

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 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 Rick Snodgrass, Crossroads Assembly of God Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the minutes from May 6. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$566,925.15.

Sheila Nelson-Stout, Patrick Wallerius, Kendra Krier, and Susan Sprague from OCCK met to present their annual report and to thank Republic County for the financial support. Throughout 2023, 5,000 people in the 9-county area received services from OCCK. Wallerius shared that the number of people using the services is now back to pre-pandemic numbers. There were 549 Republic County residents that used the ride services (81 Connection) in 2023.

Faye Jones, County Health Administrator, requested permission to send Melissa Miller to Immunization training in Wichita from May 21 to May 23. Commissioners granted permission.

Jones presented two quotes to purchase a new exam room table with grant funding.

- Chair like table 1 \$1,995
- Chair like table 2 \$1,435

The commissioners granted permission to purchase the exam table option #2.

Jones invited the commissioners to attend a meeting, Public Health Road Show, in Concordia on August 8 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm presented by KDHE.

Jones announced that on Thursday, May 16, there will be a joint project with the Republic County EMS for car seat checks.

Carl Baxa, concerned citizen, expressed his lack of satisfaction with Next Era regarding damages to property. Commissioner Jeardoe will be meeting with Next Era this week and will bring up this issue.

Katy Duryea, Belleville Chamber & Mainstreet, requested permission to use the courthouse square for the annual farmers market that will begin on Memorial weekend. The commissioners granted permission to use courthouse square for the farmers market.

Sheriff David Cox presented the budget requests for the sheriff's office and jail department for 2025. Cox explained that the tasers are needing replaced and some of the body armor is close to expiration. Cox presented a quote for tasers with a 10-year contract. Before approving the contract, additional information was requested from Sheriff Cox.

Cox reported that there are 4 inmates in custody.

The commissioners granted permission for Raymond Raney to attend two training sessions this week.

- 911 Coordinating Council PSAP in Salina from May 13 to May 14.
- G0400 Advanced Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents Course in Salina from May 14 to May 16.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins shared that with the wet conditions some of the employees are doing shop cleaning and organizing.

- Robbins response to the concern about the drainage on 150 Rd south of Valley, the debris has been removed and flowline restored.
- Robbins announced that a new truck driver will start on May 20.
- Robbins shared that a decision on the new sprayer operator will be completed this week.
- Robbins presented a proposal from Hall Brothers to overlay 8.2 miles of 280 Rd south of Narka. This was tabled until the next meeting.

Travis Boyer, Deputy Clerk & HR, joined the meeting.

At 10:15 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 15 minutes about an employee’s performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Robbins, Boyer, and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 10:30 a.m., taking no action.

The Commissioners and Clerk Marsicek moved the meeting to the front entrance to hold the public hearing regarding the application for a grant for repairs/replacement of the front steps.

At 10:30 a.m., Commissioner Splichal opened the public hearing regarding the repairs/replacement of the front steps. Commissioner Garman second the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous.

At 10:40 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous.

Auditor, Randy Hofmeier from Lindberg, Vogel, Pierce, Faris Chtd., discussed the audit process and presented the engagement letter for signature.

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

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 20, 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