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

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Bryan J. Murphy, Allen County Sheriff, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, David Lee, candidate for Commissioner Dist. #2, Paul Zirjacks, citizen, was present to observe the meeting.

Chairman King led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners approved the minutes of the regular meeting on August 31, 2020.

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, reported his crew worked on 4400 St at Elsmore on Friday. They took care of a tree that was down on Hawaii Rd. The guys are still mowing and cutting brush. Commissioner Symes asked how much more chip and seal needed to be done. Mitch responded on that and other areas that need attention.

Commissioner Daniels moved that Chairman King sign the Memorandums of Understanding for the CDGB projects, Commissioner Symes seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Commissioner Daniels moved to approve a memo be sent out to all county employees explaining the county will not participate in the deferred payroll withholding. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0.

Angie Murphy, 911 Director, joined the meeting. She requested commissioners approve an increase on her county purchasing card to $25,000 in order to continue with the PPE purchases. Commissioner Symes moved to increase Angie’s card limit to $25,000 through December 31, 2020 for PPE purposes, Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Angie asked if commissioners would want to know about each purchase, Chairman King stated to just continue with updates.

Lisse Regehr, Jonathan Goehring and Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County, joined the meeting. Lisse reported USD 258 has turned in all paperwork. She said some counties were told to hold off on their plans, but Allen County was not one of those. She then reported on SPARK funding. She asked that a commissioner be at Thrive’s office on September 28 around 2:00. Commissioner Daniels stated one of them would be there.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 5 minutes for attorney-client privilege. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Lisse Regehr, Thrive and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 8:46 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 8:51 a.m. No action was taken.

Joyce Adair, Iola Seniors Inc, joined the meeting.

Angie asked if it was mandatory to have the permanent barriers or is up to each office. Commissioner Daniels said if the funding is available, then each office should get them. Chairman King asked Ron about the plumbing. Discussion followed. Commissioner Symes asked if court services had talked to Ron yet about projects. Commissioner Symes agreed that all need to move ahead with projects because it has been approved and funding is available. He also stated the governor will extend the state of emergency pending approval of the state finance council.
Chairman King declared the opening of the public hearing for the Allen County 2021 budget at 9:00 a.m. There was not any public comment. Chairman King closed the public hearing. Commissioner Symes moved to approve the spending plan for the 2021 Allen County budget as published, Commissioner Daniels seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Joyce Adair proposed the following for Iola Senior Inc, in order to re-open:
New hours: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., this allows time to clean before and after.
3 customers at a time, 1 per household
30 minutes
Take temperature
Must sign in with name and phone number
Must wear a mask and gloves
Maintain social distance of 6 feet
1 time per day
No children allowed.
No loitering and visiting inside building.

Joyce also stated the items that will be needed are: thermometer, timer, gloves, mask and sanitizer.

Chairman King also reported on the meeting he and County Clerk, Sherrie Riebel attended last week. Joyce also said that 2 or 3 of their own people would always be in the building. Commissioner Symes stated the supplies could be purchased through our PPE. Angie said she’d have to purchase the thermometers, but should have all other items. Commissioners suggested Joyce meet with Angie on getting the supplies. Commissioner Daniels moved to approve the opening of Iola Senior Inc, with the conditions of the above proposed plan by Joyce, Commissioner Symes seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.

Dina Morrison, Clerk of the Court, explained the most important need is with the Court Service Office and the fact of their limited space. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes for attorney-client privilege. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Dina Morrison, Clerk of the Court, Bryan Murphy, Allen County Sheriff and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:11 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:21 a.m. No action was taken.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

a) Clerk’s Vouchers – 9/4/2020- $314,405.68
b) Clerk’s journal entry #37

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Daniels moved to adjourn, Commissioner Symes seconded, and motion passed 3-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m. until Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

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William H. King, Chairperson  Bruce Symes, Commissioner

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Jill Allen, Allen County Deputy Clerk  Jerry Daniels, Commissioner