

The Allen County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. with Chairman David Lee, Commissioner Jerry Daniels, Commissioner John F. Brocker and Jill Allen, Deputy Allen County Clerk.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Ron Holman, House & Grounds, Chelsie Decker, 911 Director, Anthony Maness, Sheriff, Nate Jackson, Undersheriff, Danielle Louk, Allen County Appraiser, Camille Lavon, Thrive, Marcia Davis, Thrive, Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Steve Strickler, Terry Johnson Dan Davis and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Camille led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the April 21, 2026, meeting.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment. Steve Strickler reported on Iola City Commissioner meeting. They are putting a couple cargo containers for cardboard by the 911 center. He asked why duplicate what we already have. Chairman Lee said Mitch will be working with Iola City on this. We have not seen the final plan on this yet. Dan Davis commented.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the loader has been ordered. It must be built for the landfill, discussion followed.

Marcia Davis, Thrive, reported on the LaHarpe Community Conversation of April 24. Discussion followed. The next community conversation is tonight at Humboldt Library, 6:00 pm.

Mike Jewell, joined the meeting.

Sheriff Anthony Maness spoke about turnover of vehicles; he has a 2018 extended bed that would serve house & grounds well. Sheriff discussed Enterprise Fleet. Ron currently has a 1998 truck, Sheriff will sell Ron the 2018 for \$20,000, if agreeable with the commission. Commissioners agreed for Sheriff and Ron to work out the details. Chairman Lee asked if Sheriff had talked to other counties regarding Enterprise, discussion followed.

Sheriff entered conversation regarding his budget. His main increases are salary and benefits. He requested 5% for salary increases. If COLA is used, then allow department heads to decide on the remainder based on performance. Commissioner Daniels stated in the past merits were misappropriated. Sheriff asked for the opportunity to demonstrate that will not be the case. A new vehicle is \$60k for just the vehicle. We can go through Partners Program for law enforcement vehicles. Discussion followed on proposed budget. Sheriff talked about a training center in Allen County possibly in the future. This would be beneficial for our region as well.

Crickett Mailey, County Treasurer, also joined the meeting.

Danielle Louk, County Appraiser, shared preliminary draft for NRP. A public hearing would be needed, and it will have to be published. Chairman Lee said they will review the draft, then address it next week, nicely done Danielle.

Danielle then presented her proposed budget. Commissioner reviewed the numbers and thanked Danielle.

Mike Jewell shared a flier for "Cars & Coffee" SE Kansas, 2026 schedule. He asked permission to use the square for these monthly car shows. Commissioners told Mike to meet with Ron regarding the usage of electric on square. Commissioners approved.

Camille thanked Ron and Rick for their help with sign purchasing.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Non-elected Personnel. Commissioner Brocker seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:20 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Danielle Louk and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:25 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Brocker moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for attorney-client. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:27 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mitch Garner and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:32 a.m. No action taken.

The League of Kansas Municipalities is a resource; the commissioners will table this until next week regarding membership.

Mental Health Representative of the 31st Judicial District Community and Juvenile Services Advisory Board, Debbie Higginbotham term expires 4/30/2026. The two-year term begins on April 30, 2026, and expires on April 30, 2028. Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint Debbie, Commissioner Brocker seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Lee reported SEKMHC will give people little kits to discard old meds. Contact SEKMHC for said kits.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) The League of Kansas Municipalities membership

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers - \$248,651.68
- b) Payroll – Vacation Carryover: Robert Poydack 70.5 hrs

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Brocker seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. until Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

David Lee, Chairperson

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner

Jill Allen, Deputy Allen County Clerk

John F. Brocker, Commissioner