

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal and Doug Garman. Commissioner Melvin Jeardoe was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes.

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

Pastor Wade Moss, Landmark Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the December 27, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Levi Whitley, EMS Director, presented two permissions to travel for approval.

- Advance Group Crisis Intervention Training in Hays from January 12 to January 14.
- Bimonthly Region 4 meetings for 2022 at various locations in Kansas.

Whitley reported that the EMS department responded to 112 transfers in 2021.

Whitley also presented for signature a grant Memorandum of Agreement for Education Incentive Grant Program.

Clerk Marsicek presented correspondence from WATKO Benefit Group. WATKO is an employee benefit service from Overland Park, Kansas. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to thank WATKO for their information but to inform WATKO that Republic County is very satisfied with HUB International Services and will continue to work with HUB. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Robbins, Stacey Bowen and Nathan Craig presented updates from the county shop area.

- Robbins presented the weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins reported a few issues with fuel gelling over the weekend but that has been corrected.
- Crews are out removing snow and should have all roads completed this week.
- Robbins is researching the possibility of permitting Republic County to be approved as a solid waste facility.
- Discussion was presented suggesting that the Road and Bridge reports be moved to every other week giving Robbins and his supervisors additional working time. Robbins would be willing to accommodate this request if it is approved by the commissioners.

Commissioner Garman asked Robbins if he would present the Longevity schedule he prepared for his departments at the next Department head meeting. If the department heads agree, the Longevity schedule could be applied to the entire county.

At 10:40 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding the compensation study. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners, Robbins and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 10:50 a.m., taking no action.

Danielle Swanson, County Health Administrator, and Dawn Kasl, Disease Control Nurse, reported that the CDC has modified the isolation/quarantine recommendations effective January 5, 2022. Fully vaccinated means receiving the

recommended number of doses and the booster. Swanson and Kasl are recommending the following for Republic County. Schools and medical facilities may have their own requirements.

- COVID-19 confirmed infections (regardless of vaccination status) you must
 - Isolate at home for 7 days.
 - If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 7 days and you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, you can leave your house.
 - Continue to wear a mask around others for 3 additional days.
 - You are asked to notify any close contacts to monitor for signs and symptoms.
- Quarantines:
 - Only individuals residing in homes of an ACTIVE positive case.
 - Individual will quarantine for the 7 days of the ACTIVE case plus an additional 5 days quarantine with release to masking for an additional 5 days and leaving home ON day 6 ONLY with a negative test on day 5 & asymptomatic.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to accept the recommendation of Swanson and Kasl stating 7 days of Isolation for a positive test and 7 days plus 5 days for other household members. Persons of close contact are to monitor for symptoms but are not required to quarantine. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Susan Aaron, administrative assistant, was asked to join the meeting.

At 11:35 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding the compensation study. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners, Aaron and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 11:40 a.m., taking no action.

Aaron informed the commissioners that the WIFI boosters within the courthouse are not working. Barry Porter has contacted Nex-Tech to report the issue and Porter was told that the boosters are outdated and need replaced. Clerk Marsicek will contact our current provider to inquire about a quote for new boosters.

At 12:10 p.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Doug Garman – Member