

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

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, Rickie Aiello, Allen County employee, Jason Trego, Allen County Emergency Manager, Terry Call, Allen County Zoning, Vicki Moss, Iola Register representative, Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor, Paul Zirjacks, citizens, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman Daniels led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the January 3, 2023 meeting.

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk, swore in Jerry Daniels as Commissioner for District #1.

Chairman Daniels moved to appoint Commissioner Lee as Chairman and Commissioner Symes as Vice-Chair for 2023. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Chairman Lee asked for public comment, there was none.

Commissioner Symes moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for trade secrets. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 8:35 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 8:45 a.m. No action taken.

Sheriff Bryan Murphy joined the meeting.

Commissioner Daniels presented Chairman Lee with a check from Monarch Cement for \$47,000.00. This was a contribution to help with road repairs due to the detours.

Sheriff Bryan Murphy reported that the county has made the final payment on the jail bond. He would like to know what can be done with the monies brought in when housing inmates from other counties. This money has been used to make the bond payments. Discussion followed. Commissioners would like another week to research what kind of fund it can be receipted into.

Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, reported the runway is done, all but for a few clean up items, and is now open. The striping company has been notified that it is ready. Discussion followed.

Mitch reported that 90% of the radios for public works are in and being programmed for Allen County.

Mitch reported on the pre-construction meeting held at the landfill for the new cell. 15 contractors showed up to look around. Bids will be in by January 25, 2023. The engineer will help compile all of the information from the bids and get it ready for presentation to the commissioners. Discussion followed.

Robert Johnson, County Counselor, updated on the tax sale process. Discussion followed.

Robert updated the commissioners on the agreement with Crossland Construction.

Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk, presented to commissioners with an invoice for direct cremation of an indigent resident of Allen County. Commissioner Daniels moved to pay for the direct cremation. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Shannon discussed with the commission to appoint or reappoint:

Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint Jeff Johnson (January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2025), Loren Korte (January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2025), and Jim Gilpin (January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2025) to the Board of Trustees of Allen County Hospital Facilities. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint Mike Waldman and John F. Brocker as alternate to the Regional Planning Revolving Loan Committee. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Chairman Lee to serve on the Bowlus Committee. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Bruce Symes to serve on the Allen County Housing Task Force. Chairman Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Bruce Symes to serve on the Iola Industries Board. Chairman Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Bruce Symes to serve on the Economic Development Board. Chairman Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint David Lee, Nicholas Lohman, and Rebecca "Becky" Walden to the Multi County Health Board. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint William "Bill" Shirley to the Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging Board. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Symes moved to reappoint John F. Brocker to the Executive Committee of the Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission. Commissioner Daniels seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to reappoint Paul Zirjacks as President of the Public Building Commission. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to name the Humboldt Union as the official newspaper for Allen County for 2023. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to appoint Georgia Masterson to the Tri-Valley Board per request from Bill Fiscus of Tri-Valley. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

NextEra, Andrew Schulte representative, here on behalf of NextEra Energy Transmission Southwest, NEET Southwest. NEET Southwest is the owner/developer of a 345KV transmission line that will run from the Wolf Creek substation, southeast to the Blackberry substation in Missouri. This project was selected by Southwest Power Pool, and has received a certificate of convenience and necessity from the Kansas Corporation Commission. They are now needing to file a line sighting with the KCC There will be an open house for landowners in Fort Scott this evening.

Jackie Blakely, lead the late-stage development team. Update on where the project is at and at what stage it is sitting in. Chairman Lee reported the concerns he has heard has been about the route of the line. Jackie reported that all landowners have been contacted that have potential impact. Discussion followed. Eminent Domain is a last resort, they want to work with all landowners to come to agreements.

NextEra is trying to keep open lines of communication with the landowners at all times. Commissioner Symes asked if the line sighting being filed changed significantly since the last presentation. There were small adjustments made due to landowner concerns.

Lee one of his concerns is the proximity to the homes along the route. Between now and final sighting plan, could some of those be shifted farther out? There have been no documented health and safety concerns with the transmission line being place near homes. Once they file the line sighting proposal to the KCC, the KCC will still hold public hearings of their own before they lock in the line route. When the hearings are held by the KCC, NextEra will still be participating.

Commission Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for attorney client. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 9:57 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, Robert Poydack, Airport Manager, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:07 a.m. No action taken.

Commission Symes moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for non-elected. Commissioner Lee seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:12 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Shannon Patterson, Allen County Clerk, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:17 a.m. No action taken.

Commission Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for attorney client. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. The time is now 10:20 a.m. Those present will be Commissioners, Jason Trego, Allen County Emergency Manager, and Robert E. Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. Commissioners reconvened at 10:30 a.m. No action taken.

Commissioner Lee Interviews for an economic development director, any questions to submit for the interviews. 2 appointments so far. Email bruce questions

Commissioners reviewed the following documents:

- a) Email and information from Chelsie Angleton regarding a complaint
- b) Letter from Troy Smith, Director of Drug Court Program
- c) Allen County Solid Waste Financial Assurance Agency December 2022
- d) Fund Status Report for January – December 2022
- e) December reports for Public Works, Register of Deeds, Sheriff
- f) 2022 reports for Public Works, Register of Deeds, Sheriff
- g) 4th Quarter 2022 Periodic Reports for Rev Bds Series 2012 Principal & Interest, Lease Rev Bds Srs 2017A Principal & Interest, Taxable Revenue Bonds Srs 2017B Principal, Interest, and DS Reserve, CMS Covid-19 Adv Payment, Covid-19 Cares Act Rural Health Fund
- h) Adds – Oil, Value 194, \$28.20, Year 2022

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Clerk's Vouchers – \$55,340.18
- b) Clerk's Journal Entries – 2022 #89, 90, 91
- c) Payroll – 6 month increase for Dinah Glaze, 6 month & year increase for Terry McDonald
- d) Payroll – Vacation carryover of 49.5 hours for Dathan McMurtrey to be used by 6/16/2023
- e) Payroll – Reimbursements for Shannon Patterson & Jason Trego
- f) Abatements - Oil Value 194, \$28.20, Year 2022

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. until Thursday, January 17, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly's Room of the courthouse.

David E. Lee, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Shannon Patterson, County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner