

**REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 8, 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.

Lay Pastor Al Urich, American Lutheran 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 1, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$73,680.38.

Clerk Marsicek relayed the message from Kay Shoemaker that no RCD meeting would be held in March.

Raymond Raney, Emergency Preparedness, reported there were several grass fires within Republic County over the weekend. There were no structure losses.

Danielle Swanson, Health Department Director, reported there is only one active case of coronavirus in Republic County. The vaccine POD is running smoothly. Republic County had all three types of vaccine available last week however Swanson received notice that Republic County would not receive any additional Johnson & Johnson. Approximately 2000 doses of the vaccine have been administered through the Republic County Health Department. It could be possible that by the end of March a large quantity of vaccines could be delivered but how many and when is still unknown.

Clerk Marsicek presented four resolutions regarding appointed positions within the county.

1. Resolution No. 2021-20, rescinds Resolution 2021-04 appointing David Holloway as assistant EMS Director.
2. Resolution No. 2021-21, resolves to appoint Jeff Beikmann as assistant EMS Director.
3. Resolution No. 2021-22, rescinds Resolution 2021-17 appointing David Strnad as Interim EMS Director.
4. Resolution No. 2021-23, appointing Levi Whitley as EMS Director effective March 22, 2021.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-20 to 2021-23. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Mike Nondorf, Weeds Director, presented for signature the Republic County annual Noxious Weeds report. At 9:40 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel job performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Jeardoe requested an additional 10 minutes.

The board reconvened at 10:00 a.m., taking no action.

Terry Lambert joined the meeting.

At 10:05 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel job performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Lambert and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to offer Lambert an \$8,400 increase in wages to compensate for the skills demonstrated in the first six months of employment. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Terry Lambert, road and bridge Administrator, presented updates from the county shop area.

- Lambert presented for signature the solid waste agreement between Republic County and the City of Cuba.
- Lambert presented for signature a utility line installation agreement between Republic County and the Rural Water District to construct an underground waterline at Valley Rd and 50 Rd.
- Lambert reported that the road and bridge department employees are cleaning up the shop grounds preparing for two auctions this spring.
- During a safety meeting, Lambert stressed the importance of arranging work schedules and appointment times when it comes to drug testing and safety on the job.
- Lambert announced that there are still openings for 2 full time equipment operators, summertime help and 1 part-time bus driver.
- Discussion was held in regards to purchasing approved gravel from local vendors.

Jeff Beikmann, Assistant EMS Director, presented for signature the EMS appointment form for the State of Kansas EMS Board designating Dr. Nolan Beavers as the EMS Physician contact.

Justin Ferrell, Republic County Attorney, presented Resolution No. 2021-19, appointing Elizabeth Hiltgen to act as special prosecuting attorney for Republic County in the absence of the Republic County attorney from March 10, 2021 to March 12, 2021.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2021-19. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Ferrell updated the commissioners regarding the Conditional Use Permit for the NextEra Windfarm testing. Ferrell has left messages for their attorney for additional information. Ferrell is continuing to work on the Kansas channels vs Nebraska channels. Ferrell also said the delinquent tax sale should be held in May or June.

At the March 1, 2021 meeting Sheriff David Cox requested that the commissioners review an amendment to Resolution No. 2013-18 regarding protecting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights of Republic County citizens. Clerk Marsicek presented an amendment to that resolution passed in 2013 stating any new Federal Act, Laws, Orders, Rules and Regulations passed by the Federal Government and Specifically any Presidential Administration whether past, present or future, which infringe on the people's right to keep and bear arms shall be invalid in Republic County.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the amendment to Resolution No. 2013-18. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Jeff Beikmann, David Strnad and Levi Whitley, EMS department, joined the meeting. Strnad asked if any changes in duties have occurred. Commissioner Jeardoe announced that the official resolutions have been approved and Beikmann was appointed as Assistant EMS Director and will assume those duties today, Monday, March 8 and Whitley will officially start on March 22. Whitley announced that he would be able to start a week earlier if approved by the commissioners.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to modify the effective date to March 15 on Resolution No. 2021-23. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by commissioner Jeardoe.

At 11:40 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel employee job duties. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Strnad, Beikmann, Whitley and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:50 a.m. and Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to lower David Holloway's hourly rate, since he is no longer assistant EMS Director, to \$15.25. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, March 15, 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