

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, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, Robert Johnson, County Counselor, Sarah Haney, Iola Register, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Patrick Zirjacks, Thrive Allen County, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, and Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Bruce Symes led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the April 23, 2024 meeting.

Chairman Symes asked for public comment. There was none.

Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, reported on a proclamation and resolution regarding disaster status from April 26, 2024 for 7 days. He explained the need for such a declaration. Discussion followed.

RESOLUTION # 202405 AND PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Allen County, Kansas:

WHEREAS on the 26th day of April, 2024, the Board of Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas finds that certain conditions have caused, or eminently threaten to cause wide-spread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property in disaster proportion in Allen County, Kansas;

WHEREAS, such conditions have created obstructions which endanger health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Allen County, Kansas.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas:

That the Board of County Commissioners of Allen County, Kansas, under and by virtue of the authority vested in it by K.S.A. 1976 Supp. 48-932, does hereby PROCLAIM that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that the area within the border of Allen County, Kansas covered by this proclamation/ resolution is the entire area of Allen County, Kansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Board has all rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act of 1975.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that this resolution shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the governing body.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF ALLEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THIS 30th DAY OF APRIL, 2024.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS**

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve Resolution 202405. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Jason reported on the storms that were had over the weekend.

Commissioner Lee asked about the storm siren in Mildred. Chairman Symes asked about storm spotters. Discussion followed.

Terry Johnson, citizen, joined the meeting.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported a Savonburg citizen said they used the storm shelters.

Mitch reported the runway lights are all put in, working on wind sock, and working on electrical to get it hooked up. The runway is open all day but no night time landing can be done.

Mitch stated the electric at airport will be started shortly. Evergy will be getting power to the new cell shortly.

Mitch stated Caleb Coltrane, Garver, has bids done for the hangars. He will present those later in the meeting. They had 2 bidders.

Mitch reported they didn't spray much yesterday due to the wetness.

Mitch reported parts are being changed on the fuel system at the airport to fix the problem caused by the power surges.

Commissioner Lee asked about hangars leaking with all the rain. Mitch stated one hangar does have small leak and they will be fixing the issue shortly.

Marcia Davis, Thrive Allen County, reported on the Moran community conversation. Some areas the residents' thought were good were the school, city water and electrical project, and the grocery store. Improvements they think are needed would be health care center, doctor, bank, hair salon, restaurants, track, housing, library funds, skate park, updated equipment and basketball court at park, and a walking trail. Things they feel are needed to keep Moran thriving would be more events, school growth, building up Ruritan club. Discussion followed.

Jeremy Hopkins, Interim Road & Bridge Director, reported the crews have been out and they are about a quarter way through their districts trying to get the roads passable. Lots of damage to roads. Discussion followed.

Jeremy stated he has been in contact with Schwab Eaton about the Bridge on Nebraska 200-400 road that has been out of service. They can put 4 48 pipes to open bridge back up. Then applying to state to replace the bridge.

Symes asked about the chip sealed roads that were damaged. Discussion followed. He contacted Nelsons about availability of rock if needed. Jeremy out till 12:30 Saturday. Out at 6 Sunday, his crew came out at 7 Sunday till about 6:30.

Debbie Bearden & Marilyn Logan, Grow Council, is asking if the commissioners gave any thought on a cash match towards a grant for a Feasibility study. The original grant did not pan out, but she is still looking for grants to do the study in the future. Discussion followed on types. Would one of the commissioners be willing to serve on the strategic planning. Chairman Symes stated his concerns with studies but he does feel this study is for a good cause. Commissioner Daniels stated he would like to see a county wide support for these grant opportunities. Discussion followed.

Mitch presented the bids for airport hangars. 2 contractors with 2 bids each. For the wood frame and metal siding hangar, Precision Enterprises for \$115,480.00 and Yutzky Custom Structures for \$117,128.00. For the pre-engineered metal building frame and metal siding, Precision Enterprises for \$128,730.00 and Koehn Construction Services for \$273,260.25. These amounts are just for the hangar and concrete for hangar. The commissioners would like a week to consider and asked Mitch to speak to companies to find out time frame. This does not include apron work needed for the new hangar. Discussion followed.

Terry Call, Zoning Administrator, reported on the zoning hearing held on April 25, 2024 for a conditional use permit from Patrick Erwin. He is wanting to erect a 445' communications tower. Verizon is already committed, and they have talked to T-Mobile,

US Cellular. Zoning board recommends to approve the conditional use permit. Commissioner Lee moved to approve the conditional use permit on the recommendation of the zoning board. Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Terry stated he received a phone call from Samsung renewables that they are going to start reaching out to landowners to see if anyone is interested in a 1,000 acres solar farm.

Chairman Symes reported that the juvenile detention center has their working budget, and Allen County's share decreased slightly.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:25 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jeremy Hopkins, Interim Road & Bridge Director, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:30 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:32 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 9:42 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:45 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jared Wheeler, Thrive Allen County Economic Development Director, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:00 a.m. No action taken.
Job Springer, joined the meeting.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:00 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jason Trego, Emergency Manager, and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:05 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for Attorney Client. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:07 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Terry Call, Zoning Administrator (by phone), and Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:17 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Daniels moved to have a special meeting Thursday, May 2nd at 4 pm for the purpose of Contract Negotiations. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Mitch stated Caleb recommends the pre-engineered metal building with metal siding from Precision. Commissioners will take into consideration and revisit next Tuesday. Discussion followed.

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Zoning minutes

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – 4/25/24-\$331,421.49 & 4/29/24-\$13,812.12
- b) Payroll – Enrollment forms for Mandy Smoot, Ivan Squire, Conor Andres
- c) Payroll – Change forms for Dinah Glaze, Ethan Collins
- d) Payroll – Mileage reimbursement for Bruce Symes
- e) Clerks Journal Entries - #14

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 10:26 a.m. until Tuesday, May 7 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

Bruce Symes, Chairperson

David Lee, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner