

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 Sherrie L. Riebel, Allen County Clerk.

Nick Reynolds, Humboldt Union, Trevor Hoag, Iola Register, Roy Smith, Allen County Undersheriff, Robert Johnson II, Allen County Counselor, Mitch Garner, Public Works Director, and 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 June 9, 2020

Mitchell Garner, Allen County Public Works Director, updated the commission on dust control, mowing and trimming intersections. Most of the equipment that was down is now working and one that should be done today.

Commissioner Symes stated he noticed where the crew was working on Humboldt Hill water way and ditches; they were flaring them. Mitch stated they are done with that project. Chairman King asked about "Water over the Road" signs. Mitch stated they are not up yet.

Sherrie requested on behalf of Jill Hartman permission to use the courtyard for some booths this weekend. The Chamber and some of the downtown businesses and restaurants have been planning a 620 Day event coming up on Saturday, June 20th from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The idea of 620 Day – or June 20th – started in Pittsburg, KS coming from the 620-area code. Commissioners approved with Jill to coordinate with Ron Holman, Allen County House and Grounds Director, to figure out what will be needed.

Sherrie requested on behalf of Regina Christenson to use the bandstand for Iola High School forensics on July 8, from six to nine in the evening. Commissioners discussed the summer band concerts held at the bandstand to make sure the forensics night for the bandstand was not the same night as band concerts. Commissioners approved the use of the bandstand.

Sherrie enquired if August the 11th at nine o'clock works for commissioners for Canvas of the August 4 Primary Election. It is scheduled on a regular commission day.

Chairman King asked if anyone in the room had any issues in their offices or in the building since the restrictions were lifted; there were no issues.

Terry Call, Allen County EMS Financial Director, discussed the ambulance station in Humboldt. He reported they're still working on the punch list. The electrician was supposed to be done yesterday. Lockers were delivered to the courthouse last Friday so, Roy helped Terry deliver them to Humboldt. They have a couple of minor things to finish up. Terry visited with Cole Herder, City of Humboldt Administrator, to let him know they are ready to get the internet and cable hooked up. The radio guy was there last week the radio antennas installed. Chairman King asked if the dirt work was complete. Terry told him no, but getting pretty close. A discussion followed on the status of the Moran Ambulance Station.

Terry reported he has ordered the plaque for the Fire Station so commissioners can see it and determine what they would like on the two ambulance stations plaques. The fire station is complete and they will be working towards a Grand Opening.

Terry discussed cabinets and shelves for both ambulance stations.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 8:43 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 8:53 a.m. No action was taken.

Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director and Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen Director of Development, joined the meeting.

Chairman King opened the public hearing for choosing an administrator for the COVID-CV Grant. Sherrie. She explained her office had sent out 33 RFP's and she has received three proposals; Ranson Financial Group, L.L. C., Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC) and Thrive Allen County and New Heartland Freelance had declined. Sherrie requested the selection be made today but wanted the commission to feel they had time to review each proposal. There is a lot of paperwork that needs to be completed in a timely matter, which an administrator would help do.

Commissioner Symes asked questions for general information; Allen County received approval in the amount of \$132,000, is that cash on hand? Sherrie stated no, there is paperwork that needs to be completed by her, Crickett Maley, Allen County Treasurer, and the grant administrator. Jessica stated the monies are based off of reimbursement. And so, once Allen County submit the applications and the receipts to the state, then the state will have about a week turnaround time to get that money to Allen County. It is typically a direct deposit, and then part of the application for some businesses is filling out direct deposit information as well. So, most of that will be direct deposited into their account from Allen County.

Commissioner Symes asked what kind of timeline Jessica just described. Lisse stated once you get all the receipts and the applications and you approve who's going to get the funding and turn that into the state, it'll be about a week turnaround time to get the money in to Allen County. The administrator is going to deal with those businesses' receipts payment or accounting, so Allen County can do the payments, but the administrators of all will take in the applications and then final decisions are made by commissioner using a rate selection.

Commissioner Daniels commented about asking questions to the applicants present. He stated New Heartland Freelance which declined. Also, Ranson Financial Group out of Wichita. He stated they're very credible and we appreciate them applying but he would prefer to pick a local entity to administer it. So, in his opinion is between Thrive Allen County and SEK Regional Planning Commission. The SEKRPC letter is from Matt Godinez, SEKRPC Executive Director, they do excellent work, they're great people down in Neosho County. Commissioner Daniels expressed concerns with Neosho County and City of Chanute received similar grants, so they have \$264,000 that SEKRPC might also be administering their grants. He read in SEKRPC letter "We would be happy to work in conjunction with Thrive by providing the required CDBG specific oversight to ensure regulatory compliance, while they provide the local business context services." so if Thrive were to get the Allen County COVID-CV grant administrator, would they need to have SEKRPC to the oversight. Lisse stated the CDBG administrators are overseen by the state, so they ensure with greater audits going on these organizations. Commissioner Daniels stated with the spirit of local purchase and local efforts within the county it's obvious that Commissioners should probably seriously consider Thrive Allen County. Paul Zirjacks asked about the information published in the Iola Register. Lisse stated it is actually up to the commissioner so and that's something they need to discuss again and no matter who were administrators or not she wants to have these discussions with the commissioners, since the grant funding was cut, to be specific those percentages were a guideline. Commissioner Symes stated with the work that Thrive has already put in, and

the relationship we have with them that he moved to have Thrive Allen County administrator of the CDBG-CV Grant. Commissioner Daniels stated he echo the comments and second. The motion passed 3-0-0. Chairman King closed public hearing.

Commissioner Daniels moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss Trade Secrets Privilege. Commissioner Symes seconded; motion passed 3-0-0. Those in the room will be Chairman King, Commissioner Symes, Commissioner Daniels, Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County Executive Director, Jessica Thompson, Thrive Allen County Director of Development and Robert Johnson, II, Allen County Counselor. The time is now 9:13 a.m. Commissioners reconvened at 9:23 a.m. No action was taken.

Lisse discussed what the conditions small businesses can submit invoices for expenses that they've had from March 1st, that have not been paid for by PPP, so the Payment Protection Program, or EIDL or other federal dollars. They cannot double dip. Small business that has six to 50 employees, can submit invoices, up to \$7,500, and for micro businesses which is zero to five employees, can submit invoices up to \$3,000. The Allen County Commission has decided that to look at need, and the amount of people in businesses that apply. And so, up to \$7,500 to \$3,000, there's a possibility that those numbers will shift down in order to distribute the funds to as many businesses in the community as possible, and that includes that the percentages that were written into the grant can also change based on how those businesses throughout the county. Those numbers are very flexible at this point because what the commissioners would like to do is, is be as equitable as possible and spread the money out as much as possible to as many businesses, as possible.

Lisse continued to emphasize that this is a one-time payment for businesses. And so, when they apply, they need to submit everything that they intend to submit because if Allen County does end up doing around two. They can't apply in the second round, it's just a one-time payment for businesses. If Allen County were to have money left over from the award amount and they could open up another cycle for additional businesses. The same business that already applied and received funding cannot apply again, but others who have not received funding could, and it has to be expenses already incurred. It can't be if they need to make purchases currently for their inventory. It needs to be anything that's already happened since March 1st that other federal funds have not already been used for. Very soon there will be information up on the county website. There will be forms that the businesses will need to fill out, both their employees, and the businesses. The forms and the process are regulated by the Department of Commerce and the federal government. Anybody with questions will be able to call Thrive Allen County as the administrator. The date that the applications can start to be turned in will be announced. They want to make sure there's enough time to give people what they need in order to get their employees and themselves and their invoices together to spend two- or three-weeks collection, period. They will look at applications, start making decisions sometime in July. It will take about a week to get everything up and ready to accept applications.

Commissioners approved the following documents:

- a) Payroll – reimbursement for Sherrie L. Riebel for disinfecting wipes
- b) Payroll – vacation carryover for Patrick Cash for 87.5 hours to be used by 12/1/2020; Roy Smith for 101.25 hours to be used by 12/1/2020; and Angela Murphy for 152 hours to be used by 12/9/2020.
- c) Clerk's Vouchers – 6/11/2020-\$265,783.08 & 6/15/2020-\$39,634.86

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 9:45 a.m. until Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room of the courthouse.

William H. King, Chairperson

Bruce Symes, Commissioner

Sherrie L Riebel, Allen County Clerk

Jerry Daniels, Commissioner