

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Doug Garman, and Melvin Jeardoe. Edwin Splichal was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope observed most of the meeting.

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

Lay Pastor Kathleen Marsicek, Little Blue River Parish, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the minutes from October 9, 2023. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A letter of appreciation was read acknowledging the outstanding job that Patrick Comstock and his department do in the courthouse.

Justin Ferrell and David Blecha joined the meeting to review information related to the purchase of the armory.

At 8:40 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss land acquisition for 10 minutes regarding the purchase of a building. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Ferrell, Blecha and Clerk Marsicek.

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

Arlene Clayton, concerned citizen, expressed that the hospital needs to expand the Physical Therapy area.

Susan Aaron, Emergency Management assistant, presented for approval a permission to travel for Raymond Raney to attend the 2023 Kansas Association of Mappers fall training in Wichita from October 24 to 27. The commissioners granted permission.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- There are 193 fully erected turbines.
- Robbins announced that 57 of the 233 turbines are energized and operational.
- Timber Rd from 300 Road to 310 Road will be closed until an underground utility line can be evaluated.
- Some of the rock used by Blattner for access roads has been applied on county roads.

Gayla Godfrey, new Appraiser, visited with the commissioners.

- Godfrey is establishing an office routine.
- She is still looking for a place to stay when in Republic County.
- The county employees are immensely helpful and knowledgeable about their job.

At 9:45 a.m., Commissioner Jear DOE made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes about employee contracts. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Godfrey and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 9:55 a.m. Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the agreement to contract Anna Porter to assist with the analytical part of the appraiser position through May 2024.

Following the review of the purchase agreement between Republic County and Steve and Kathy Anderson to purchase the building, Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the agreement with the purchase price of \$250,000 and the closing date of December 5, 2023. Commissioner Jear DOE seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 10:15 a.m., the Commissioners, Clerk Marsicek and Hadachek moved the meeting to the North Central Kansas Fair grounds to observe a demonstration of the County Drone being used by the Republic County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Jeff Smith demonstrated some of the functions by taking a variety of aerial pictures from the drone.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Jear DOE seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 23, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Edwin Splichal, Chairperson

Melvin Jear DOE, Member

Doug Garman, Member