

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 22, 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 April 15. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Account payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$202,022.65.

Commissioners Splichal and Jeardoe will be attending the Republic County Hospital Board meeting at noon.

Faye Jones and Vicki Hagen, Health Department, reported that they would like to sell one of the health department vehicles. Jones was instructed to advertise that it is for sale. Hagen reported that the road she lives on was in great shape after these last rains and asked that the commission pass that information on to the road department.

Julie Willoughby, Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK), thanked the commission for signing the proclamation and explained some of the functions of the DVACK group.

Marlene Stamm, Sanitarian from Washington County, visited with the commissioners about the possibility of Republic County being part of the LEPP. Stamm presented a current list of fees that the LEPP charges for services.

At 9:31 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiations for 10 minutes to discuss possible details of membership. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners and Stamm. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 4 minutes.

The board reconvened at 9:45 a.m., taking no action.

Commissioner Jeardoe reported that he contacted an electrical company about the need to update lights in the armory. Jeardoe stated that until the county is sure what changes are going to be made in the armory, no quote would be accepted.

Paul Kallman, Honorable Mayor of Scandia, updated the commission on activities in Scandia.

- The estimated starting date to drill the new water well will be September 2024.
- The lateral piping is projected to be done early summer.
- The citywide clean up starts next week April 29 to May 5th.
- The Scandia RiverFest will be the 2nd weekend of July.
- Kallman asked if the county would assist with the sealing of some streets this summer. Ken Robbins stated that plans are being made to assist cities with street sealing.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Crews are working on culvert installations.
- There are four main roads scheduled for regrade during 2024. They are Republic Lane, Norway Lane, Rock Rd and 30 RD.
- The county was successful in purchasing 2 pieces of equipment last week from Purple Wave- a Plow Truck and a semi tractor.

- Mowing country roads should begin next week.

At 10:17 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiations for 10 minutes about contract details. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Robbins, and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 10:27 a.m., taking no action.

Jeff and Pam Smith joined the meeting.

Commissioner Jeardoe presented a plaque to Jeff Smith for his 20 years of dedicated service to Republic County in the sheriff's office and EMS.

Cindy Coons, County Treasurer presented the 1st quarter bank balances.

Cindy Coons, Patrick Comstock, Ken Robbins, Levi Whitley, Raymond Raney, Sandee Swanson, Faye Jones, and Clerk Marsicek, as department heads, requested that the IT fees for required computer services be paid through county general funds until a new contract can be revised next March. A majority of the departments did not include IT services in their 2024 budget for the large amount requested from the IT company. Most of the departments are satisfied with the IT services provided by the current vendor but the contract needs modification to remove items that some departments do not use. Whitley announced that a representative from the current IT vendor will attend the next department head meeting in May to explain the current services and how they can provide the services we need and nothing extra.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to pay all the IT services on the current contract until it expires March 31, 2025. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Commissioner Garman suggested that if any department needs updating or remodeling, create a proposal for the commissioners.

Raney informed the commissioners that on Saturday, April 27, there will be some power outages in the courthouse while the vendor is finalizing the installation of the new courthouse generator.

Clerk Marsicek presented for signatures a request for reimbursement from the State of Kansas for the costs of holding the Presidential Preference Primary election (PPP) in Republic County. The total submitted for reimbursement is \$12,071.63.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the requested reimbursement from the special election for PPP. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, April 29, 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