined the meeting.

Commissioner Symes asked about an ambulance strictly for COVID patients. Director Burnett explained the process. One of the City of Iola's old ambulances has a partition between the driver and the patient with attendant in the back so they can use it and sanitize it. Chief Thyer said that is probably a feature they will be looking at for the next new ambulance.

Chairman King discussed Chief Thyer's retirement announcement. He stated Chief Thyer has been very helpful with the design of the new ambulance stations and obtaining a rescue boat. Chief Thyer's last day is November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman King stated Mitch is "jack of all trade" as he has also helped move the health department as well as moved the ambulance departments, and have done a lot of in-kind work to save costs on the building of the stations. Commissioner Daniels stated there were a lot of individuals involved as well as the donators of land for the two stations. Commissioner Symes commented on the cities helping with utilities.

Cole discussed concerns on the 2020 Census. Allen County needs to have more people respond to the census because that is where all the basis of monies from the Federal Government and State of Kansas are determined.

Commissioners reviewed Resolution 202012:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS IMPOSING A ONE-QUARTER PERCENT (0.25%) COUNTY-WIDE SALES TAX AND RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, by resolution of the governing body of Allen County, Kansas (the "County"), a special election in the County was authorized and called for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the County the question of imposing, under K.S.A. 12-187 *et seq.*, as amended, including K.S.A. 12-187(b)(27) (the "Act"), a one-quarter percent (0.25%) County-wide sales tax for health care purposes (the "Sales Tax Proposition"), with collection of such sales tax to commence January 1, 2021, upon termination of a previous County sales tax, and to expire on January 1, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, an election was held in the County on August 4, 2020, at which time there was submitted to the qualified electors of the County the Sales Tax Proposition, and a majority of the qualified electors of the County voting on the Sales Tax Proposition voted in favor thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Act and the results of the aforementioned election, the governing body deems it necessary and advisable to (a) authorize the levy and imposition of a one-quarter percent (0.25%) County-wide sales tax, and (b) apply the revenue received therefrom for healthcare purposes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS:**

**SECTION 1.** The (a) levy and imposition of a one-quarter percent (0.25%) County-wide retailers' sales tax and (b) application of the revenue received therefrom for healthcare purposes, are hereby authorized, with collection of the sales tax to commence on January 1, 2021, upon termination of a previous County sales tax, and to expire on January 1, 2026.

**SECTION 2.** The Clerk, upon adoption of this Resolution, shall provide a certified copy of the same to the State Director of Taxation pursuant to K.S.A. 12-189.

**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption by the governing body.

**OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS  
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2020**

The governing body met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. The Chairperson presided and the following members of the governing body were present:

Chairman King, Commissioner Symes and Commissioner Daniels

The following members of the governing body were absent:

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(Other Proceedings)

Thereupon, and among other business, a Resolution was presented entitled:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS  
IMPOSING A ONE-QUARTER PERCENT (0.25%) COUNTY-WIDE SALES TAX AND  
RELATED MATTERS.**

Thereupon, on motion of Commissioner Symes, seconded by Commissioner Daniels, the Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Chairman King, Commissioner Symes and Commissioner Daniels.

Nay: none.

Thereupon, a majority of the governing body having voted in favor of the Resolution, it was declared duly adopted and the Resolution was then duly numbered Resolution No. 202012; and was directed to be signed by the members of the governing body and attested by the Clerk. The Clerk was further directed to forward a certified copy of the Resolution to the State Director of Taxation.

Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, discussed a press release for the recipients of the CDBG-CV Grant:

Allen County will award grants to 12 local businesses – a total of \$86,406 – as part of the Small Business Grant program which utilizes federal Community Development Block Grant COVID-10 (CDBG-CV) CARES Act funding. The grants will be distributed in the forthcoming weeks to recipients negatively impacted by COVID -19.

The economic development program was created under HUD (United States Department of Housing and Urban Development) guidelines and administered through Thrive Allen County. The overall goal of the program is to help local businesses retain jobs for low-to-moderate income people by covering working capital expenses such as inventor, wages and utilities. To be eligible for the grants, businesses had to employ less than fifty employees, be located in Allen County, and hire or retain employees for low to moderate-income households.

CDBG-CV grants will be awarded to the following businesses:

1. Bijou Inc.
2. King's Sandwich Shop
3. Coal Creek Enterprises
4. Wavelength's
5. Red Beard BBQ
6. Papa's Shop
7. Outsiders Bar and Grill
8. Tina's Place
9. General Repair and Supply
10. Octagon City
11. Around the Corner
12. State Street Liquor

Round 1 grant applications were approved by the Allen County Commissioners on August 18<sup>th</sup> and Round 2 grant applicants were approved on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The grant will be now be

open on a rolling basis, until all funds are expended. For more information on helping your business during COVID-19, please visit [www.allencounty.org](http://www.allencounty.org).

Lisse discussed where SPARKS/CARES funding is at this point. We are waiting on approval from the State of Kansas for the reimbursement requests. It was first thought to have a 3-day turn-around, but now by September 15<sup>th</sup>. She would like Allen County to be ready to get everything done as soon as we hear. Lisse explained what everyone is doing, Angie Murphy getting PPE orders and Ron Holman getting bids for construction of projects.

Lisse discussed Round 2 of SPARKS/CARES funding and the economic impact it will have. There will be not for profit and small businesses opportunities that weren't available through the CDBG-CV funding. She explained about the application process and state the applications will be available on both the county website as well as Thrive's website. Discussion followed on three categories: 1) working capital, 2) web design for commerce, 3) Advertisement. Commissioner Symes discussed the funding where the businesses are getting reimbursed but might not have the funding to do to begin with. Discussion followed. Businesses can contact Thrive.

Becky Voorhies discussed the monies left from the CDBG-CV funding. Businesses can still apply for the monies. She is getting applications and working with the businesses to compile the information they need.

Commissioner Symes stated Thrive should get a lot of credit for all the work they are doing. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the small business applications and plan. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Sherrie discussed work comp premiums for Fire District #4 through Allen County's work comp carrier KWORCC. The annual premiums for 14 volunteer fire fighters will be \$161 for this year. Commissioner approved for Fire District #4 premiums and for Fire District #4 to reimburse Allen County.

Sherrie requested Allen County pay for employee flu shots on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost for employees under 65 will be \$45.00 each and for employees 65 and over the cost will be \$85.00. Commissioner approved.

Robert Garrett, citizen, requested 5 minutes of the commissioner's time. He presented updated information on COVID -19 from the New York Times on testing.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege on litigation. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:18 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:23 a.m. No action was taken.

Sherrie mentioned that Humboldt's HUGRO project has all been paid for. Cole stated the John Deere building is ready for them to move into. He stated they have had training and this is the 30<sup>th</sup> location for them.

Commissioner Daniels asked if there is other interest in the Humboldt Industrial Park area. Cole stated there is but he can't say right now but he really appreciates the county contribution.

Commissioner Symes reported on a meeting at the City of Lola Recreation building on discussing replacing US Highway #54 downtown. They are planning on the area staying open as road work is being done.

Commissioner Symes also reminded individuals the Bowlus is open for the Smithsonian display.

Cole mentioned Marmaton Market is having a grand reopening event.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Payroll – Douglas Krogh to carry over 1 hour of vacation to be used by March 3, 2021, Jami L. Clark to carry over 36 hours of vacation to be used by Feb. 6, 2021.
- b) Payroll – Mileage reimbursement for Maya Piper
- c) Journal Entry - #34 & #35
- d) Support Letter to Southeast Kansas Area Transit Dist. #10.
- e) Clerk's Vouchers – 8/31/2020-\$68,326.15

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m. until Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

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William H. King, Chairperson

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Bruce Symes, Commissioner

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Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner