

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe, Edwin Splichal, and Doug Garman. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope monitored most of the meeting.

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

Pastor Craig Roberts, Landmark Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the minutes from April 29. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Justin Ferrell, County Attorney, announced that there will be a tax sale this year near the end of August.

At 8:45 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 5 minutes about job performance. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners.

The board reconvened at 8:50 a.m., taking no action.

Clerk Marsicek presented information about a new person qualifying for the Rural Opportunity Zoning refund.

The Belleville City library asked permission to use the courthouse yard for the annual summer reading program. The commissioners granted permission.

Clerk Marsicek presented an email from Dan Kelly at the hospital regarding the custodial responsibilities in the Medical Arts building. Since the hospital and clinic are now considered one unit excluding the dental office, Ferrell will create a new agreement between Republic County, the Medical arts building and the Republic County hospital.

Gayla Godfrey, County Appraiser, joined the meeting to present her 2025 budget request and to explain any increases.

At 9:30 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes about job performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners and Godfrey. Commissioner Splichal requested 20 additional minutes.

The board reconvened at 10:00 a.m., taking no action.

Ken Robbins presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge, and turbine project information:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Mowing should begin this week on blacktop roads then to secondary roads.
- Two people have applied for the spraying position.
- Robbins presented for signatures a utility agreement between Spring Run LTD/V Kaye Powell Trust and Republic County to construct and operate an underground electrical cable and 6" irrigation pipe between section 17 and section 20 of Big Bend Township.
- Commission Jeardoe notified Robbins of two areas that ditches need cleaned.

Jay Kallman and Joan Grover, Republic County Area Council on Aging, reported that they had an organizational meeting and new bylaws were approved and new officers installed. The group will meet quarterly at various places in Republic County.

The Commissioners commended these representatives for reorganizing and making plans to assist all people needing help and encouraging citizens to help other citizens throughout Republic County.

The commissioners held a telephone conference with Joel Mann from Mann & Co. about reviewing the design submitted by CRS for the replacement of the front steps of the courthouse to develop definite requirements for the project.

The commissioners discussed the options for a county Sanitarian.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to not renew the annual contract with LEPG and request all documents related to applications and completed projects from Smith County through the LEPG. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made the motion unanimous.

Clerk Marsicek was instructed to contact the clerk of Smith County for the documentation.

The commissioners reviewed the email from Kansas Association of Counties requesting support to VETO CCR for HB2096. The consensus of the board was to support the veto.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 13, 2024, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe, Chairperson

Doug Garman, Member

Edwin Splichal, Member