

**REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, December 2, 2024, 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. Tim Eitzmann, District 2 Commissioner elect, Doug Jackson, District 3 Commissioner elect and Deb Hadachek, Telescope monitored most of the meeting.

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

Pastor Rick Snodgrass, Crossroads Assembly of God Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the minutes from November 25. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Justin Ferrell, County Attorney, asked the commissioners how soon they wanted to start the next delinquent tax sale process. Clerk Marsicek and Ferrell will prepare the necessary resolution to start the process.

At 8:40 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for Attorney/Client purposes for 5 minutes to discuss agreement issues. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Commissioners elect, Ferrell and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 8:45 a.m., taking no action.

Commissioner Jeardoe asked Ferrell to explain why Republic County pays attorneys outside Republic County to assist with trials within Republic County. Ferrell stated that some defendants cause a conflict of interest with the County Attorney and by law if someone cannot afford a lawyer the county will appoint an attorney.

Deb Hadachek, Hospital board member, announced that there will be a special hospital board meeting on Monday regarding financial issues of the hospital.

Terry Loos, Leifert Construction, projects that the step project will be completed this week.

Levi Whitley, EMS Director, reported that the department heads met to review information from Kirby at LockIt regarding fees for 2025. Lockit has agreed to decrease the monthly fees by \$5 per computer but stresses that each computer needs to have the same coverage in the future as it has had in the past 2 years.

Whitley shared that the new ambulance model will be a Ford system instead of Chevy due to the availability of parts.

Whitley announced that the EMS Department received a \$50,000 grant that needs to be spent by November 2025.

Whitley presented a quote for a Stryker cot for EMS #2 in the amount of \$23,818.50 to be purchased with the grant money. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to purchase the Styker Cot. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Jeardoe made unanimous.

Whitley reported that he plans to purchase additional rescue equipment with the grant funds. Commissioner Garman made a motion to purchase the rescue equipment. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Ken Robbins presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge, and turbine project information.

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins reported that the road crew has added additional asphalt and millings to driveways along the blacktop road south of Narka.

Commissioner Jeardoe asked if the county had enough culverts to finish projects or if additional culverts were purchased. Robbins stated additional culverts were purchased and the steel prices have been stable.

- Robbins presented information that will be sent to the commissioners to discuss options since the current trucking company will be raising the rates considerable as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. Clerk Marsicek will arrange a phone conference for next Monday, December 9 if it works for Cloud County Commissioners.

Barry Childs, Republic County housing project, presented a report of the Housing project since it started in 2023. There have been 4 completed projects, and an additional 10 projects started.

Commissioner shared an email from Beverly Howard, USDA, stating everything is in order to receive our grant money once the project is completed.

Following discussion on wage increases for the employees of Republic County, Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to add an additional 7.5% to all employees that did not receive an increase in July 2024. This is in addition to the 6% COLA. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 9, 2024, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melvin Jeardoe, Chairperson

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Doug Garman, Member

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Edwin Splichal, Member