

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Others attending by ZOOM were Deb Hadachek, The Belleville Telescope, Danielle Swanson, Republic County Health Administrator and Adam Anderson, Belleville City Manager.

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 April 27, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$234,961.37 were approved.

Raymond Raney and Danielle Swanson updated the commission regarding COVID-19. Swanson stated that until the Governor's update to be held later this week, Republic County will remain on Phase 1 of the reopening of businesses. Phase 2 is to start on Monday, May 18. Raney announced that Republic County received some donated masks but they are KN-95 from the Patterson Foundation.

Commissioner Splichal suggested the date of Tuesday, May 26 to open the courthouse to the public if the Governor continues with Phase 2 on May 18. The only door to be unlocked will be the basement door on the eastside of the courthouse. Splichal also suggested the public will be questioned regarding recent travel, symptoms, temperature or had contact with any positive cases in the past 2 weeks and that a face mask is to be worn. Commissioner Jeardoe suggested that the next week, June 1st to 5th, the employees be questioned regarding the same information as the public the prior week. If the health and welfare of public and employees is normal, all doors could be unlocked the following week, June 8th, using the practice of social distancing when in the building. This includes the transportation buses.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the soft opening of the courthouse on May 26 and the follow-up opening on June 8. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Swanson suggested that the courthouse create a procedure to post on the entrance stating the process of opening to the public.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to allow the auditor and staff to audit county 2019 information beginning on Monday, May 18. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

David Holloway, EMS Director, announced the new ambulance should be available by the end of May. Holloway also announced that the State Board of EMS has granted permission for Republic County to host an EMT class starting June 11.

At 9:40 am, Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss a non-elected personnel issue regarding employee performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attend the session were the commissioners and Holloway. Commissioner Jeardoe requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 9:55 a.m. taking no action.

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

- Zenger requested signatures on an agreement between Republic County and BNSF Railway Company to install railroad crossing signals, flashing lights and gate at corner of Section 15, Township 4 South, Range 5 West.
- Zenger present bids to mill butt joints and repave bridge approaches south of Scandia and west of Republic.
 - Hall Brothers, Inc \$45,700.00
 - APAC-Kansas, Inc \$28,922.80

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the bid from APAC. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Zenger presented his resignation effective May 29. Zenger has accepted a position in Edwardsville, KS.
- The bridge crew should complete the bridge on Valley Rd this week.
- Zenger announced that BG Consultants will inspect the bridges within Republic County.
- Hall brothers will apply the onyx to 290 Rd south and east of Agenda.
- Zenger contracted Wilson Communication for computer support.
- The grader sold on the auction brought \$71,000.
- Zenger announced that one of the summer employees start on May 11 and the other should start next week.

At 10:35 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess to executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners and Zenger.

The board reconvened at 10:45 a.m. Commissioners accepted with regrets the resignation from Zenger.

Jeff Beikmann, Assistant EMS Director joined the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

At 10:55 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess to executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners and Beikmann. Commissioner Jeardoe requested an additional 4 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:14 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to appoint Jeff Beikmann as Director of EMS and David Holloway as Assistant EMS Director Effective June 1, 2020. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to proclaim May as Mental Health month. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to grant permission for the annual Farmers Market to use the courthouse square. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioners approved a letter to the Honorable Governor Laura Kelly expressing the reopening plans of counties should be up to each county not the state as a whole.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 12:20 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Due to Memorial Day on Monday and other meetings on Tuesday morning, the next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Republic County Courthouse not using Zoom but open meeting.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal– Member

Marvin Bergstrom – Member