

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES OF SPECIAL SESSION HELD COURTHOUSE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

The Republic County Commission met in special session on Wednesday, March 27, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek, The Belleville Telescope, along with Danielle Swanson, County Health Officer, Brynn Alexander, Health nurse, Justin Ferrell, County Attorney, Vincent Pachta and Jim McDonald, concerned citizens observed the meeting and Raymond Raney joined via conference call.

The meeting was called to order and attendees pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Commissioner Jeardoe explained the meeting was to clarify the reopening of businesses in Republic County from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Justin and Danielle explained that Governor Laura Kelly has rescinded the statewide reopening requirements and instructed each county to set its own reopening suggestions. They proposed that Republic County continue with the original Phases set up by Governor Kelly with a few modifications.

Phase 2: Effective May 22, allow 15 persons per gathering, allow salons, recreation activities and other businesses to open. Follow recommended travel restrictions.

Phase 2 Modified: Effective May 27, allow 30 persons per gathering and open remaining businesses and allow self service drinks in convenience stores.

Phase 3: Effective June 1, allow 75 persons per gathering and open swimming pools.

Phase 4: Effective June 15, remove all restrictions.

Jim McDonald questioned the need for travel restrictions if a person was visiting a relative and nowhere else and is coming directly back home. He also asked, what happens if out of town people visit? Should they be allowed if coming from a restricted county? Swanson and Ferrell stated that the county has no rights to restrict visitors but can recommend that the people that were visited self-quarantine themselves for 14 days as a precaution.

Following the discussion regarding the restrictive travel for non-essential purposes, Commissioner Splichal made a motion to rescind the travel restriction on Republic County residents and recommend that persons traveling for non-essential reason self-monitor for any Covid-19 related symptoms. Noting that KDHE quarantine orders are still in effect for travel to certain states including Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, New York or have been on a cruise ship or river cruise, or traveled internationally. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Splichal inquired about churches holding services and the limit of people to attend. Justin and Danielle stated that churches are exempt from the limit of persons for the gathering but advised persons to gather at a socially accepted distance and to use hand sanitizing often after handling song books, etc.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 2:20 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Marvin Bergstrom – Member