

**REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 5, 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.

The meeting was called to order and attendees pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Pastor Sang Hak Lee, Belleville United Methodist 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 29, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Clerk Marsicek presented a request from Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK) to proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

Danielle Swanson, Health Department Administrator, announced that the health department has distributed 2,344 vaccine shots. Some vaccines are to non-Republic County residents but the majority are county residents. Vaccinations scheduled for this week are 100 Moderna Primary, 100 Moderna Boosters and 100 Johnson and Johnson.

The Health department received a new vaccine refrigerator from Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Raymond Raney stated that no additional information has been received from the American Rescue Plan.

Dispatch is still looking for a full-time dispatcher.

Sheriff David Cox presented a copy of Memo of understanding in regards to additional wages for the K-9 handler. Cox also stated that every day brings new challenges and experiences even to seasoned officers.

Cox announced that many Kansas counties and Nebraska counties are saluting Republic County for their foresight in passing resolutions relating to the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and requesting copies to be applied to their counties.

Cox suggested that when Pawnee Mental Health comes in May to request the annual support from Republic County, to research the information for the services they do or do not provide to Republic County residents and inmates.

Commissioners reviewed an article on Qualified Immunity by Colon Wood that will appear in this spring's Kansas Sheriff's Magazine. Commissioner Garman requested that a copy of this be sent to Senator Elaine Bowers and House Representative Lisa Moser.

Letters to the Directors of the Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles were approved and signed requesting that the driver's license renewal office be reopened in Republic County.

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

- Bowen shared a letter that she received from an anonymous person thanking her for all she has done during the turn over of Administrators of R & B.
  - Bowen stated that there has been a recall on 2008 Chevy Silverado passenger airbags but most of the service centers are backordered on the product but the airbags have been ordered.
  - The overlay on the Courtland asphalt through main street to US Hwy 36 is being scheduled. Republic County is responsible for 50% of cost. The City of Courtland is responsible to repair the outer sides of the road going through town and the middle 24' are covered with the matching grant.
  - Bowen received a request for the annual road reports for KDOT that include all work done to roads, bridges and culvert in 2020. This must be completed by April 15, 2021 and submit back to KDOT.
  - Bowen has worked with CIC computer tech trying to restore the administrator's computer but so far, no luck restoring information.
  - Bowen reported that Michael Burdock (KDOT) contacted the office to purchase the used chain-link fence that was removed between KDOT and the county shop. The consensus of the group is to reply that the county is not interested.
- Lawson has applied for 60/40 cost share project to apply an asphalt overlay on the road from Penn Rd at Cuba south to K148.
  - Kirkham Michael & Associates quoted 1.5" \$662,248.80
  - Kirkham Michael & Associates quoted 2" \$874,552.40
- Lawson reported that the engineer at Kirkham Michael & Associates agreed that the total of 6" of asphalt tapering to 2" was needed on top a good base on the approaches to the bridges at Scandia and Republic.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the agreement with APAC to correct the approaches with the new total of asphalt as long as APAC credits back to Republic County for supplies and labor used to temporarily fix the situation. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

- Bowen and Lawson stated that no applications have been received for any of the open positions.
- Lawson reported that the tires for the mowers have been ordered
- Lawson announced that the landfill is getting ready to receive items from the Belleville citywide clean-up from April 12 to April 16.

Commissioner Splichal asked if the tires were going to be delivered also or if the city holds them somewhere and has them picked up later or does the county charge them for the tires delivered.

Susan Aaron was asked to join the meeting and explain the solid waste procedures since she is the Solid Waste administrative assistant.

Aaron was not sure how it was done in the past but she will contact Adam Anderson or Brian Philips from the City office for information.

- Craig and Bowen reported on the equipment that was sold on the Midwest Auction online sale. A total of \$55,486.00 will be Republic County's share.

- Craig stated that he has ordered the culverts needed to replace culverts at Diamond and 20 Rd but Welborn could not give a delivery date and the estimated cost is \$13,904.
- Craig asked for guidance in regards to ordering bridge supplies for bridges further down the list. Prices continue to climb and we are not ready to start the bridge projects but if we wait until it is time to work on them parts will not be available and will have to wait. Commissioner Jeardoe suggested that Craig Place the order and request an estimated date of delivery.

Commissioner Jeardoe asked the three persons here today if they could be appointed as Interim Directors of R&B and Transportation as they were in 2020 when the R&B Administrator resigned.

At 11:30 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and job duties. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Lawson, Craig and Bowen. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 10 minutes and when that time expired Commissioner Garman requested 5 additional minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:55 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve bonus pay for April and May for Lawson, Craig and Bowen. Lawson and Craig will receive \$1,250 per month and Bowen will receive \$1,750 per month, effective April 1 and ending on May 31, 2021. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Commissioner Jeardoe reviewed information presented regarding National Heritage Area and requested that this topic be tabled until all commissioners have had a chance to attend regional meetings relating to this issue.

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

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, April 12, 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