

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 25, 2024, at 8:00 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 and Pastor Amos McCarthy, United Methodist Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal 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 March 18. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$382,680.78.

Deputy Election Clerk, Mary Simmons, presented 3 ballots for final canvass. Two ballots were provisional, and one ballot was an overseas ballot to be hand counted. Clerk Marsicek announced that Republic County had a 9.9% turnout for the Presidential Preference Primary.

James Doyle, Belleville High Banks Racetrack, clarified the list of priority items to be updated at the racetrack facility.

Patrick Comstock presented a quote from Calloway Fencing to either repair or replace the fence behind the armory. The topic was tabled until a later date.

Susan Aaron, Emergency Management administrative assistant, presented for signatures the annual lease agreement between Republic County and Tony Strnad to use the county's antenna.

Commissioner Splichal announced that a representative from Senne Company from Topeka will visit with the Commissioners on Wednesday, March 27 at 10:00 a.m. Splichal requested that a special called meeting be held on Wednesday to accommodate question and answer period with the representative from Senne. Clerk Marsicek will notify the newspaper and radio about the special meeting.

The commissioners approved the permission to travel for Sandee Swanson to attend the Spring meeting of the Register of Deeds in North Central Kansas in Beloit on April 12.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Regrade is progressing on Rock Rd between 90 Rd and 100 Rd.
- Robbins presented a utility agreement for signatures between Republic County and JBN to install Fiber Optic Cable under the county road.
- Work will begin in April on Norway Lane south of Norway.
- Robbins requested permission to travel to Ellsworth on March 27 to watch the recycled asphalt paving process.
- Robbins has completed the Noxious Weeds annual report for 2023 and has submitted it to the State of Kansas.
- Robbins presented an updated job description for the Sprayer Operator/Truck Driver for review and approval.

Levi Whitley, EMS Director, presented several permissions to travel for training.

- Micayla Sjolander and Ty Sothers to attend Trauma Symposium in Salina on April 23.
- Paris Yungeberg to attend Difficult Airway Class in Wellington on May 16 & 17.
- Levi Whitley to attend EMS Management Workshop in Hutchinson on April 2 & 3.
- John Christensen to attend Difficult Airway by Avel in Sioux Falls, SD on April 25& 26.

The Commissioners approved the permissions to travel to attend the multiple training courses.

At 10:20 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for reason of non-elected personnel for 10 minutes about employee performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Whitley, and Clerk Marsicek.

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

Monica Thayer, River Valley Extension, explained some issues at the 4-H building on the fairgrounds. The sewer line has roots growing in them and asked permission to have the crabapple trees and roots removed. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to remove the trees and roots. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous.

Thayer presented information about the 2023 Plan Year open Enrollment for Medicare Part D and the cost savings to many residents not only in Republic County but surrounding counties.

Sheriff David Cox explained that the use of the fenced in area at the armory would make a good impound area in the future but for now the sheriff's department will use the current places.

Gayla Godfrey, Appraiser, answered questions regarding the appraisal of a building that is both a shop and house. It would be appraised as a farm building and a house. Whereas a house with an attached garage would just be a residential building.

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

The next meeting will be on Monday, April 1, 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