

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 29, 2021, at 8:30 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 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.

Lay Pastor Deb Hadachek, Beloit Presbyterian Church, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the March 22, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Justin Ferrell, County Attorney, announced that the Delinquent Tax sale will be held mid-May.

Raymond Raney, Emergency Management Director, announced that through FEMA persons can apply for funeral expense funds if a death was COVID related. There are limits for individuals and multiple family members that passed away due to the coronavirus.

Raney also announced that Governor Laura Kelly has opened Phase 5 for vaccinations.

Raney asked for location suggestion to permanently install the media sign. This issue was tabled.

Kim Springer, Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) representative, requested that the commission proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and that Friday, April 9, is Wear Blue Day designating the support for the CASA programs.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous.

Megan Lewellyn, Junior Class parent, requested funding for the Republic County High School After Prom party. Lewellyn shared the plans to entertain the students in the Jr/Sr school cafeteria and the practice gym following the Prom dance on April 24.

Commissioner Jeardoe read a request from Pike Valley After Prom committee also requesting funding to assist with their party.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to donate \$750.00 to both after prom parties from the drug and alcohol fund. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Jeremy Snapp on behalf of Jitters Food Truck asked permission to park their food truck on the inside of the courthouse square on Saturday mornings.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to grant permission for the food truck to set up on courthouse square on Saturday mornings. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous.

Deb Hadachek notified the commissioners that the elevator at the Medical Arts building needs repaired.

Patrick Comstock, courthouse custodian, presented bids for replacement coils in the heat registers in the courtroom.

- Rizek Plumbing & Heating \$1,954.17 each
- Hood Plumbing & Heating \$2,218.00 each

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to order 2 coils from Rizek. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve and sign letters asking Senator Elaine Bowers and Representative Lisa Moser to vote NO in regards to HB 2184 Legalization of “Medical” Marijuana. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Nathan Craig and Stacey Bowen presented updates from the county shop area, transportation and solid waste.

- Bowen explained that the software used to calculate time studies for project is currently down. She is working with CIC to get it repaired.
- Bowen announced that there is a meeting with the engineer from Kirkham Michael regarding the overlay on the Courtland road on Tuesday, March 30th at 10:00. Bowen will discuss other projects issues with the engineer at that time.
- Bowen stated that no applications have been received for the transportation driver, full-time equipment operators or summer part-time operators.

Commissioner Splichal complimented the road crews on the grading on Lincoln road between US 81 and Munden blacktop. However, Commissioner Garman requested that the gravel roads west of the Republican river should be graded using the same technic in grading.

- Craig stated that since they are short on employees, employees are to be transferred from one project to another. The newly purchased excavator with the tree grinder has been delivered to the Cat Dealership in Concordia and employees need to be trained to use it but currently other projects have priority.
- Craig announced the bridge crew will be replacing a bridge on 280 Rd north of Cuba.

At 10:50 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess to executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding job performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Craig, Bowen and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 25 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:25 a.m., taking no action.

Sheriff David Cox updated the commissioners regarding projects in the sheriff’s office and jail area.

- The replacement showers are on backorder.
- The new door locks are scheduled for April.
- Sheriff Cox has completed his official training and is certified as a sheriff in the state of Kansas.

- Sheriff Cox explained that the only additional over-time that the K-9 handler will receive is one additional hour per week for the days he is not scheduled to work.

Levi Whitley, EMS Director, discussed older equipment and items to sell on the consignment sale. Some items cannot be sold to the general public but can be transferred to other rescue/medical departments.

Whitley asked if there was a specific procedure to write off past due accounts. Commissioner Jeardoe suggested that Clerk Marsicek contact our auditor and county attorney for information regarding proper procedure to write off past due accounts.

Whitley has signed agreements with the Belleville Highbanks association to be on call at the races for 2021.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to close the courthouse on Friday, April 2 from Noon to 2:00 pm to allow employees to attend Good Friday service. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, April 5, 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