

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, February 22, 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.

Pastor Robert Frasier, United Presbyterian Church in Belleville, offered Morning Prayer. Since this was Pastor Frasier's last Monday to offer prayer at the commission meetings due to retirement, the board thanked Pastor Frasier for his prayers in the past and wished him a wonderful retirement.

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 February 17, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Accounts payable vouchers for \$139,075.03 were approved.

Danielle Swanson, Health Department Director, reported there are four active coronavirus cases in Republic County and that the vaccinations at the Point of Dispense, POD, is running smoothly each week. There were 200 plus persons vaccinated during each POD and the nursing staff could accommodate additional persons if the vaccines were available.

Kay Shoemaker, secretary for Republic County Development (RCD), presented a request from Tami Cakes to extend an interest only payment period thru April 2021. Commissioner Jeardoe made the motion to approve the interest only payments thru April 2021. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Shoemaker also announced that there would be an RCD meeting on March 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Bel-Villa Restaurant.

Adam Anderson, Belleville City Manager, joined the meeting to request that Republic County submit an Emergency Declaration relating to a state of Disaster from the cold temperatures within Republic County in the past two weeks. Raymond Raney shared that the Kansas Corporation Commission issued an Emergency Order on February 15, 2021 and has exercised its power to protect the public from immediate danger to health, safety and welfare by presenting Resolution No. 2021-18 to Proclaim a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Republic County.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-18 Proclamation. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Sherry Koster, North Central Kansas Local Environmental Program Group Sanitarian, presented the semi-annual progress report, Profit /Loss and a chart showing expense comparison between 2013 to 2020.

Terry Lambert, Road and Bridge Administrator, presented updates from the county shop area.

- Lambert presented for signatures the Solid Waste agreement between Republic County and the City of Munden.
- Lambert presented quotes for Excavator:
 - Foley Equipment \$136,700.00
 - Milton CAT \$173,748.00

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to purchase from Foley Equipment and authorized additional equipment to be purchased including Werk Brau swivel coupler and Mulching head for \$74,485.00. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

- Lambert and the bridge inspectors will proceed with the final inspection on bridge E-2.4 this week.
- The pickup truck ordered to replace the damaged pickup should be delivered next week.
- Road and Bridge employees are reviewing excess equipment stored at the county shop for possible disposal by auction.
- Lambert stated that there are job openings in his departments for equipment operators and bus drivers.

Commissioner Jeardoe presented years of service plaques to retired Sheriff Ron Blad and retired home health nurse Joyce Ball.

Shannon Myers, Jewell County EMS Director, joined the meeting to assist with interviews for a new EMS Director for Republic County.

At 1:10 p.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel applications for EMS Director. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Myers and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 1:25 p.m., taking no action.

At 1:30 p.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel by interviewing applicant for EMS Director. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, David Whitley, Myers and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 15 minutes.

The board reconvened at 2:05 p.m., taking no action.

At 2:10 p.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel by interviewing applicant for EMS Director. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Jeff Beikmann, Myers and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 20 minutes.

The board reconvened at 2:50 p.m., taking no action.

At 2:50 p.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel applications for EMS Director. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Myers and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Garman requested an additional 15 minutes.

The board reconvened at 3:15 p.m., taking no action.

Discussion was held regarding a call back interview for the candidates. Candidate Whitley agreed to come back at 4:00 p.m. for a second interview.

At 3:45 p.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel applications for EMS Director. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Myers and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 4:00 p.m., taking no action.

At 4:05 p.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel follow-up interview for EMS Director. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Whitley, Myers and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 4:20 p.m., taking no action.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 1, 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