

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, September 21, 2020, at 8:30 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 observed parts 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, Presbyterian Church of Beloit, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the September 14, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$100,483.74 and SPARK vouchers were approved in the amount of \$166,992.27.

Patrick Comstock, courthouse custodian, asked permission to purchase a new snow blower if repair costs to the old snow blower are extensive. Permission was granted.

Raymond Raney, Justin Ferrell and Danielle Swanson presented updates on SPARK funding and coronavirus cases in Republic County.

- Ferrell announced that Dr. Roger Marshall's office is assisting in the issue of Nebraska television stations versus Kansas television stations. Ferrell was informed that it is a long process to file the petition and the filing fee with the FCC is approximately \$1,500. Ferrell also stated that the delinquent tax sale is progressing.
- Swanson announced there have been 6 new cases of coronavirus in the last week and approximately 40 persons have been quarantined from the exposure. Swanson also shared that the state has reallocated funding from round 3 of the SPARK funds for DCF, childcare and testing equipment.
- Raney announced that the approved reimbursement vouchers and checks have been printed from the SPARK fund. The request from Pawnee Mental Health needs a motion of approval before it is processed. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the request from Pawnee Mental Health for SPARK funds. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Raney also announced the new air conditioner has been installed in his department.

Luke Mahin, Republic County Economic Development, explained that the Republic County Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) 2016 will expire December 31, 2020 unless a new plan to replace it has been approved.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to continue the NRP program for another 5 years ending in 2026. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mahin will prepare the new 2021 NRP plan as soon as he has contacted all the cities and schools of Republic County for their approval. Clerk Marsicek will prepare the county resolution approving the NRP program for 5 years.

Mahin reported that he contacted Next-ERA windfarm for an update on testing in Republic County and reported that Next-ERA is interested in some areas in Republic County but it is difficult to find transmission lines to transport from Republic County to the buyer.

Terry Lambert, Highway Administrator, presented updates from the county shop area.

- Lambert has visited a few projects in Republic County and conversed with citizens and employees about projects and when they need to be accomplished.
- Lambert presented 4 quotes for a new vehicle.
 - Melton Motor 2020 Dodge RAM 1500 Tradesman V6 \$36,354
 - Melton Motor 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 basic V6 \$25,038
 - Melton Motor 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 standard V6 \$26,817
 - Melton Motor 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 basic V8 \$29,256

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the quote for the 2021 Chevrolet 1500 standard V6 package.

Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Lambert will research fuel bids to assist with budgeting fuel costs in 2021.
- The asphalt crew has completed the patching of the asphalt road south of Scandia and are chip sealing the asphalt road between US 36 and K148 near Cuba.
- Champlin Tire Recycling quoted \$175 per ton to dispose of tires at the landfill.
- BG Consultants are completing the inspection of the bridges in Republic County and will present a list of the top 10 bridges that need repairs.
- A bridge on Penn Rd between 100 RD and 110 RD has been closed effective September 21, 2020 until repairs can be completed.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to re-appoint Dr. Andy Walker to serve as the County Medical Doctor representative on the Republic County Hospital Board. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Splichal will serve as voting delegate and Commissioner Jeardoe will serve as alternate voting delegate for the KWORCC annual meeting by Zoom on October 14.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the proposed Republic County Holiday schedule for 2021. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, September 28, 2020, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal– Member

Marvin Bergstrom – Member