

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, August 3, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jear DOE and Edwin Splichal. Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek, the Belleville Telescope and Quinten Bergstrom observed parts of the meeting.

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

Lay Pastor Kathleen Marsicek, Little Blue River Parish, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jear DOE seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jear DOE made a motion to approve the July 27, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Roger Fuller, Fuller Construction, requested clarification in regards to the amount withheld from the invoice for the roof installation. Commissioners stated that there were damages to property while Fuller Construction was installing the roof and requested that part of the repairs are the responsibility of his company. Danielle Swanson reviewed the invoice from Hood Plumbing and Heating and stated that there was a regular service call included with the repairs. The Health Department should cover those items on the invoice. After reviewing the repair invoice, Commissioner Jear DOE suggested that only the repairs to damaged parts are the responsibility of Fuller Construction.

Danielle Swanson, Justin Ferrell and Raymond Raney updated the commission in regards to their departments, Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) and the COVID-19 in Republic County.

- Swanson announced that there have been 4 new cases of coronavirus since the weekend. This cluster of cases has affected several businesses in Republic County. Swanson and three employees from the Republic County Hospital, Intern Administrator Rita Buurman, nurse Dawn Kasl and Physical Therapy director Brent Martin, are requesting that the commissioners adopt a resolution requiring citizens to wear facial covering when in public places within Republic County.
- Swanson also announced that Governor Laura Kelly is to hold a press conference Monday afternoon in reference to changing the status phase of the State of Kansas is in due to multiple new cases of the virus.

County Attorney, Justin Ferrell, will prepare a resolution for the commissioners to approve regarding the mandating facial coverings effective August 4, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. and in effect until August 18, 2020 and it shall be revisited at the County Commission meeting on August 17, 2020.

Ferrell rejoined the meeting and presented Resolution No. 2020-40 for approval.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-40, requiring the use of facial covering in Republic County until August 18, 2020. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion, Motion carried.

- Larry Lyder, USD 109 Superintendent, announced that school is scheduled to start September 1 and sports practice will begin August 17. All students and staff will be wearing masks and have temperatures taken daily.
- Raney announced that on July 20 it marked the 25th anniversary of 911 in Republic County.
- Raney stated that Laura Leite has had several meetings with cities and phone calls with the state CARES committee. The next Republic County SPARK meeting will be on Wednesday, August 5, 2020.
- Raney said the races on the Belleville Highbanks were held on Friday and Sunday. The crowd was lighter than anticipated.

Rick Pierson, concerned citizen, inquired about the bridge approaches of the new bridge on Fir Road between 200 Rd and 210 Rd. There aren't any guardrail extensions to mark the edge of the road nor reflectors. The commissioners will notify the bridge department of this concern.

Arlene Clayton, citizen of Belleville, stated that she supported the commissioner's decision to require masks.

Stacey Bowen, Transportation and road departments, presented updates from the county shop area.

- Bowen announced the hiring of three employees which brings the total number of R & B employees to 29 plus 1 for Weeds and 1 for Solid Waste totaling 31.
 - Dewey Bates as a part-time Operator 1 with a starting wage of \$14.00 per hour.
 - Jamie Snyder as a full time Operator 1 with a starting wage of \$12.50 per hour.
 - Brandon Wilson as a full time Operator 1 with a starting wage of \$11.75 per hour.
- Bowen asked if they should stagger employees work hours to remove the congestion of persons clocking in to go to work. Commissioners agreed with that suggestion.
- Bowen asked if a decision was reached on reimbursing her for the use of her personal phone for work. It was explained to Bowen that she would need to present a voucher each month and they would reimburse her \$35.00 per month.
- During this wet weather several of the graders have been in the shop for annual maintenance.
- Bowen announced that the annual audit for transportation will be held on August 28th, which is a Friday so Bowen will be working that day.
- Commissioner Jeardoe explained the concern regarding the lack of approach guardrails on the bridge on Fir road between 200 Rd and 210 Rd, also a bridge on Fir Rd and 190 Rd. Bowen will discuss these issues with Nathan Craig and report back next week.

Kay Shoemaker, Mikel Hadachek and Keith Anderson, all from Republic County Development (RCD), visited with the commissioners regarding two loan accounts.

- Landon Wolters, Wolters Chiropractic, because of the pandemic has requested interest only payments until December 31, 2020. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept interest only payments. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Cheri Cardi, Cuba Cash Store, requested that Walter Cardi name be removed from the loan papers in accordance to the divorce decree. County Attorney, Justin Ferrell, stated that instead of drawing

up a new loan agreement that an addendum be attached to the original. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to add the addendum to the original loan. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ferrell will assist with creating the addendum.

- Shoemaker announced there would be a regular RCD meeting on August 12 pending applications.

At 11:30 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to recess to executive session for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel applications for employment. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the commissioners and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:55 a.m. advising Clerk Marsicek to contact the candidates for Road and Bridge Administrator to set up interview times for next Monday, August 10, 2020.

Roger and Kevin Rizek, Rizek Plumbing, presented a basic quote per each style of fixture to update all the plumbing fixtures in the restrooms located in the courthouse.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 12:15 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Due to canvassing ballots from the Primary Election, the next regular meeting will be on Monday, August 10, 2020, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Marvin Bergstrom – Member