

## **REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope observed 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 Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the February 18, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$456,571.74.

Tatum Couture, chairperson for Republic County After Prom, requested a donation to the After Prom Celebration to be held at the Republic County High School on April 25.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to donate \$750.00 from the Drug and Alcohol fund for the Republic County High School After Prom. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sherry Koster, Sanitarian for North Central Kansas Local Environmental Planning Group (NCKLEPG), presented the Biannual report for 2019.

Permission to travel was granted for Clerk Marsicek to attend Sanborn training in Wichita from March 4 to March 6. Also, permission was granted for Clerk Marsicek and Deputy Beth Ball to attend the Spring gathering for the North Central Kansas County Clerks in Geary County on March 19.

Rob Kasl, Patriot/Eagle Project, explained the desired location for the Eagle Statue to be installed between the sidewalks in front of the courthouse however, Kasl will contact the designer of the statue to meet with the commissioners this spring for final approval of the location due to the size of the statue.

The newly elected Honorable Mayor of Cuba, Westin Pachta, visited with the commissioners.

- Pachta invited the commissioners to attend the annual Rock-A-Thon that begins with Dignitary Day on March 15 and concludes on March 31.
- Cuba will review how much asphalt they will need to repair streets during 2020 and contact the highway department to order the asphalt.
- Cuba is planning to update some buildings on the main street.

Commissioners welcomed Pachta to his new position and wished him the best during his new term.

Dusty Zenger, Highway and Solid Waste Director, presented and discussed with the Commissioners the following:

- Road crews are assisting with the culvert replacement on K Street.
- March 9, 2020 the employees of road and bridge will begin the summer hours of 7-5:30.
- Following discussion regarding drivers' number of hours worked for the transportation buses, it was agreed to equalize the hours. Transportation drivers are part-time drivers. Each driver will drive 40 hours every pay period. The first driver will drive 3 days one week and 2 days the next week. The second driver will drive 2 days the first week and 3 days the second week. Zenger also requested a raise in hourly wages to be more competitive with other bus drivers in the area. Each driver will receive an increase of \$1.50 per hour. Carol Nelson wage will be \$13.85 per hour and Melissa Guerra wage will be \$13.00 per hour.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to increase the wages and equalize the driving hours.

Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Zenger stated his concerns about which employees can update and maintain the county website. Commissioner Jeardoe stated that three persons were chosen last April (Barry Porter, Susan Aaron and Beth Ball) to setup the website and update information for each department. Until all department sites are functional only those three are the ones authorized to update information.

Commissioner Splichal reported that he attended the Juvenile Detention meeting in Junction City on February 12.

Commissioner Jeardoe will attend the regular meeting for Pawnee Mental Health in Manhattan on February 25.

Danielle Swanson, Administrator for Health Department, requested permission to attend the North Central Kansas Regional Supervisor's meeting in Beloit on February 26. Permission was granted.

Swanson, also, informed the commissioners that the roof on the health department has some soft spots that are causing some leakage. Swanson has contacted two roofing companies and both stated the roof needs repaired. Two options were presented. One was to just replace the soft spots and recoat with the vinyl coating. The other option is to change to a pitch roof with tin and trusses. Commissioners advised Swanson to advertise for bids to install a pitch roof on the building.

Clerk Marsicek reminded the commissioners that Judge Regine Thompson will be sworn in on February 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. so the commissioners could attend the Hospital Board meeting. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 2, 2020, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

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Edwin Splichal– Member

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Marvin Bergstrom – Member