

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal and Doug Garman. Melvin Jeardoe was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from 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 Rick Snodgrass, Crossroads Assembly of God Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the October 11, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioners discussed the bereavement policy of Republic County. Currently, it states in the event of a death of a member of the employee's family, an employee will be granted bereavement leave not to exceed five working days- three days with pay and two unpaid. (These are 8-hour days.) Since not all employees work 8 hours a day, Commissioner Splichal made a motion to modify the policy to cover all department shifts by removing (These are 8-hours days.) Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Danielle Swanson and Raymond Raney presented their bi-weekly reports.

Swanson reported that the number of COVID cases is decreasing and there is only one person hospitalized with COVID from Republic County.

Swanson also reported that the public flu shot clinics have been completed; however, anyone needing a flu shot may contact the Health Department to schedule a shot.

Commissioner Garman asked for clarification regarding if the Health Department will be offering any Family Planning. Swanson explained that a contract with a doctor or a practitioner would be required to offer that program and those programs are funded by grants which the application for the grant would not be submitted until the spring of 2022.

Raney presented a copy of the Kansas statute pertaining to Disaster Declaration for counties as a requirement of KEMA.

Cindy Coons, County Treasurer, presented for signatures the bank signature card to remove Beth Ball and add Travis Boyer. Coons also presented for signatures the forms to close out the SPARK checking account since the balance is zero. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to remove Beth Ball's name and add Travis Boyer and also to close the SPARK bank account. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

At 9:02 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding employee job performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners, Raney and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 9:07 a.m., taking no action.

Arlene Clayton, concerned citizen, announced that October is Mother against Domestic Violence.

Clerk Marsicek reported that Jimmie Blecha, Honorable Mayor of Munden, has requested letters of support for two grant applications to assist with the cleanup of dilapidated buildings and damaged properties within the City of Munden.

Sheriff David Cox announced that Deputy Steve Medina will be awarded Deputy of the Year at the annual Kansas Sheriff Association meeting in November.

Cox also announced that Republic County will be housing Cloud County inmates starting November 8.

Permission to travel was granted for Barry Porter to attend Kansas Association of Counties meeting in Overland Park, KS from October 19 to October 20, 2021.

Ken Robbins and Stacie Bowen presented updates from the county shop area.

- Robbins presented the weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins presented for signatures a Memorandum of agreement to obligate the City of Courtland to reimburse work procured by the Republic County Highway Department for paving the neighborhood street parking south of the railroad tracks on County Road 30.
- Robbins presented for signatures a utility agreement between Bostwick Irrigation and Republic County to construct and operate an underground line.
- Robbins is bidding on a tilt trailer on Purple Wave Auction that ends on Tuesday, October 19.
- Robbins announced that the overlay to the Courtland blacktop will begin on October 25.
- Robbins reported that most of the cold patching will be completed this week.
- Machine operators are beginning to winterize all equipment.

Levi Whitley and Jeff Beikmann, EMS Director and Assistant, inquired about changing the Employee Handbook in regards to the bereavement policy. Commissioner Splichal explained that earlier this morning a motion was made and approved to remove the 8-hour per day clause in the handbook.

Commissioner Splichal reported that he attended the monthly Juvenile Detention meeting on October 13.

At 11:05 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 25, 2021, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Doug Garman – Member