

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

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Jeremy Hopkins, Allen County Interim Road & Bridge Director, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Brett Heim, Attorney, Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Chelsie Decker, 911 Communications Director, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Terry Johnson, citizen, and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Jeremy Hopkins led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the March 26, 2024 meeting.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the tin for the hangars has been delivered and they will be replacing it shortly.

Mitch stated the money has been sent to Heartland to get the power lines moved. Discussion followed.

Mitch reminded the commissioners of the Solid Waste Management 5-year plan hearing at 9 a.m.

Mitch reported the contractors will possibly be working 6-day work weeks on the new landfill cell. Discussion followed.

Jeremy Hopkins, Interim Road & Bridge Director, reported that all the structures are done for the NextEra Blackberry Transmission Line construction route. The dust control has been ordered as well.

Jeremy reported the road and bridge department has moved to 10-hour days.

Jeremy presented 2 bids on the flatbed needed for the 2011 truck. Jost Fabrication LLC, Hillsboro, KS for \$5025.00 and KansasTruck Equipment Company, Wichita, KS for \$6924.90. Discussion followed. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the bid from Jost Fabrication LLC for \$5025.00. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jeremy presented a quote from Foley Equipment for some repairs needed on the 980K loader at the quarry. To make the repairs will cost \$8839.84. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the repairs by Foley for \$8839.84. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jeremy reported that the quarry is running a little low on chip rocks. Jeremy has reached out Nelson Quarries, they have none, and Whitaker stated they possibly have some in Welda. Discussion followed.

Jeremy presented 2 bids received for an overlay project at McAtee and another area on Dodge Dr. Bettis Asphalt and APAC. Commissioners asked Jeremy if they could discuss this a little later in the meeting.

Donita Garner Hope Unlimited, Aimee Daniels, CASA, and representatives from Hope Unlimited, CASA, Kansas Childrens Service League, joined the meeting. Donita explained that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the role Hope Unlimited has with helping

child abuse victims. Aimee Daniels then explained what CASA's role is for children taken out of their biological homes due to abuse or neglect, and how these agencies all work together with the Kansas Childrens Service League. Discussion followed. Marie Parker, CASA, read Allen County Proclamation Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2024.

## Allen County Proclamation

### *CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH – APRIL 2024*

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Allen County; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and

WHEREAS, childhood trauma can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that build strong children and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community in partnership to build awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

Therefore, we, County Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Commissioner Daniels moved to adopt Allen County Proclamation Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2024. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, joined the meeting.

Commissioner adjourned to step outside to plant pinwheels in the courthouse flowerbeds at 8:55 a.m.

Commissioner came back into session at 9 a.m.

Chairman Symes opened the Solid Waste Management 5-Year Plan hearing a 9:00 a.m. Mitch presented the updated plan that will be submitted. Discussion followed on the few changes within the plan. Chairman Symes moved to approve Resolution 202404 A Resolution Certifying the Review and Revision of the Allen County Solid Waste Management Plan. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Cesilie Chandler, Hope Unlimited, reported that April is also Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Discussion followed on statistics on sexual assaults and what Hope Unlimited does to help victims. Molly Shaughnessy read the Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation of 2024.

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to bring awareness to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and is a public health concern for individuals, families, community members and communities as a whole.

WHEREAS, Child sexual abuse/exploitation, rape and sexual harassment impact all communities as seen by the national statistics: One in three girls and one in six boys will be sexually violated by the age of 18. One in five children is solicited sexually while on the internet. Seventy percent of all sexual assaults happen to children 17 years and younger.

WHEREAS, Staff, Board Members and Volunteers of our local sexual assault crisis program, Hope Unlimited, encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence, however small; and to help survivors connect with community allies.

WHEREAS, We must work together to educate and engage communities in sexual violence awareness and prevention and to believe, listen, learn and support its victims and family members.

THEREFORE, We, the Commissioners of Allen County, do hereby proclaim the month of April in the year 2024 as:

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Commissioners of Allen County have subscribed their names hereto and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Allen County, in the state of Kansas on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2024.

Commissioner Lee moved to adopt Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation of 2024. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jeremy Hopkins returned to discuss the bids for the overlay projects. Bettis Asphalt's bid is \$193,300.00 and APAC-Kansas, Inc's bid is \$347,774.34. Bettis could possibly do this when they move their plant to Yates Center this summer. Discussion followed. Commissioner Lee moved to approve the bid from Bettis Asphalt for \$193,300.00. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Carol Olson, ACMAT representative, joined the meeting.

Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, reported on the Humboldt Community Conversation held last Tuesday, March 26. Humboldt residents appreciated the great parks they have, the youth have more opportunities to participate in activities, and the music festivals that they host. Improvements they see could be business hours, local spending, Neosho River Park declining, housing, and parking on the square. Discussion followed.

Carol Olson, ACMAT, reported that they have sent the Family Safety Night for June 6, 2024 to be held in conjunction with Farmer's Market. She is requesting use of the courtyard from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Discussion followed. Commissioners Lee moved to approve the request and a donation of \$250.00. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Robert Johnson, County Counselor, presented a proposed water line easement for a water line project in Moran. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the signatures on the easement. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels stated they are having a meeting at 1:00 with B&G Consultants and the City of Iola for the sewer line project.

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk, requested on behalf of Brenda Sharpe, REACH Healthcare Foundation, to re-appoint Patti Miklos-Boyd to a second 3-year term effective June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2027 to the REACH Healthcare Foundation's Board Nominating Committee. Commissioner Lee moved to re-appoint Patti Miklos-Boyd to the committee. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Non-Elected Personnel. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:45 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:55 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes for Trade Secrets. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:56 a.m. Those

present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:11 a.m. No action taken.

Chairman Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:13 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:18 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Lee stated he has been talking with citizens about the idea of having a sales tax for the EMS services. Discussion followed.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Public Proclamations & Pinwheel Gardens information
- b) 31<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Recover Court Graduation announcement
- c) March Monthly Reports from Appraiser's office, Register of Deeds office, County Clerks office, Attorney's office

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 3/28/2024-\$388,005.53 & 4/1/2024-\$411,390.70
- b) Payroll – Change forms for Jeremy Hopkins, Amy Wilson, Darcy Burton
- c) Payroll – Enrollment forms for Dinah Glaze, Kay Shults
- d) Payroll – Vacation carryover requests for Daren Kellerman 17 hours, Haley Donovan 27.25 hours, Deborah Regehr 27 hours.
- e) Clerks Journal Entries #11, 12, 13

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Lee moved to adjourn, Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. until Tuesday, April 9 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

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Bruce Symes, Chairperson

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David Lee, Commissioner

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Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk

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Jerry Daniels, Commissioner