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

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, and Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, were present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Daniels led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on January 14, 2020.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Daniels, Angie Murphy, 911 Coordinator, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 8:31 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 8:51 a.m. No action was taken.

Amy and Steve Welch, Our Store, Mike Hofer, Hofer & Hofer, and Cole joined the meeting to discuss the grocery store in Humboldt. Cole explained the history of the Moon’s Grocery Store. He stated he felt that Humboldt was too small for a chain grocery store; it needs a hometown family which is what the Welch’s are. Cole discussed grants available.

Scott explained Amy grew up in Humboldt and is currently ANW Coop teacher. He stated they need to have both a grocery shop as well as meat market. Scott explained how they would be running it.

Amy stated it is a Heart Project, they have all their finances lined out but would like help while they are applying for the Reach Grant.

Scott continued to explain the setup of the store. They expect to hire 8-10 employees; both part and full. They would like to be up and going the first of April. Commissioner Symes stated he would like to see their financials and would like to see it be a great benefit for not only Humboldt but also Allen County. Cole recommended to have an executive session for Trade Secrets if the commission want to see numbers. He proceeded in explaining all the benefits.

Commissioner Daniels explained that Moran Grocery’s was a matching grant and G&W was because Allen County has property attached to the land.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss Trade Secrets. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Amy and Scott Welch, Our Market, Mike Hofer, Hofer & Hofer, Cole Herder, Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:11 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:26 a.m. No action was taken.

Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, reported the electric is already approved and the flag poles (costs $3,900) but the installation of the flag pole itself costs isn’t. Bids were received for installation of flag poles from Flagpole ETC for $4,500; J&J Contractors for $4,700; Koehn Construction for $2,835.51 and Whitworth Construction for $3,400 for installation of the two flag poles. Commissioner Symes moved to enter the agreement with Koehn Construction to have the flag pole installed. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.
Terry asked about the Signs, Commissioner Daniels on the street side but blue and white. Chairman King stated it should be on the building as well. Terry asked about like Dispatch. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels stated Terry could go ahead and look into the signs; retro-reflective and with lettering?? Terry stated Koehn is looking at the end of February, 1st of March for completion on Humboldt Station. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Symes asked about furniture and such at the time of completion or afterwards? Commissioner Daniels stated some of the furnishing will be able to transfer and have some new but not high class. The city should have an idea. Maybe about $4,000 worth of furniture. Commissioner Symes asked if bided out or find one who could furnish all of it at a cost. He thought Terry should work with the Chief Thyer and Michael Burnett.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:40 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:50 a.m. No action was taken.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported the crusher is up and running. He has had good support getting it up and going; it’s not at 100% but working towards it.

Jami Clark, Allen County Appraiser, introduced Dana Dawn to the commissioners.

Mitch stated they are prepared if the weather comes in like it is supposed to.

Commissioner Daniels stated Elsmore City asked about Mitch helping the cities out when they can while he was at the Coffee with Commissioners on Thursday. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Daniels stated the Moran site for the ambulance station is looking better. Mitch stated they are working on marking the driveway. Commissioners stated Terry is looking at signs for the two stations.

Sherrie presented Humboldt Speedway application for Cereal Malt Beverage for 2020. She has checked with the Sheriff and he was good. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the application for Humboldt Speedway. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Terry Call, EMS Financial Director/Zoning Administrator, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:08 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:18 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:19 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:24 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss Confidential Data. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:24 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:29 a.m. No action was taken.
Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 10:38 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 10:48 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioner Symes asked about Medicare expansion while at the legislation meeting last evening. He stated Representative Thompson said it is not a dead deal so contact legislators.

Larry Walden, joined the meeting.

Commissioner Daniels reported Coffee with Commissioners in February will be in Moran, either the 13th or the 27th.

Chairman King reported the SEK Health Department Board meeting is tonight.

Commissioners reviewed the annual reports for Elsmore and Salem Townships.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

a) Payroll – mileage reimbursement for training for Jason Trego
b) Payroll – reimbursed meal for Angela Murphy
c) Payroll – new hire Dana Dawn
d) Inventory – Attorney’s Office
e) Clerk’s Vouchers – $109,726.00
f) Clerk’s Journal Entry - #1 & #2
g) Abatements:  RE Value 1870, $279.22, Yr 2019  
                  PP Value 1174, $137.12, Yr 2018

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner King moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. until Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission Room of the courthouse.

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William H. King, Chairperson                                Bruce Symes, Commissioner

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Sherrie L. Riebel, County Clerk                             Jerry Daniels, Commissioner