

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, November 9, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope and Doug Garman 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, Crossroad Assembly of God in Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the November 2, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$155,346.62 for regular funds and SPARK funds were approved for \$243,355.87.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to appoint Susan Aaron to fill in for Commissioner Bergstrom to canvass ballots from the General Election held on November 3, 2020. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Deputy Election Clerk Beth Ball presented 26 provisional ballots to be reviewed and the voter turnout in Republic County was 77%. Ball explained that 12 voters were not registered at the time of the election and those would not be counted. The balance of provisional ballots were persons that moved within Republic County and their ballots could be counted.

Janet Roberts, concerned citizen of Republic County, suggested directory signs be installed in the basement of the courthouse. Being a new citizen to the area, it would be helpful if a person comes in the basement door. Roberts also suggested better and bigger instruction of how to use the utility lift on the basement floor. Commissioner Jeardoe apologized for any inconvenience Roberts had with her visit to the courthouse and will propose corrections to these areas.

Raymond Raney presented weekly updates regarding COVID and department issues.

- Laura Leite will submit the October expenditures from the SPARK funds by November 10.
- Quotes for the hands-free restroom fixtures was discussed and tabled until next meeting.
- Raney will place help wanted ads starting this week in the local paper.
- The new trailer for the Emergency Management department has arrived.

Sheriff Ron Blad and Sheriff-elect David Cox presented plans for the Sheriff's department.

- Ad's for sheriff deputy will be placed in local paper and other outlets. They are looking for someone already trained in law enforcement but would also train if necessary.
- There will be a change of duties of some current employees with in the department starting now for a smooth transition in January.
- They requested permission to purchase 2 new vehicles with the trade in of two current vehicles.

Jimmie Blecha, Honorable Mayor of Munden, thanked Republic County for the repairs to the road south of Munden to US 36. Blecha also requested an update on the proposal he suggested a few months back regarding changing the solid waste fees collected from cities to be treated as a pass through. Basically, funds collected from the cities will be sent to the county regardless of the number of households listed on the agreement. The number of households in each city changes every month, up some months and down other months. It would be much easier for the cities.

Luke Mahin, Republic County Economic Development, presented the new Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for signatures. All the cities of Republic County have agreed to support the program.

Terry Lambert, Nathan Craig and Stacey Bowen, county shop and transportation, presented updates from the county shop area.

- Lambert announced that on Thursday, November 12, the employees of the road and bridge department will have a defensive driving class, open enrollment for health benefits for 2021 and a safety meeting.
- Lambert presented a utility agreement between Tim Eitzmann and Republic County to install a waterline under Ash Rd.
- APAC has delayed the repairs on the approaches to the bridge south of Scandia.
- Lambert announced that they would suggest at least one person be a certified crane operator.
- Lambert is still looking for a second quote for a road grader before approving purchase.
- Discussion was held in regards to vacating Nickle Rd between 280 and 290. Clerk Marsicek will start the process and report back at the next meeting.

At 10:20 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 25 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding wages for 2021. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners and Lambert.

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

Jeff Beikmann, EMS Director, announced that a newly certified EMT will be starting and that there will be a Paramedic Training starting in January and asked permission to pay the regular wages of the employee while they are in classes. Permission was granted.

Casey Fraser, Foley Equipment, delivered 2021 calendars for the commissioners.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, November 16, 2020, 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

Marvin Bergstrom – Member