

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, February 12, 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 observed most of the meeting.

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

Pastor Kevin Weston, Zion Evangelical Church of Munden, 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 February 5. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amounts of \$27,295.88 for bill backs to 2023 and \$373,199.06 for the 2024 vouchers.

Raymond Raney, Emergency Management Director, reported that some of the new radios for Republic County fire departments have been delivered but additional radios have been requested. Raney will consult with the fire departments for a list of additional radios that need to be ordered then Raney will report back to the commissioners. The radios will be purchased with the Windfarm funds designated for emergency services.

John Baxa, Republic County Junior Class After Prom committee, requested a donation from Republic County to assist with the After Prom activities.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to donate \$750.00 to the Republic County After Prom activities. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Following a discussion regarding the amount of donations in the past years, Commissioner Garman made a motion to amend the original motion to increase the amount of \$750 to \$1000. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Raney returned to the meeting to discuss the request to pursue the computer programming software for a census report to help the Clerk's office, Appraiser's office and Emergency Management with addresses and names of residents at those locations. The project was tabled until additional information is received.

Jimmie Blecha, Mayor of Munden, thanked the Commissioners for their funding to repair the waterlines with ARPA funds and presented a recap sheet of the funds received and the additional funds from their general account.

Robin Carlson, new Honorable Mayor of Courtland, shared her excitement about becoming the Mayor of Courtland. She is learning a lot about the multitude of responsibilities of a mayor. Carlson reported that the CVA project is underway with dirt work occurring. Housing is in demand in Courtland and the city would like to expand its boundaries, but land is limited.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins reported that 2 graders are currently down for repairs.
- The truck drivers are delivering gravel to the needed areas.
- Robbins is developing a new Capital equipment list since the price of equipment, even used equipment, has increased since the first Capital equipment list was presented.
- Robbins requested permission to travel to Manhattan to attend the Weed Supervisor Basic Training from February 20 to February 23.
- New employee, John Murdock, started last week at a wage of \$16.01 per hour.
- Robbins is scheduling the overlay/sealing of the Narka road for this summer.

Patrick Comstock, custodian, announced that the overhead doors for the armory have been delivered and will be installed this week. Comstock updated the commissioners on the work at the armory.

Comstock expressed his concern for the courthouse lawn that is being damaged by the local trash truck driving over the lawn to pick up the dumpster.

Susan Aaron, Emergency Management assistant Director, announced that the monthly LEPC will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at the Republic County Hospital meeting room at 11:45 a.m.

Aaron requested permission to travel for Raymond Raney and herself to attend the 2024 Operational Coordination Symposium in Wichita from February 27 to February 29. The commissioners granted permission for them to attend the meeting.

Clerk Marsicek presented Resolution No. 2024-14, to increase the mileage reimbursement to employees using their own vehicle for county business. The Commissioners voted to increase the mileage reimbursement at the February 5 meeting but the resolution was not available for signing.

Clerk Marsicek presented Resolution No. 2024-15 to close an inactive fund balance back to County General. Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-15. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

The commissioners granted permission for health Department employees Faye Jones, Lydia Pachta, and Milissa Miller to attend the Governor’s Public Health Conference in Wichita from March 3 to March 6.

The Commissioners signed the Proclamation from Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas designating February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

The Commissioners signed a grant application letter of support for Central Valley Ag.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Due to President’s Day on Monday, the next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 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