

**REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 15, 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 Wade Moss, Landmark Church of Belleville, 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 Jeardoe made a motion to approve the March 8, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to grant permission for the Assembly of God to hold the annual Easter Egg Hunt on the courthouse lawn on April 3. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Raymond Raney, Emergency Preparedness, reported there was a fire in the Jamestown State Lake Marsh area near land in Republic County that several firefighting groups assisted with containing it.

Raney announced additional federal funding will be received in Republic County as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP). An exact amount that each county, city or township will receive is still unknown but the funds will be handled by the state/Federal contact rather than the county.

Raney will be interviewing a candidate for dispatch this week.

Sheriff David Cox announced that the new weapons have been ordered and the trade-in of other weapons will offset the cost of the new weapons and ammunition. The shower replacement and door lock installations are still in the works. Cox announced that the sheriff's deputies held a 'seatbelt for everyone' program at USD 426 to encourage the use of seatbelts. The Belleville City Police held a similar program for USD 109.

The Honorable Mayor of Munden, Jimmie Blecha, updated the commissioners on information regarding the City of Munden.

- People in Munden survived the extremely cold weather in February without any major issues.
  - Blecha requested a letter of support for a grant for the City of Munden to update the water tower.
  - Blecha asked sometime this summer if the road department could repair the asphalt in front of the city park.
  - Blecha announced that the floor of the community building has been replaced.
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- Blecha requested an update on the request to change the invoicing agreement with Republic County solid waste fees to be changed to monthly as a pass through. The fees collected by the City of Munden

equals the amount paid to Republic County solid waste. Commission is researching the probability of this request on the best interests of all towns not just Munden.

Only one bid was received to maintain the sprinkler system for the courthouse lawn during 2021.

Performance Lawn from Concordia

- Sprinkler activation \$165.00
- Summer checkup \$135.00
- Sprinkler winterization \$155.00
- Total \$455.00 plus any sprinkler heads and labor to replace heads.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the bid from Performance Lawn. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the resignation of Terry Lambert. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Due to the resignation of Terry Lambert, Stacey Bowen, Nathan Craig and Susan Aaron presented updates from the county shop area, transportation and solid waste.

- Bowen shared that the selected items for the two auctions have been submitted for publication on the Midwest Auction sight and the Highbanks consignment auction.
- Bowen stated that there are two full time positions open for equipment operators and one position for bus driver and now an administrator.
- Aaron presented for signatures the solid waste agreement between Republic County and the City of Republic.
- Aaron is working on a grant application for additional equipment and signage for recycling trailers and she will follow up regarding the solid waste coalition of Kansas counties to the east.
- Craig announced that due to steel prices and availability of needed beams and supplies, the number of bridge repairs may decrease from original plans.

At 10:50 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding employee medical issue. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which Commissioner Garman made unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Bowen and Craig. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to allow an employee to use 80 hours of banked sick leave. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Mike Hadachek, Astra Bank Loan manager, requested that Republic County use the Republic County Hospital as collateral on the proposed lease.

At 11:30 a.m., the commissioners moved their meeting to the Belleville Health Care Center where Chairman Jeardoe presented Retired Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom a plaque to celebrate his 14 years of service.

At 12:00 p.m., the board reconvened to the commissioners' board room to finish business for the day.

Sealed bids were opened for the wireless phone services for 2 years for Republic County.

- T-Mobile \$17,405.85
- Nex-Tech Wireless \$18,104.40

- Verizon \$23,034.24

Commissioner Garman made a motion to accept the bid from our current provider, Nex-Tech even though it was not the lowest bid but within 4% of the lowest bid. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 22, 2021, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair  
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Edwin Splichal – Member  
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Doug Garman – Member