

## REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, February 17, 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 Rick Snodgrass, Crossroads Assemble of God Church in 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 Splichal made a motion to approve the February 8, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Barry Porter, County Appraiser/IT contact, updated the commissioners in regards to hiring an outside IT company to monitor county IT issues. Contact was made in the spring of 2020 with Wilson Communication, however; when the Pandemic hit, all research was tabled. Currently, computer issues have been handled in a secure fashion by our provider, Nex-Tech.com. The current contract will expire in 2022, therefore during the fall of 2021, he and Beth Ball will revisit the needs of Republic County.

Danielle Swanson, Health Department Director, left information regarding three items she is purchasing with grant funds:

- Exam Chair
- Exam Table
- Blood Lead Analyzer and Test Kit

Raymond Raney presented an update regarding Emergency Management issues in Republic County.

- Per Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the City of Republic is in "Boil water before using" directive due to a waterline break.
- The Health Department will be dispensing vaccines on both Wednesday, February 17 and Friday, February 19 this week at the 4-H building on the Fair grounds. Discussion regarding reimbursing the Extension office for use of the building was tabled until a dollar amount could be established.
- Raney and Clerk Marsicek stated that Laura Leite, SPARK Project Leader, needs to be compensated for hours worked after the end of her contract date, December 31, 2020, to finalize the grant paperwork until the project is closed. Marsicek will contact the County Attorney, Justin Ferrell, to prepare an amendment to Leite's contract.

Sheriff David Cox presented updates for the sheriff's department.

- The signage project in the parking lot is complete.
- The deputies will be presenting safety programs at each of the schools in the district.
- The sheriff's department has received a \$2,000 grant from KCAMP, Republic County's Insurance carrier, from the Risk avoidance program to update door locks and other safety features in that department.
- Cox is replacing older weapons so all officers will have the same type of weapon. The older weapons will be used as trade-in.

- The remodeling of the showers in the jail area should begin in 2-3 weeks.

Beth Ball, Deputy County Clerk and HR, requested an executive session.

At 9:25 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding a Human Resources (HR) issue. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe. Attending the session were Commissioners, Ball and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 9:30 a.m., taking no action.

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

- Lambert announced the extreme cold temperatures caused equipment to gel up even with additives but everything is running.
- Lambert submitted grant applications for reimbursement of funds to replace two bridges (K-7.2 and E-2.4) completed by Republic County for shared cost of 90% KDOT and 10% Republic County.
- Lambert stated that Foley Equipment (CAT) has located an Excavator and attachments requested at the CAT dealership in North Carolina. When a second quote is received the commissioners will act on a purchase.
- Lambert suggested that the county purchase a bucket truck during 2021.
- Lambert visited the solid waste facility in Washington County and confirmed the fees they charge their customers. Lambert was instructed to contact the Washington County Solid Waste/recycling Director and the 11 County alliance to request information in regards to joining the alliance and report back to Commissioners.
- The transportation department is looking for drivers.
- Solid Waste agreements were presented for signatures for the following cities effective January 1, 2021.
  - City of Agenda
  - City of Courtland
  - City of Narka
  - City of Scandia

Cindy Coons, County Treasurer, presented the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter financial statement showing \$17,693,895.73 as the total Republic County revenue available.

David Strnad and David Holloway, EMS, presented quotes for Polaris 4x4 to be used by ambulance department.

- E.T.s Lawn & Leisure- Cortland, NE \$10,845.80
- Bruna Implement- Washington, KS \$12,034.00
- PrairieLand John Deere-Concordia, KS \$15,480.00
- C & W Farm Supply-Courtland, KS \$16,379.00

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the bid from E.T.s Lawn & Leisure. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

At 11:15 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel employee performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe. Attending the session were the commissioners, Strnad, Holloway and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 25 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:55 a.m., taking no action.

At 12:35 p.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to review the applications for EMS Director. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal. Attending the session were the commissioners and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 10 minutes.

The board reconvened at 1:15 p.m., taking no action.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 p.m. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 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