

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, June 7, 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, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the June 2, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$224,267.31 for regular accounts and \$7,021.65 from SPARK funds to close the fund.

Drew and Blake Erkenbrack, Belleville Highbanks, presented to the commissioners the schedule of race events for 2021 and a list of projects to be completed in 2021. Drew announced that all of the lighted sponsor boards have been sold for the 2021 season.

Kay Shoemaker, Republic County Development treasurer, invited the commissioners to attend the June 9th meeting at the Heartland Lodge starting at 6:30 with a meal and the meeting following.

Wayne Pachta, Jerry Strnad and Morgan Barnhart, Republic County Conservation Board, presented their 2020 annual report and proposed annual request from Republic County. The request is the same as 2021 at \$37,500.

Permission to travel was granted for Clerk Marsicek to attend Sanborn Academy in Wichita from June 10 to June 11.

Sandee Swanson, Register of Deeds, presented a 3-year Kansas partnership Renewal Plan for software and hosting services with Fidar Technologies at an annual cost of \$7,000.

Swanson also presented project request quotes for the Deeds office in hopes they can be funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. The requests were for the following:

- Completing the 2020 Media Conversion projects (balance of 79 Deed books).
- Scanning the remaining record books which have yet to be digitally backed up.
- Purchase an additional computer station for public access as well as home use should that need arise again.
- Purchase CONDOR indexing services through Fidar Technologies for the un-indexed document records.
- Pay off the final payment from 2020 Media Conversion project.

The primary goal is to have every document in the Deeds office backed up in digital format. The secondary goal is to back-index those documents so that they can be searchable through one of the offices' online search engine programs. Currently, the Deeds office offers subscriptions to online searching through Laredo as well as Tapestry.

Swanson stated that currently there is enough work to keep at least two full-time people busy for the unforeseeable future. Currently, the deeds office is staffed with Swanson as full-time and Nick Baxa as part-time.

Commissioner Splichal asked if Baxa would consider full-time if the position became available. Swanson will visit with Baxa about this possibility.

Nick Baxa joined the meeting later and stated that if the part-time position should become full-time, he would most definitely be interested in accepting the position.

Kenneth Robbins and Stacey Bowen presented updates from the county shop area.

- Robbins presented his weekly update of projects and community concerns.
- Robbins stated that the interviews last week went well.
- Robbins visited the City of Courtland and surveyed the areas of 30 Rd that are planned to overlay with asphalt and presented the request for bids that will be sent to the paper. The cost estimate from the engineers is \$679,000.
- The new shop building walls and roof are almost complete.

Commissioner Garman suggested that Robbins contact the Bostwick Irrigation for riprap for ditches.

- Robbins reported that three of the graders have been sidelined until repairs on them are complete.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the weekly updates and community concern lists along with the proposed projects.

The commissioners spent the rest of the morning discussing budget requests from the individual departments. Discussion will continue on the budget requests next Monday, June 14.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, June 14, 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