

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners present were Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Edwin Splichal. County Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes of the meeting. Deb Hadachek monitored the meeting.

Commissioner Chairman Holl called the meeting to order.

Pastor Robert Fraiser, Belleville United Presbyterian Church, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to accept the minutes from February 9. Splichal seconded, agreed 2-0.

Sheriff Ron Blad asked permission to acquire bids to replace a patrol truck.

Blad will be placing a classified ad for an open position in the sheriff's department.

Following discussion regarding the request from Scott Finkbiner to be paid for the balance of vacation hours due to salaried employees, Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to pay Finkbiner for any unused vacation hours for 2015. Holl seconded, agreed 3-0.

Permission to travel was granted for Mike Nondorf to attend the regular district monthly meetings of the Weed Directors for the remainder of 2015 at various locations and dates.

The Agreement for solid waste fees between Republic County and the City of Courtland was signed.

At 8:40 a.m., Commissioner Splichal requested a 5 minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the Board and Clerk Marsicek. Bergstrom seconded, agreed 3-0. An additional 5 minutes were requested by Splichal and seconded by Holl. Agreed 3-0.

The Board reconvened at 8:50 a.m. Commissioner Splichal made a motion for Justin Novak and Terry Cherney to receive a \$.50 per hour increase in wages and Lisa Jones to receive a \$1.00 per hour increase in wages due to increase in responsibilities in the absence of a Road and Bridge Administrator and training of the new Administrator once he starts. Bergstrom seconded, agreed 3-0.

Blaine Van Meter and David Holloway from EMS, explained that the state of Kansas has requested the electronic run reports to begin in June 2015. Van Meter presented a quote from Professional Services of Belleville for two tablets equaling \$786.00.

Permission to travel was granted for Van Meter to attend the KEMTA Conference in Hutchinson on March 26-29.

Permission to travel was granted for Van Meter to attend Region 4 EMS Council meetings for the remainder of 2015 at various locations and dates.

Van Meter and Holloway presented a proposal from Account Recovery Service Inc. (ARSI) as a source for collecting outstanding balances of the EMS accounts. Currently, delinquent accounts are reported to the 'Set-Off Program' at the State of Kansas. The state holds Kansas tax refunds and pays outstanding accounts. Holloway said, Republic County receives payment for approximately 12-15% of the accounts but the accounts could drag out for several years. The proposed source (ARSI) collects about 60% of funds submitted to them. ARSI's fees are only charged if they collect money and that fee is 30%. The consensus of the board was to give permission for Van Meter to pursue a contract with ARSI.

Van Meter stated, two new employees will start in March.

Terry Cherney and Justin Novak presented the weekly update on road and bridge matters.

- 1) Novak asked who should contact the farmer renting the ground from Republic County regarding the necessity of destroying the 8.2 acres of wheat for the asphalt mixing strip. Commissioner Bergstrom asked Novak to follow up with the farmer and report back to the Board with a settlement value of the ground.
- 2) A request to close 290 Road between Hickory and Granite was received from Tony Strnad. Strnads' own the land on the east and west side of the mile in question. Clerk Marsicek will contact the County Attorney to draw up vacating the road once all land owners have been contacted and the notices published.
- 3) Commissioner Holl informed Novak, Cherney and Jones about the wage increases for their additional responsibilities.

At 10:35 a.m., Commissioner Holl requested a 10 minute executive session to discuss non-elected personal with the Board, Novak, Cherney, Jones and Marsicek. Bergstrom seconded, agreed 3-0.

The Board reconvened at 10:45 a.m. taking no action.

At 10:46 a.m., Commissioner Holl requested a 5 minute executive session to discuss non-elected personal with the Board, Novak, Cherney and Jones. Bergstrom seconded, agreed 3-0. An additional 10 minutes was requested by Splichal and seconded by Bergstrom. Agreed 3-0.

The Board reconvened at 11:01 a.m. taking no action.

Mike Hadachek and Kay Shoemaker, RCD, presented an updated criteria sheet for the Commissioners to approve. Splichal made a motion to approve the new criteria sheet. Holl seconded, agreed 3-0.

Hadachek reported the RCD quarterly meeting held at TAGS on Wednesday February 11 was well attended and two of the guests were Deb Ohlde, North Central Planning Commission, and Melinda Pierson, Belleville Main Street and Chamber.

Hadachek presented a request for interest only payments for November 2014 to June 2015 from C&C High Tunnel Farms for signing by the Board.

Shoemaker announced there should be one application to review at the March 11 meeting.

At 11:30 a.m., the Board moved the meeting to the county pickup to tour the road and bridge location. Novak explained the equipment along the west side of the shop location is not used often but is available in a pinch. Areas toured included the newly enclosed north shop and sign shop. Due to the sudden snow storm, the Board returned to the courthouse. Commissioner Splichal said he would return on his own for a walking tour in better weather.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn. Splichal seconded, agreed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015, at the Republic County Courthouse, Belleville.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Linda Holl, Chairperson

Marvin Bergstrom, Member

Edwin Splichal, Member