

## **REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal, Melvin Jeardoe and Doug Garman. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the 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 Rick Snodgrass, Crossroads Assembly of God Church in Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the minutes from March 6, 2023. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$430,128.28.

Commissioner Splichal will attend the special Hospital Board meeting today at 12:00 p.m.

Joan Grover, Republic County Council on Aging, invited the commissioners to attend the North Central Flint Hills area on Aging spring meeting in Belleville on March 21<sup>st</sup> to be held at the Kallman Suites.

Grover reported activities that the Area on Aging helps with in Republic County.

- Administrative funds for employees
- Health insurance for employees
- Pays all the ride fees for seniors to ride the transportation bus within Republic County.
- Pays the registration fees for seniors to attend the Sunflower Fair in Salina.
- Donated to senior activities in the cities of Munden and Cuba.

Clerk Marsicek and Susan Aaron presented quotes for Wireless phone service for Republic County. The current contract expires on March 31, 2023.

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|---------------------|--------------------|
| • US CELLULAR       | \$791.82 per month |
| • Nex-Tech Wireless | \$778.46 per month |

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to accept the quote from Nex-Tech Wireless. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Patrick Comstock, presented a quote to repair the sidewalk on the north side of the courthouse, create a new approach to the storage garage on the courthouse lawn and to install a concrete slab for the new generator. Comstock requested bids from several businesses but only one responded. Hoge Masonry for \$6,321.00.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to accept the quote from Hoge Masonry and to use ARPA funds to cover the invoice. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Susan Aaron, Emergency Management assistant, presented to the Commissioners:

- A flyer from the Kansas River Valley Extension regarding Walk Kansas was presented if they would like to participate.
- Information regarding the annual storm spotter meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Two permissions to travel.
  - Aaron to attend O-305 Type 3 Hazards Incident Management Team Course in Salina from March 20 to March 24.
  - Raymond Raney to attend the 2023 Operational Coordination Symposium in Salina from March 20 to March 23.

Permission was granted for both to attend the trainings.

- Aaron suggested that since the county's lease on the tower land has increased, that a review of the two annual tower agreements for private use might need to be increased.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to increase the 2 agreements by \$40.00 per year. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

The Honorable Mayor of Munden, Jimmie Blecha, joined the meeting to discuss the City of Munden.

- Blecha asked when they can hold their citywide clean up. Ken Robbins joined the meeting and stated that the date is set for March 23 to March 26 with a pick-up date scheduled on March 27.
- Blecha asked if tires and appliances will be accepted and Robbins replied they are included.
- Blecha announced that the City of Munden is applying for a grant to install a concrete slab on an off street to have the recycling trailer place on.
- Munden is requesting some rock for some select streets.
- Blecha invited the commissioners to attend a coffee in Munden on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ken Robbins presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge and turbine project information with Max Wickstrum, Nathan Craig and Lance Jones from Murphy Tractor:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins reported a second windshield was broken by a rock. This issue will be handled in the same manner as the last broken windshield.
- Summer hours started today, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Crews will work Monday thru Thursday, 10-hour days, closed on Friday.
- Any employee that wants to work overtime, has permission from the Commissioners.
- Robbins requested that the Commissioners take an action regarding the 6-year Capital purchasing plan that was submitted last week.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to accept the 6-Year Capital plan. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Mike Hadachek, Barry Childs, Justin Trost and Jenny Russell from The Republic County Housing Board presented a Republic County New Housing Program for approval. The commissioners requested a few changes and asked the Housing Board to return next week.

Hadachek also presented for signature a Lien release for Cole Appliance.

Levi Whitley and Jeff Beikmann, EMS department, presented updates from their department.

- Whitley presented an Equipment classification , value and life span showing which equipment will need to be updated and when.
- Two persons from the Health Department are now trained as car seat Techs.
- Beikmann attended the Medicare training in Oklahoma.
- There have been 20 transfers from the hospital since the beginning of 2023.
- Ty Sothers was awarded a scholarship to pursue the Paramedic training.
- Some of the EMS crew will participate in race car extrication training.
- On May 9, there will be a Trauma symposium.

Trish Voth, Attorney at Law from Foulston Siefkin LLP joined the meeting via Zoom.

At 11:32 a.m. Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for Attorney/Client privilege for 30 minutes to discuss County Designee responsibilities. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Voth, Robbins and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested 2 extensions totaling 15 minutes.

The board reconvened at 12:17 p.m., taking no action.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 12:25 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 20, 2023 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

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

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Edwin Splichal, Chairperson

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Melvin Jeardoe, Member

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Doug Garman, Member