

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, February 1, 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 the Belleville Telescope observed the meeting.

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

Lay Pastor Deb Hadachek, Beloit Presbyterian Church, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. The motion was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

Raymond Raney and Danielle Swanson reported the start of COVID POD vaccinations. Swanson announced that the Health department received 100 doses of the vaccine last week and is expecting at least 100 doses each week. Swanson demonstrated on the internet how a person can schedule a time to receive the vaccine. The health department is scheduling a vaccine Point of Dispensing (POD) every Thursday afternoon at the 4-H building at the fair grounds when available. There will be other days listed if necessary because of use of the building on Thursday. Swanson encourages persons wanting to receive the vaccine to go online and sign up however, she is aware that not everyone has access to computer and they can contact a relative, friend or the Health department to get signed up.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to close the Health Department to the public on Friday mornings until further notice so the office staff can process vaccine paperwork with the state. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Justin Ferrell explained the current updates in the courtroom and the necessity for extra electrical outlets throughout the courtroom. Ferrell also noted that his office is staying busy entering docket information and other court filings and that the 2020 tax sale is planned for this spring.

The commissioners signed the tower agreement between Jerry Strnad and Republic County for the use of omni-directional antenna.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to appoint Diane Reed to represent Republic County on the Pawnee Mental Health Board of Directors effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Luke Mahin, Republic County Economic Development (RCED), presented the annual report for RCED.

David Strnad, David Holloway and Jeff Beikmann, EMS, asked permission to investigate the purchase of a vehicle to remove snow in the winter and aid services at the racetrack in the summer.

At 10:20 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel job performance. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe. Attending the session were the commissioners, Strnad, Holloway and Beikmann. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 5 minutes.

The board reconvened 10:40 a.m., taking no action.

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

- Lambert announced that the road crews were busy last week clearing snow.
- Lambert shared that the steel beam company announced a price increase of 50% for most products in 2021.
- Lambert asked the commissioners to research changing the cell phone policy and allow employees to use their personal phone and pay them a stipend instead of paying a phone company. The commissioners will look into this matter with HR and the County Attorney.
- Lambert announced that the Cloud County Commissioners approved the Solid Waste agreement between Republic County and Cloud County.
- The investigation of the theft at the county shop is ongoing.
- Lambert presented a payment invoice for Reece Construction for partial payment of services until the bridge is completed.

The commissioners briefly reviewed the applications received for the EMS Director and tabled all actions until after the February 12 deadline.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to move the meeting date the week of February 15 to Wednesday, February 17 to ensure all commissioners could attend. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve membership with the North Central Kansas Local Environmental Planning Group and approve the invoice for \$1,500.00. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

The next regular meeting will at 8:30 a.m. on February 8, 2021.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Melvin Jeardoe – Chair

Edwin Splichal – Member

Doug Garman – Member