

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 13, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Blecha present. Also present were County Clerk, Vickie Hall and Commissioner-elect Harold Wilber.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez gave a County Landfill report. He noted that KDHE was at the site on January 8, 2002 to inspect the landfill and to audit Geo Core on the samples taken from the well.

He then reviewed the work done at the Road and Bridge Department. Progress is being made on the bridge project at 8-E.3. They are working on the North end of the bridge at the present time installing the bracing, guardrail posts, and decking.

The contractor is scheduled to start this week on the Federal Aid Bridge Project at 15-S.9, which is project no. 79C-3491-01. County crews have removed the trees on the South end of the project that was not included in the contract for construction.

He noted that the new John Deere Motor Grader will be delivered to the shop this morning and the old Dresser would be picked up as per the trade agreement.

Mr. Perez received signatures from the Board on two utility agreements. The first agreement gave Krob Trenching, Inc., permission to construct an underground telephone line. The second agreement signed was a Joint Road-Waterway Use Permit with Donald McEwen.

Pastor Bill Brazil of the Belleville Methodist Church offered the morning prayer.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to make the final payment to Invision in the amount of \$377.27 and Commissioner Blecha seconded that motion. Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. This closes the Medical Arts Building basement project.

Permission to travel was signed by the Board for Weed Director, Steve Pounds to attend a monthly NCWDAK Meeting in Salina, Kansas.

The Board also approved a permission to travel for Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe to attend County Government Day in Topeka.

Permission was granted to Undersheriff, Vince Crough and Sheriff's Deputy, Andrew Holmes to attend the Rural Drug Patrol Training meeting to be held January 22-24, 2003 in Hays, Kansas at the KHP Troop D Headquarters.

Economic Development Director, Larry Blochlinger stopped to visit with the Board.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek met with the Board. At 9:27 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session

for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Blecha made it unanimous.

Regular session resumed at 9:37 a.m. having taken no action.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Blecha seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

The Board signed Solid Waste Memorandum of Agreements with Courtland City, Cuba City, Munden City and Republic City.

Clerk Hall was instructed to give notice to department heads about the building inspections to be held by KCAMP on February 7, 2003.

At 10:00 a.m., the Board adjourned to enjoy the reception of out-going Commissioner, Amos Blecha. Chairman Holl presented Commissioner Blecha with a plaque for his 8 years of service to Republic County.

At 11:00 a.m., the Board resumed regular session. County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen met with the Board. A permission to travel out of county was signed for Kathy Zach and Ms. Hansen to attend the HIPPA Privacy Rule Workshop on January 15, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas.

County Attorney, Brian Grace visited with the Board about getting a 2003 exemption for the Valley Vegetable property. Mr. Grace will complete the paperwork. Commissioner Nelson told the group that should Valley Vegetable cease operations that the Intrust Bank in Wichita, Kansas would take possession of assets in the event of default on the bonds.

On January 3, 2003 County Clerk, Vickie Hall received three official notices by certified mail, as required under the bond documents for the Valley Vegetable bond issue. There was a Notice Declaring Acceleration of Bonds, a Notice of Intent to Terminate Lease and a Notice Declaring Liquidated Damages.

Mr. Grace and the Board also discussed the closing of the Corner Grocery in Scandia, Kansas.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell received approval to move part-time dispatcher, Colleen Alkire, up to a full time 911 dispatching position. She will start at \$8.25 per hour.

At 12:00 noon, the new First District County Commissioner, Harold Wilber, was officially given the oath of office by County Clerk, Vickie Hall. Lunch followed at the Bel Villa Restaurant.

The Board resumed regular session at 1:15 p.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to appoint Commissioner Martin Nelson as Chairman of the Board for 2003. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion.

**The Board signed and approved the annual appointments to committees for 2003.
(See 4 page listing of appointments and type in permanent record)**

Belleville City Manager, Allan Bachelor and Mike Hadachek met with the Board. At 1:30 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 35 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

At 2:05 p.m. regular session resumed. Commissioner Holl again made a motion to resume the executive session for an additional 5 minutes. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Those present were the Board, Mr. Bachelor and Mr. Hadachek.

Regular session resumed at 2:10 p.m. with no action taken.

At 2:15 p.m., postal managers and city clerks from around the county were invited to visit with the Board. The 911 Addressing Coordinator, Raymond Raney, 911 Communications Director, Mark Nordell, and Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe also sat in on the meeting with the Board. Others in attendance were Lyle Blecha, Deb Hadachek, Cheryl Loring, Cheryl Denk, Pam Reynolds, Estelle Edwards, Janet Weir, Betty Nickerson, Jeff Davidson, Vickie Hall and the Board. The group discussed the March 5, 2003 Special Question Mail Ballot Election and the 911 addressing.

It was the consensus of the Board that 911 Coordinator, Raymond Raney will provide a complete 911 list for postmasters. The postmasters will notify patrons or residents that this is their 911 address.

Mr. Raney will get a map to each city clerk and the city clerks will then provide Republic County with a confirmation listing of all the city residents and their physical addresses. The city clerks will be asked to send updates of that information on a quarterly basis. The city clerks in each town should notify Mr. Raney and the County Clerk's Office if they assign any new physical addresses within the city limits. The Board instructed the County Clerk's Office to use the old city address or the original addresses assigned to city residents many years ago.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to guarantee \$24,000 from the 2003 Budget to use as grant match money for the repair of the courthouse steps. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Courthouse Custodian, Bob Brown met with the Board. The Board accepted Mr. Brown's resignation with regret. Mr. Brown will be returning to his previous job as a 427 School District custodian.

The Board offered this vacated custodian position to a previous custodian applicant, George Bean, and Mr. Bean accepted the job.

Republic County Hospital Administrator, Blaine Miller and Doug McKinney met with the Board at 4:00 p.m. about the CDBG funds for the hospital improvements. Commissioner Holl received a letter this past week from the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing about the 2003 Community Facilities Applications. Marilyn Graham, Program Manager for the Community Development Block Grant Program, sent a letter of apology to Republic County. The grant application was originally denied. The letter indicated that they have conducted a review and rated the county's application. They determined that the original application would have been funded as written. However, Ms. Graham noted the State has obligated all of the current funds. Her letter indicated that Republic County would be placed on the State's future fundable list. The letter assured the county that they believe some funds will be available by March 31, 2003.

Republic County Sheriff, Ron Blad met with the Board to discuss a patrol truck that was damaged when the deputy hit a deer.

The Board signed eight resolutions of appointments for the year 2003.

Resolution No. 2003-01 appoints Steve Pounds as Director of the Noxious Weed Department.

Resolution No. 2003-02 appoints David Strnad as Director of Republic County Emergency Medical Services.

Resolution No. 2003-03 appoints Marcia Hansen as Director of the Republic County Health Department.

Resolution No. 2003-04 appoints Steven Zukowske as volunteer Radiological Officer for Republic County.

Resolution No. 3003-05 appoints Paul Haase as a Republic County Emergency Preparedness Department Volunteer Assistant.

Resolution No. 3003-06 appoints Alvin Perez as the Republic County Highway Administrator.

Resolution No. 3003-07 appoints Alvin Perez as the Republic County Solid Waste Director.

Resolution No. 3003-08 appoints Raymond Raney as the Republic County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 20, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 20, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board at 8:30 a.m. He reviewed the work being done at the county landfill as well as other road and bridge projects.

Mr. Perez also mentioned the KCAMP insurance survey he is completing for the counties transportation system.

A permission to travel out of Republic County was signed for Alvin Perez and Darlene Havel to attend a transportation meeting in Minneapolis, Kansas. Another permission to travel was signed for Mr. Perez to attend the 2003 Workshop and Equipment Safety Meeting and the North Central Kansas County Highway Officials Association Meeting.

At 9:00 a.m., Custodian, Bob Brown and newly hired custodian George Bean visited with the Board.

Economic Development Director, Larry Blochlinger met with the Board. Mr. Blochlinger gave his written resignation to the Board of County Commissioners.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Assistant Ambulance Director, Rod Dusek introduced Troy Fencil as the new full time EMT in the Ambulance Department. Mr. Fencil is in the process of moving his family to Belleville.

A permission to travel was signed for Health Department Secretary, Julie Lindberg. She will be attending the Quarterly Billing Meeting in Salina, Kansas.

Art Goppert visited with the Board about various matters. He was joined by a delegation of 12 county residents who were concerned about the condition of the 3 miles of road from Belleville to the county landfill. There were many debates about various ways to improve the surface. Many suggestions were received as residents and the Board searched for ways to keep the roofing nails and other trash and building debris off the roadway. Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez was also present at this meeting.

Minutes of the January 13, 2003 meeting were read and approved.

At 12:00 noon the Board adjourned for a luncheon recess.

The Board and Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez viewed county roads from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Shawn Wheeler visited with the Board about various matters.

Belleville City Manager, Allan Bachelor and Larry Ray visited with the Board about the city trucks hauling debris from dismantled old houses to the county landfill. Various items were discussed in a spirit of cooperation.

Mike Hadachek talked to the Board by telephone and invited them to a special RCD Meeting to be held at 2:00 p.m. on January 30th at the old gym in Scandia, Kansas.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 27, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Alvin Perez, Highway Administrator, met with the Board and gave a review of the new EPA regulations on the storage of fuels and oils. The rules are mandatory and will affect county facilities.

Mr. Perez gave an update on the bridge at 8-E.3. That roadway will soon be re-opened to the public.

Information was received from Alsop Sand Company giving the increase in prices that will take effect on February 1, 2003. Road gravel went up \$.20 per ton, Cover Material and Oversize went up \$.30 per ton. MRA-A went up \$.25 per ton. Mr. Perez stated his men are hauling gravel into the West yard before the increase takes effect and will stockpile that material.

The Board approved a Joint Road-Waterway Use Permit between Republic County and Donald McEwen, Republic Kansas. Said Waterway is located along the north and East Side of the NE quarter of 34-1-4.

At 8:57 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into Executive Session for a period of three minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and Alvin Perez.

At 9:00 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken.

It was the consensus of the Board to maintain the present Workman's Compensation policy with United First Agency.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to appoint Dawn M. Havel as the new Jefferson Township Treasurer. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

A permission to travel was signed for Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney and Beth Reed to attend the EMSAK Board Meeting in Salina, Kansas.

A permission to travel was signed for County Clerk, Vickie Hall and Cheryl Loring to attend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) meeting in Salina, Kansas.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek met with the Board. They reported that David Holloway has made plans to take the next EMT class. The Board agreed they would continue their past policy to pay tuition costs for anyone who agrees to work as an EMT for Republic County. The Board also

appointed Mr. Holloway to be the HIPAA Compliance Officer for the Ambulance Department. A job description will be written for this new position.

At 9:40 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

At 9:45 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken.

Commissioner Holl made mention that needle sticks, scratches and minor wounds as well as larger incidents need to be immediately written up on incident reports. The employee then needs to complete a Workman's Compensation form at the same time. The Board wants all employees tested immediately and at the county expense.

A bid was received from Dennis Tholstrup, Concordia, Kansas to repair the brick on the Medical Arts Building and cut the pavement away from the building. Clerk Hall was asked to contact Mr. Tholstrup and ask him to sketch a picture of the planned improvement at the Medical Arts Building.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall will also contact David Sprague about an automatic door opener on the interior door into Dr. Joseph Fischer's office.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe met with the Board. They requested that Peggy Frint be the person to back up the telephone switchboard operator, Beth Reed. Ms. Rahe said this arrangement was agreeable if Ms. Frint received compensation for the additional duties. A second relief operator has not been selected.

Custodian, George Bean gave a report on the water leak behind the courthouse. Rizek Plumbing stopped the leak on Friday.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

County Attorney, Brian Grace visited with the Board and discussed several items the R. L. Faus contractors agreed to finish on the lower level of the NCK Medical Arts Center. A payment of \$13,000.00 is due but several things have not been completed.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall received papers for Republic County from the attorney of Thomas Cherry. The County must answer the court and Mr. Grace will take care of this issue.

The Board recessed at 12:00 noon and attended the Republic County Hospital Board meeting.

County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen met with the Board. Kathy Zach will be the HIPAA Compliance Officer for the Republic County Health Department.

Ms. Hansen reported that the County Sanitation Officer, Robert Rust has resigned from that position. She also spoke of proposed budget cuts.

Art Goppert stopped to visit with the Board.

An invitation was extended to the Board to have lunch with the Leadership Class on February 12, 2003.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the bid from Joe Gerber to install the speakers at the Medical Arts Building. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

The Board made plans to hold the morning session of the February 10th meeting in the City of Republic.

At 2:00 p.m., Undersheriff, Vince Crough, Deputy Andy Holmes and Kansas Bureau of Investigation Agent, Bill Pettijohn gave a Drug Presentation to the Board of County Commissioners. It was reference the increasing problem of alcohol and drug activity in our area and the surrounding counties. The officers explained the problems associated with the use of Methamphetamine, Ectasy and GHB also known as the date rape drug.

The problem is huge and far reaching as it ruins the health of the drug user and anyone breathing the toxic fumes from a Meth lab. It is a serious safety issue for everyone. Neighbors and landlords are unaware that Meth labs are explosive, contaminate buildings, properties and some water supplies for years to come. The officers are working to educate the public.

At 4:00 p.m. the Board held a County Department Head meeting. Those present were: The Board, Steve Pounds, Raymond Raney, Mark Nordell, George Bean, David Strnad, Marcia Hansen, Brian Grace, Cindy Coons, Alvin Perez, Ron Blad, Barry Porter, Vickie Hall and Belleville Telescope Representative, Deb Hadachek. The next department head meeting will be February 7, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Commissioner's room. Plans are to continue work on the employee manual.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on February 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss various Road and Bridge matters. Project 8-E.3 is complete with the exception of grading on the ditches, installing 50 foot of guardrail on the approaches and removing excess materials and machinery from the site. Mr. Perez said the men did a great job on the new bridge.

The bridge crew will be getting equipment serviced in the shop and getting ready to start on the bridge located at 19-C.9. This will be a 60 foot bridge replacement project.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers throughout the morning.

United First Agency is processing the paperwork for our Workers Compensation Insurance. Mr. Perez has applied for the partially self-insured plan #784 under the Kansas Workers Compensation Act.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe stopped to visit during the public forum session.

Sharon Kalivoda received signatures on the RCD semi-annual report.

The Board signed a Solid Waste Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Agenda.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek met with the Board and gave an Ambulance Department review. The Board agreed the Ambulance Department needs a new desk and Mr. Strnad will try to find one at the State Surplus in Topeka, Kansas.

Joan Parades visited with the Board about various concerns. She told the Board she strongly supports the regular twenty-four hour Sheriff's Patrols done throughout the county.

Larry Blochlinger, Economic Development Director and Marilyn Sorensen of the Travel and Tourism Committee met with the Board. Ms. Sorensen and her committee are doing a great job promoting Republic County. She was concerned about tourism projects in the absence of an economic development director.

Courthouse Custodian, George Bean spoke with the Board about the lighted Exit signs in the courthouse. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to replace battery powered Exit signs with electrically operated Exit signs. The motion was seconded

by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. The exit lights would operate from electricity but if the electricity would go off they would be battery operated. Mr. Didde estimated the cost to be \$681.04.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Dennis Tholstrup, Masonry Contractor from Concordia, Kansas called and visited with the Board on the speaker telephone. He was asked to repair the brick facing on the Medical Arts Building. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept Mr. Tholstrup's bid and Commissioner Nelson seconded it. Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

At 12 noon the Board recessed for lunch.

County Attorney, Brian Grace met with the Board and confirmed that he will be leaving his job with Republic County and accepting the position of Lincoln County Magistrate Judge at the end of February. The Republican Party will meet and appoint someone to serve the balance of Mr. Grace's term.

At 1:05 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. At 1:10 p.m. regular session was resumed. At 1:12 p.m., the Board needed another 5 minutes of executive session. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for 5 additional minutes. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and Brian Grace.

At 1:17 p.m., regular session resumed with no action taken.

County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen received permission to travel to Osborne, Kansas. She will attend a meeting to discuss the future of the environmental program on February 6, 2003.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney met with the Board. He is looking into an instant recall recorder for the 911 Communications Center. It was the consensus of the Board to purchase one of the instant recall recorders from the State Surplus at this time. If it works out well Mr. Nelson suggested the county purchase another one.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on February 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. in the City of Republic.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., at the Republic City Hall, Republic, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall. Approximately 15 patrons attended the morning business session in Republic.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to review the work being done at the County Landfill. GeoCore and KDHE will be at the landfill today to perform the re-sampling of wells.

Mr. Perez told the Board about a Dings Flatguard Magnet to pick up nails on the landfill bomag that would be a better application than the one the county presently owns. The cost would be \$6,600.00 plus freight. This would enable the landfill operator to go over the road with the Flatguard Magnet after closing the landfill on Saturday without assistance from another employee. The Board approved the purchase of the magnet.

Mr. Perez sent out bids for motor grader blades to the vendors last week. They are due back into the office on February 14, 2003 and will be opened at the meeting on February 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m., Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board to review his department. He said the State Board of Pharmacy visited the ambulance department last week.

At noon the Board and Ms. Hall adjourned and enjoyed lunch at the Rip City Inn.

Session resumed at 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville, Kansas.

A permission to travel was signed for Weed Director, Steve Pounds to attend his monthly meeting.

County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen, County Attorney, Brian Grace, Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez, joined the meeting with Weed Director, Steve Pounds. Vacation and sick leave for salaried workers was discussed.

The Board appointed Dave Jeardoe as the trustee in Lincoln Township.

Cellular One representative, James Hedstrom, visited with the Board.

Grace Thompson and Glenda Trecek gave a presentation on the improvements at the Agenda City Park. The Board agreed to give \$1,000 out of the Park and Recreation Fund to help with construction of restrooms at the park.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Judy Kisby and Leah Krotz visited with the Board about the Belleville Library Summer Reading Program. The Board agreed to give \$350.00 from the Drug and Alcohol Fund to cover the cost of a professional clown for this activity. Children pre-school through 6th grade will be invited to attend the summer reading program.

Brad Chatfield stopped to visit with the Board about the resignation of Republic County Attorney, Brian Grace. February 19, 2003 the Republican Party Caucus will convene at the Belleville Public Library.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

The bid opening for motor grader blades began at 8:30 a.m. Those in attendance for the bid opening were the Commissioners, Mr. Perez and Martin Tractor Representative, Dan Zaharia.

The following bids were received:

Martin Tractor for a double edged blade --- \$27,391.96

Barry Tractor---\$31,960.42

Welborn Sales for single bevel blade---\$30,712.22

D. C. Wholesale---\$30,726.04

Later in the day Sales Engineer, Garry Montre of Welborn Sales, Inc., Salina, Kansas visited with the Board. Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez discussed the fact that he specified single beveled motor grader blades when requesting bids. The Board agreed to purchase the blades from Welborn Sales, 117 S. Eastborough, Salina, KS 67401.

Mr. Perez gave a report on the County Landfill. Geo Core and KDHE were on site February 20, 2003 to redevelop the wells and take samples to be analyzed.

District Court Clerk, Kris Kling asked about purchasing a new date/time clock for her office. The Board instructed Ms. Kling to investigate the repair of the old clock but if it was not cost effective to repair it she has permission to order a new clock for the department. A new clock would cost about \$425.00 at this time.

John Cyr, North Central Regional Planning visited with the Board. At 10:00 a.m., Mike Hadachek and Allen Bachelor joined the group. Mr. Cyr spoke about Federal Funds that are available from the Economic Development Administration to assist cities and counties.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek visited with the Board. Mr. Strnad received signatures from the Board on an agreement with David Holloway to be the HIPAA Officer for the Republic County Ambulance Department.

Chairman Nelson signed the Power of Attorney to authorize Mr. Strnad to purchase or requisition Schedule I and II controlled substances on behalf of Republic County EMS Department. This is in accordance with section 308 of the Controlled Substance Act (21 U.S.C. 828) and part 1305 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The Power of Attorney DEA number is MR0610382. Mr. Don Lieb will also have this authorization for the EMS Department.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to sign the Final Completion Agreement with the R. L. Faus Company for work on the lower level of the NCK Medical Arts

Building. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

County Attorney, Brian Grace and Mike Hadachek visited with the Board about RCD matters. Quint Huncovsky has agreed to resume payment on his RCD Loan.

At 11:30 a.m., the Board, Alvin Perez and Vickie Hall traveled to Jewell County. Lunch was enjoyed with the Jewell County Governing Board at the Buffalo Roam Restaurant. A joint meeting followed at the Jewell County Courthouse where they visited about subjects of mutual interest.

At 2:30 p.m. regular session resumed at the Republic County Courthouse

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 18, 2003 meeting as amended and Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion. Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

At 3:00 p.m., the bids were opened for a new pickup truck for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff, Ron Blad visited with the Board about the current vehicle rotation plan used by his department. The subject was tabled while Mr. Blad gathers more information.

The following bids were received:

Melton Motor Company, 2003 Chevrolet extended cab 4 x 4 pickup truck with a trade of the 1999 Chevrolet pickup (damaged and "as is") --- \$16,375.00 or if purchased outright with no trade allowance \$25,375.00.

Sankey Motors, Inc., 2003 Dodge 1500 QC 4 x 4 pickup truck with a trade in of the pickup truck at a cost of \$17,795.00 or without a trade allowance at \$26,195.00.

County Attorney, Brian Grace and Legal Assistant, Deb Franklin visited with the Board. They reviewed the items presently co-owned by Attorney William Navis and Republic County. Some thought has been given to having the county attorney's office return to the courthouse. The County owns two computers that are hooked into a server that is owned by Mr. Navis. It was suggested that the county would need to invest in a server or a bigger hard drive to save files. The photocopier and fax machine is also jointly owned. A firewall and two additional file cabinets would also need to be considered if the office was moved to the courthouse.

Mable Woodman, informed the Board that Delta Kappa Gamma has agreed to purchase the awards for this years County Spelling Contest. The Board graciously accepted their offer.

Courthouse Custodian, George Bean stopped by to report on work being done by his department. All new exit signs have been installed. He received approval from the Board to install a ceiling fan in the Treasurer's Office.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 24, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to review work in the Road and Bridge Department.

The Board signed a letter to Mr. Larry Emig at the Kansas Department of Transportation. Mr. Perez and the Board wanted to convey to them that Republic County would like to remove Project Number 79-C-4013-01 from the schedule for construction. Although it was field checked on February 18, 2003 by the Bureau of Local Projects, Republic County feels that this project can be completed on a county level with local funds. The actions of the State of Kansas concerning Demand Transfers have shorted Republic County approximately \$136,000.00 to date. Currently funds are simply not available to commit to additional projects.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad, Assistant Director, Rod Dusek and Beverly Reynolds visited with the Board about EMS matters. At 9:36 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. At 9:46 a.m., regular session resumed with the Board taking no action.

The Board signed the Sec. 1305.07 Power of Attorney form between Republic County and Don Lieb. Mr. Lieb will now be authorized to sign order forms to purchase and/or request controlled substances for the Republic County EMS Department.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall told the Board that 2,362 ballots have been returned to date for the mail ballot election. Clerk Hall hopes more ballots are returned before the end of this week.

At 10:20 a.m., County Attorney, Brian Grace visited with the Board. Republic County owned half of the Canon copier, fax machine, computer server and software while William Navis also owned half interest. A motion was made by Commissioner Nelson stating that Republic County would pay Attorney William Navis \$2,000.00 for the computer server and all the software. It was purchased for the County Attorney's Office in 1999. Republic County would then give Mr. Navis one half interest in the photocopier and fax machine. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Deb Tipton and Roberta Craig asked the Board for funds from the Parks and Recreation Fund to assist with the Munden City Park renovation project. The Board suggested they could check back in July, as there is very little money left in the Parks and Recreation Fund at this time.

The Board adjourned for lunch and attended the Republic County Hospital Board meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to pass Resolution #2003-9 to appoint Frank G. Spurney as the Assistant County Attorney through March 1, 2003. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous.

Commissioner Holl also made a motion to pass Resolution # 2003-10 appointing Robert A. Walsh as Special Republic County Attorney whereas; the County Attorney has a conflict of interest in two matters that require criminal prosecution in the District Court. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous.

Custodian George Bean stopped to visit about custodial matters.

County Attorney, Brian Grace visited with the Board about several matters. He reviewed projects that would still need attention and reported on others he recently completed for the county. He noted that Larry Tebow, Workman's Compensation Claim, has accepted a final out of court settlement in the amount of \$20,000.00 and payment has been made to Mr. Tebow and his attorney.

Mr. Grace will be the new Lincoln County Magistrate Judge and February 25 is his last day as the Republic County Attorney.

Mr. Grace and Attorney Frank Spurney visited with the Board about matters of mutual interest. The Republic County Republican Party Caucus was held and Frank G. Spurney received the nomination to fill the County Attorney position. Mr. Spurney is waiting for his official letter of appointment from Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

Mr. Grace informed the Board that he closed the Republic County Law Enforcement Administration checking account at the bank. The balance in the account was then returned to the Republic County Worthless Check Fund. Mr. Grace gave a final written accounting of the funds from the day the account was opened to present for the auditors.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney met with the Board. He asked the Board about purchasing a sheeps foot (packer) for \$1,800.00 from the Federal Surplus in Topeka, Kansas. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to allow Mr. Raney to purchase the packer if his committee finds it meets their needs. The county would then lease the packer to the race track committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to pay Peggy Frint an extra \$.25 an hour for assisting Beth Reed with the telephone system. Commissioner Nelson seconded the

motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. She will be the relief switchboard operator. This money will come from the Courthouse General.

County Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 18th meeting. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Sheriff Blad met with the Board to discuss the purchase of new vehicles for his department. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to let Mr. Blad use the money from the Public Safety Equipment line item in the budget to purchase new trucks if he would so choose. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber voted against the motion. Mr. Blad indicated he would be ordering new vehicles from Melton Motor Company who had the low bid. The Sheriff's Department has been using a vehicle rotation policy set up for his department.

The Board signed a Solid Waste Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Narka.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to review work in the Road and Bridge Department. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the final version of the Transportation Anti-Drug and Alcohol Misuse Prevention Policy for Republic County. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Mr. Perez said Rough Road signs were put up on the North 4 miles of the Scandia Blacktop on 90 Road from Fir Road South to King Road. His men will be getting equipment moved to the site and start removing the asphalt that is breaking up and fill the holes with rock material until asphalt is available to repair the holes.

Mr. Perez attended the District 2 Engineers and Supervisors meeting in Salina, Kansas to discuss funding, 5-year plan and budgets.

Permission to travel was approved for Mr. Perez to attending a conference on Recycling, to be held March 18-20, in Winfield, Kansas.

Mr. Roger Stuber, Martin Tractor Company, Concordia, Kansas stopped to greet the Board.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe told the Board that she completed and mailed the grant application for the Courthouse steps. March 3, 2003 was the last date one could mail or post the application. The County is seeking a \$90,000.00 grant.

The Board signed a permission to travel for County Clerk, Vickie Hall and Deputy Cheryl Loring to attend the NCK County Clerk's Association meeting in Junction City, Kansas. The meeting will be held March 20, 2003.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall reported that 2,986 ballots have been returned to the Clerk's Office. That is a 73% return on the mail ballot election to date. Wednesday, March 5th the ballots will be counted in the courtroom of Republic County Courthouse. The special question submitted is to approve or disapprove the Republic County Hospital renovation project to be paid by a one percent sales tax.

The Board agreed to meet on Friday morning, March 7, 2003 to canvas the ballots from the Special Mail Ballot Election. The canvas will begin at 9:00 a.m. and notice will be put in the Belleville Telescope.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad introduced Winter Kuehn as a new employee. She will work as a full time EMT for Republic County.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the purchase of a John Deere bagger for the county lawn mower. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. The quote was \$672.11 for this equipment. Custodian, George Bean was given permission to order it from Twin Valley Implement in Belleville, Kansas.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth, Munden, Kansas, offered the morning prayer.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons visited with the Board about the taxes on the Valley Vegetable property.

Melinda Pierson of Main Street Program visited with the Board. She invited them to the City Office at 7:00 p.m., March 3rd to hear the presentation from the consulting team of HyettPalma consulting team.

Correspondence and vouchers were approved throughout the day.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 24, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:00 noon.

Permission to Travel was signed for Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney to attend the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to train the trainer. The meeting will be held March 10-13 in the KS. Emergency Management Office in Topeka, Kansas. Mark Nordell, Director of Communications will also attend the meeting.

The Board looked at the office space in the south east corner of the Courthouse. Bids will be taken for new carpet and pad in that room. Custodian, George Bean told the Board that Kevin Calkins would be willing to help rip up the old carpet and do some painting. The Board would like to see a March 31, 2003 completion date.

Charles Westin stopped to visit with the Board. He will represent Republic County Economic Development Director until another Economic Development Director can be hired.

The Board of County Commissioners will meet on Friday, March 7, 2003 to officially canvas the ballots from the mail ballots election.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to review work in the Road and Bridge Department. Mr. Perez said that the employees would start working 9-hour days on March 17, 2003. They will work 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Perez visited with the Board about the "Road Groom" demonstration. The equipment showed how the Road Groom pulls the ridge of gravel back onto the road. It can be pulled behind a small tractor or a pickup truck. The blade also has a magnet on it to pick up nails and like items. The Board agreed to purchase the equipment at a cost of \$13,750.00 and to pay for it out the Solid Waste Fund.

Mr. Perez will write a letter to Kansas Department of Transportation and ask that our signs on our maintenance be excluded from requirements of MUTCD.

Mr. Perez noted that he has been researching the Excess Workers Compensation coverage. The County has been working with Tim Davis on Excess Workmen's Compensation Coverage in the past. Mr. Perez will call Mr. Davis to proceed with a policy for the County.

Mr. Perez has also been in contact with KWORKS about Excess Workers Compensation to see what they have available to partially self -insured groups. It will be a couple of weeks before they can provide a proposal for such a policy.

A telephone call was received from Michael McNulty who is with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Topeka, Kansas. He reported that his department had received the results from GeoCore, Inc. The report stated that GeoCore was able to clean up the contamination sufficient enough to show Non-Detect limits on the compounds found earlier at the county well sites. The results indicate everything seems to be back to normal.

Chuck Westin gave the Board an Economic Development update during the Public Forum. Mr. Westin is the interim Economic Development Director. Applications for the permanent job position will be taken through April 1, 2003.

Mr. Westin reported that some time in the near future the County Tourism Committee would like to print a Republic County flier. They want to do a large printing that will cost \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 so the supply will last for several years. In years past they were printed on a cost share basis. Mr. Westin will gather more information about this project and report to the Board later this month.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve a proposed Bylaws Amendment for Pawnee Mental Health. It would add two more members to the Pawnee Mental

Health Board. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

EMS Director, David Strnad visited the Board about routine EMS matters. Mr. Strnad presented a policy for going on “out of county ambulance runs”. Mr. Strnad also reviewed the billing and collecting of accounts receivable in his department.

James Hedstrom, CellularONE, gave a Major Account Partnership proposal to the Board. The purpose of this proposal was to illustrate how CellularONE can make wireless service cost effective and efficient.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall noted that there would be a county department head meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2003.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. At 10:33 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into Executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and Mr. Perez.

Regular session resumed at 10:43 a.m. with no action being taken.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall, visited with the Board about the items needed before the courthouse office is ready for the county attorney’s secretary. It was agreed that the FAX machine and photocopier should be ordered at this time. Clerk Hall will ask other department heads about other furniture items needed to complete the office area. If there are items not in use, within other departments in the building, please share that information with Clerk Hall.

Alvin Perez stopped by with the current Republic County policy for putting gravel on county roads.

The Board also signed a public right-of-way agreement between Krob Trenching and Republic County for an underground telephone line.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the American Red Cross Proclamation to proclaim March 2003 as American Red Cross Month. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Chairman Nelson signed the proclamation and Karla Jeardoe will deliver it to the Red Cross Office.

The Board presented County Health Director, Marcia Hansen with a plaque for 20 years of continued service to Republic County.

Karen Henke, County Health Nurse, received permission to travel to attend the Trauma Council Executive Committee to be held in Salina, Kansas on March 13, 2003.

Chairman Nelson signed a Health Department Grant Application. The grant requests funds in the amount of \$17,850.00 total. The breakdown requests \$7,000.00 State Formula Grant, \$7,000.00 Maternal and Child Health and \$3,850.00 for Immunization Action Plan.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, Kansas.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 17, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board. Mr. Perez introduced Mr. Carl Eyman, Loss Prevention Specialist, with Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties. Mr. Eyman submitted a proposal for Republic County's 2003 Workers Compensation coverage. The company, which is known as KWORC, is a member-funded, self-insurance pool.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2003-11 to adopt KWORC as the Workers Compensation Insurance for Republic County. Coverage begins on April 14, 2003. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. The cost for the balance of this year will be \$41,948.00 and the county will no longer be partially self-insured for Worker's Compensation.

Mr. Perez will write a letter to Mr. Tom Bradley, Division of Workers Compensation, Topeka, Kansas. This will notify them that Republic County will no longer be partially self-insured on Workers Compensation as of April 14, 2003.

Mr. Perez will notify Tim Davis, United First Agency, who currently covers Republic County for excess worker's compensation coverage.

Charles Westin, gave a Republic County Economic Development review during the Public Forum.

Bill Brazil, Belleville Methodist Church, offered the morning prayer.

Mr. Joe Stenson visited with the Board about a 911 Dispatch problem. The Board contacted Mark Nordell, 911 Communications Director. He will check into it and give a report on his findings at the March 24, 2003 meeting.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter visited with the Board about various matters. He told the Board that Mary Rundus planned to retire in June and Retha Blecha would step into that position of mapping. Gene Herrman who works half time in data collecting also retires in a couple of months. Mr. Porter would like to consider making that position a three-quarter-time position.

Three permission to travel forms were signed for Mr. Porter. The first was to attend the KCAA Executive Board meeting March 19, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas. The second was a KAC Workshop on Effective Supervisory Skills to be held March 27, 2003 in Salina, Kansas. The third will be an IAAO Course 201 to be held April 20-25, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas.

EMS Director, David Strnad visited with the Board about various matters.

At 10:00 a.m., County Weed Director, Steve Pounds joined the Board to conduct the official Chemical Bid Opening. Those present for the opening were the three (3) Commissioners, the Clerk and Mr. Pounds.

The following bids were received:

UAP/Timberland LLC bid	Amine 4 (900 gal)	\$ 8,001.00
	Low-Vol (720 gal)	\$ 7,884.00
	Tordon 22K (20 gal)	\$ 1,597.40
	Tordon 22K (180 gal)	\$13,849.20
	Clarity (75 gal)	\$ 6,262.50

Van Diest Supply Co bid	Amine 4 (900 gal)	\$ 8.84 per gal
	Low-Vol (720 gal)	\$11.16 per gal
	Tordon 22K (20 gal)	\$79.36 per gal
	Tordon 22K (180 gal)	\$77.11 per gal
	Clarity (75 gal)	\$83.00 per gal

Following opening of all bids received in a timely manner, Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bids on Tordon, Amine 4 and Low-Vol from UAP/Timberland and buy the Clarity from Van Diest Supply Company. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board that there would be no additional discount on chemicals sold this year. The Weed Department will charge what the container of chemicals costs the County. There will be no handling fee.

Don Westphal, Principal #427 East Elementary School and Al Urich, #427 Guidance Counselor told the Board about projects supported by the Drug and Alcohol Council in the past. They told the Board the Drug and Alcohol Council would appreciate their continued support. Commissioner Holl made a motion to allocate \$3,000.00 from the Local Alcohol Liquor Tax Fund to the Area Drug and Alcohol Council. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 11:00 a.m., the Board held the official bid opening for the carpet to be installed in the County Attorney's office in the Courthouse. Those present for the opening were the three Commissioners and Clerk Hall.

The following bids were received:

Tibbetts – Fischer Furniture Store	\$1,308.36
Bachelor – Faulkner – Dart – Surber Furniture Store	\$924.05
Gary Boman Floor Covering	\$1,129.25

Following opening of all bids received in a timely manner, Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid from Bachelor-Faulkner-Dart-Surber Furniture Store. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 12:00 noon, they adjourned for a luncheon recess. At 1:00 p.m., they reconvened in regular session at the Courthouse, Belleville.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board about a road closing. Due to incomplete recording it was discovered that some years ago that road had been declared a minimum maintenance road.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Republic County Hospital Administrator, Blaine Miller and Bond Council Greg Vahrenberg, Gilmore and Bell, met with the Board to discuss the Bond Issue Process on the Hospital Project. The governing body of Republic County Kansas signed a resolution to levy the special one percent sales tax and another resolution to proceed with the sale of the General Obligation Bonds.

Presented was Resolution No. 2003-12 entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF REPUBLIC COUNTY, KANSAS AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF A SPECIAL ONE PERCENT (1.0%) COUNTYWIDE RETAILERS' SALES TAX AND RELATED MATTERS.

A motion made by Chairman Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Holl was made unanimous by the vote of Commissioner Wilber. Resolution No. 2003-12 was adopted with a roll call of Nelson, Holl and Wilber voting Aye. Nay votes: none. Therefor the resolution was duly adopted, signed by the Board and attested by the Clerk.

Presented was Resolution No. 2003-13 entitled:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES THE OFFERING OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF REPUBLIC COUNTY, KANSAS.

WHEREAS, Republic County, Kansas (the "County"), pursuant to an election duly held on March 5, 2003, is authorized to issue up to \$5,000,000 principal amount of its general obligation bonds to (i) construct an addition of approximately 15,000 square feet to the existing Republic County Hospital to house a new surgery area, a new inpatient area and a new Labor, Delivery, Recovery and Post-partum birthing area; (ii) remodel the existing Republic County Hospital, including a physical therapy area, a pre-and post-operation area, a specialty clinic area, and mechanical

and electrical upgrades; and (iii) make all other necessary improvements appurtenant thereto (jointly the "Project").

A motion was made by Chairman Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Holl to adopt Resolution No. 2003-13. Commissioner Wilber made the vote unanimous. The resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote. Voting Aye were Nelson, Holl and Wilber. Nay votes: none. Therefor the Resolution was duly adopted, signed by the Board and attested by the Clerk.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen and County Health Nurse, Kathy Zach visited with the Board about various matters. They were encouraged to proceed with the installation of the new front door and handicapped accessible ramp for the Health Department Building.

The Republic County Commissioners have designated the Republic County Health Department as a hybrid entity and assigned Kathy Zach, RN as the HIPAA Privacy Officer for the Republic County Health Department in assuring compliance by April 14, 2003. They also designated the Republic County Home Health Agency as a hybrid entity and assigned Kathy Zach, RN as the Privacy Officer for the Republic County Home Health Agency in assuring compliance by April 14, 2003.

Chairman Martin Nelson signed an Amendment to the Formal Agreement between Area County Commissioners for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response and Communicable Disease Surveillance and Follow Up. The dated amendment to Section VII: Property Considerations. Health Director, Marcia Hansen explained the amendment for real or personal property acquired under the terms of the grant contract.

Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD matters. The Board signed a Real Estate mortgage lien release for C & E Sales and for Polansky Seed as these two Republic County Development Loans that have been paid in full.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 24, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 24, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Dave White, CGI Major Account Representative, visited with the Board. The County has been with CGI telephone for a number of years. The current rate of service is 6 ½ cents per minute and will increase to 8 ½ cents per minute. This increase will cost approximately \$35.00 per month. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to sign the one-year contract for General Courthouse Service. This includes the Sheriff's Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Motion carried.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter visited with the Board about various matters in his department. He noted that Gene Herrman, field data collector, plans to retire on May 9, 2003. The Board accepted Mr. Herrman's resignation with regrets.

Mr. Porter also mentioned that another long time employee in the Appraiser's Department, Mary Rundus, plans to retire on June 6, 2003. Retha Blecha is presently in training to take over the mapping duties of Mrs. Rundus. Mr. Porter asked the Board to consider having three full time employees in his department. The positions would consist of a Deputy Appraiser, Personal Property Clerk and a Data Collector. The Data Collector would review field checks, measure and check on new construction and work as needed in other departments.

Charles Westin, Republic County Economic Development Director, gave an overview of his work covering the past several weeks.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board. 2002 account write-off's were presented to the Board. Approval was given to remove them from the records.

James Hedstrom, Cellular One visited with the Board. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to switch from the present Alltel wireless phone service to Cellular One telecommunications service. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. The Board signed a one-year contract and instructed Mr. Hedstrom to visit with The Ambulance Director, David Strnad and the County Health Director, Marcia Hansen about their specific telephone requirements.

At 10:30 a.m., Alvin Perez, Highway Administrator visited with the Board about the KWORCC – Worker's Compensation agreement. Mr. Perez visited about Worker's Compensation and how claims would be handled for the County. The contract will be filed in the Republic County Register of Deeds Office as required by law.

A permission to travel was approved for Alvin Perez and Darlene Havel to attend the CTD and State Transportation meeting in Minneapolis, Kansas on March 25, 2003.

The Board signed an agreement whereas the City of Belleville is hereby granted permission to construct and operate an aboveground electric power line on certain public road right-of-way. The utility shall be maintained and kept in good repair by The City of Belleville. Republic County shall be relieved of all liability of damage to the public by construction and operation of said utility.

The Board approved the revised Republic County Highway Department Gravel Surfacing Policy. The policy was revised 03-17-03.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 noon for a luncheon with the Republic County Hospital Board.

The meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m. in the Courthouse.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell met with the Board to discuss a 911-fire call in the north west part of the county. Mr. Nordell will get back to the Board after he secures more information.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell and Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney received permission to travel, April 6-8, 2003. They will attend the Spring APCO Conference in Newton, Kansas.

Ty Lemon, Belleville Recreation Commission, visited with the Board about building a storage garage and portable press box on county property near the south ball field.

County Attorney, Frank G. Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board about various matters.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to pass Resolution Number 2003-14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. This is an amendment to a previous bond resolution. A minor housekeeping measure requested by our Gilmore and Bell, our Bond Counsel.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes with an addition of the land description on the road closing mentioned last week. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

The Board asked Clerk Hall to call Jackson Glass and Concordia Mirror and Glass to review the information about a handicap accessible door on the East Side of the Courthouse. The Board showed an interest in finding a solution to installing an automatic door. Due to the lack of clearance above the existing door it appears

impossible to install the door mechanism on the inside of the building. It would work on the outside of the building if a suitable awning could be found that would be pleasing to the eye. An awning would protect the mechanical box from the elements.

Courthouse Custodian, George Bean visited with the Board. He noted that the carpet would be installed on Tuesday for the County Attorney's Office in the Courthouse. Work orders have been issued to install the telephone lines and the office will be ready for occupancy by the end of this month.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall, received a reimbursement check in the amount of \$11,968.13 from the Republic County Hospital Board. Payment was made for work done on the March 5th Mail Ballot Election.

Worker's Compensation Director, Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. KWORC has agreed to do all the bookkeeping on the current Crough case for a charge of \$650.00. This is a one-time charge to administer pre-existing claims. It covers the set up of additional databases and use of their computer system and setting up separate accounts to handle the claims.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 31, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 31, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall. Commissioner Holl was absent.

Alvin Perez, Highway Administrator met with the Board to review Road and Bridge matters. He noted that work continues on the roads in the county after the moisture that has been received. They will be getting started on culvert projects soon.

Don Danielson was hired as a part-time road foreman for the Road and Bridge Department. Mr. Danielson will be a seasonal worker with no benefits.

Mr. Perez, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Wilber walked around the outside of the Courthouse to evaluate the condition of the sidewalk around the building. Mr. Perez has agreed to have his employees replace deteriorated sections of the present sidewalk.

Economic Development Director, Chuck Westin gave his weekly report.

Session adjourned at 9:45 a.m. for a funeral. Session resumed at 11:00 a.m.

The NCK Fair Board visited with the Board about electrical upgrades. Joe Gerber offered estimates for those continued improvements to the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to give \$4,000 to the NCK Fair Board and \$4,000 to the Fair Amusements Board in equal shares from the Carnival Account. Mr. Wilber seconded the motion.

Session was adjourned at 12:00 noon for a luncheon recess.

At 1:30 p.m., Cloud County Commissioners, Cloud County Solid Waste Director, and Secretary met with the Board. It was the consensus of the group to redo the agreement between the counties regarding the rates for solid waste fees. This issue will be reinvestigated when more information becomes available.

Gerald Blazek, Main Street Economic Development, was granted permission for a Farmers Market around the Courthouse Square from July through September. Further details will be announced at a later date.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The Board will convene on Friday, April 4, at 8:00 a.m. to canvass ballots from the April 1st City School Election in the Commissioners Room at the Courthouse.

The next regular meeting will be on April 7, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse, Belleville, Kansas.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 7, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters. Bid opening for CMS-1 oil for the mix strip was held and Koch Pavement Solutions, Salina, Kansas had the low bid of .798 cents per gallon.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board. A permission to travel was approved for Rod Dusek, David Strnad and Beverly Reynolds to take a class on the "WORD" computer program in Smith Center, Kansas.

A permission to travel was approved for Dave Holloway and Beverly Reynolds to attend a Medicare Part B Ambulance Supplier Workshop in Wichita, Kansas.

A third permission to travel was approved for Don Lieb to attend a Training Officer Workshop in Clay Center, Kansas.

Mary Kolsky, Belleville Chamber Secretary, asked permission to use the Courtyard for the annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on April 19, 2003. Permission was granted.

Belleville City Manager, Allen Bachelor visited with the Board on subjects of mutual interest.

Permission to travel was given for County Clerk, Vickie Hall to attend the Kansas County Clerk's Association meeting in Manhattan, Kansas.

Permission to travel was given for County Treasurer, Cindy Coons to attend the Spring Kansas County Treasurer's Association Meeting in Wichita, Kansas.

Republic County department heads met with the Board. The Board stated that the County would no longer be able to pay 100% of the employee's insurance premiums. The Board plans to continue to pay the present amount towards insurance for the employees, however, the Board made a motion to place a cap on future increases. The Board voted to pay up to 5% of future premium increases with 95% or the balance of the increase in premium costs to be paid by the employee in 2004.

The Board voted to give a Cost of Living Raise of 40 cents per hour, across the board, to county employees. This raise does not include Appraiser Barry Porter or the County Commissioners.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 14, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Munden Community Hall, Munden, Kansas with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters. At 8:30 a.m. the official bid opening was held for culverts used by the Road and Bridge Department. The following bids were received:

D & C Wholesale-----	\$44,120.20
Welborn Sales-----	\$44,022.86
J & J Drainage Products of Hutchinson -----	\$48,411.50
J & J Drainage Products of Paola-----	\$46,180.00

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the low bid from Welborn Sales. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Mr. Perez visited about other culvert projects in the county. He noted that he closed off a box culvert on 110 Road 9/10 mile South of Shady road. The pilings are split and all the stringers are broken in the structure. They will replace this culvert. Mr. Perez also gave a progress report about other Road and Bridge Department projects.

Mr. Perez purchased a 1991 Ford half-ton pickup, at a cost of \$2,495.00, for the Road and Bridge Department.

A delegation from the Munden, Kansas area visited about a road closing in Richland Township. The Board intends to keep the road open and all agreed it should be designated as a minimum maintenance road. The Board will speak with the County Attorney about the legal procedures to re-open the road.

Mr. Perez reminded the Board that the KWORCC Workers Compensation coverage starts today. KWORCC and IMA will contact the employees with current or pending Worker's Compensation cases and explain how the new program works.

Don Danielson will officially start work for the Road and Bridge Department on April 15, 2003.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe visited with the Board about the computer program for her office.

Following the luncheon recess the Board returned to the Courthouse for the afternoon session.

Beth Ball and Tandy Rundus visited with the Board about being an Access Point for the SRS. They asked the Board if SRS information pamphlets and applications for the public could be placed in the basement of the courthouse. The local SRS office will be closing in the future so the Board agreed to their request for space to display SRS printed materials.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7th meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

Custodian, George Bean visited with the Board about today's KWORCC site inspection. He stated that only a few minor changes need to be made to comply with the results of the on-site inspection.

David Strnad, Ambulance Director met with the Board. He received signature on a permission to travel for David Holloway to attend the class on "Word" in Smith Center, Kansas.

Mr. Strnad also noted that Kim Holloway, Dan Ienn, Julie Eggers, Pam Smith and Joseph Blecha have met the requirements and completed their EMT probation periods. Their wages will go up to the hourly rate that is paid to employees with full EMT status.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall requested an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. At 2:30 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

Regular session resumed at 2:50 p.m. and the Board took no action.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to close the Courthouse and the Health Department from 12:00 noon through 2:00 p.m. for Good Friday Services. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. If an employee chooses to attend the church service they will be required to use one-hour vacation time and if they chose to stay and work at their jobs they will receive normal pay. This is the same policy used in previous years for Good Friday.

Allen Bachelor visited with the Board about matters of mutual interest.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to sign the Certificate of Substantial Completion Document between the Board of County Commissioners and RL Fauss Builders, Inc. on the NCK Medical Arts Center basement project. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. The final payment on the project will be mailed with the Certificate of Completion.

Worker's Compensation Director, Alvin Perez stopped to visit with the Board about a form received from the Kansas Department of Human Resources. Chairman Nelson signed the Election of Employer to Provide Workers Compensation Coverage for Volunteer Workers who perform work for Republic County. The second form was an Election of Employer to Provide Coverage for inmates or community service workers who perform work or service for Republic County.

Chairman Nelson signed an Agreement with Shirley E. Strnad to grant permission to construct and operate an underground pipe on public road right-of-way described as follows: 905' North of the ¼ mile line or the south property line.

Economic Development Director, Charles Westin visited with the Board about various matters.

A permission to travel was signed for Karen Henke to attend the Trauma Council executive meeting April 17, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter visited with the Board about various matters in his department. The Board asked Mr. Porter to give a review of his department and employees. Due to the change in State Funding for 2004 they asked Mr. Porter to consider hiring only one full time worker in that department. Hiring a separate employee as field data collector to work only the 3 summer months as a seasonal part-time employee is still under consideration.

Dean Hall visited with the Board about five old mobile homes on his private property. The Board was sympathetic but told Mr. Hall he needed to visit with an attorney about the problem because they could not advise him about personal matters. This does not directly involve Republic County.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall visited with the Board about the working status of Cheryl Denk. At the beginning of 2002 Ms. Denk was grandfathered in as a permanent half time employee with benefits. When Sharon Rundus died, Ms. Denk was asked to return to full time status to help with elections and keep the office working smoothly for a time. Ms. Denk now asked to return to her permanent half-time status with benefits. Ms. Denk plans to retire in the near future and plans to train a new employee to work in the area of elections in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to return Cheryl Denk to permanent half-time status with benefits, since she was asked to return to full time work for a time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 21, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters. He noted that the bridge at 19-C.9 has been finished and opened to traffic.

The bridge project No. 79 C-3491-01 is progressing. The structure is complete with the exception of the guardrail and dirt work on the road.

The Board and Mr. Perez discussed the proposed plan for the containment structures at the county shop. The plan must meet the Federal EPA requirements.

Mr. Perez also presented a cost estimate for the sidewalk replacement project at the courthouse for the Board's review.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons received a permission to travel for Karen Bonner and Sharon Kalivoda to attend the Spring County Treasurer's Meeting, April 22, 2003 in Russell, Kansas.

A letter was received from R. L. Fauss. They indicate a problem has been uncovered as one of our payments was directed to the wrong firm. We need to respond and ask for documentation and more description of the incident before we would ever agree to pay additional money. We have no knowledge of the problem in question.

Economic Development Director, Charles Westin gave his weekly review.

EMS Secretary, Beverly Reynolds presented a permission to travel for Brian Piersee to attend a class to become certified as a training officer for the EMS Department. The initial Course of Instruction will be held at the Kansas City Kansas Community College in Kansas City, Kansas from April 25-27, 2003.

The Board agreed to give Joan Grover and the Ambassadors \$250.00 to update the center flower garden on the West Side of the Courthouse. They encouraged Mrs. Grover to contact the Extension Office to make a plan for a perennial flower garden. A low maintenance planting would be the best for that area.

Kelvin Blecha, NCK Free Fair President, visited with the Board about liability insurance and related matters.

It was the consensus of the Board to invite Tom Job, KCAMP Liability Insurance, to visit with department heads and County Commissioners on May 5th to help everyone become comfortable with the coverage and the implementation of it.

Mike Hadachek, Keith Anderson, Frank Spurney and Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD Loans. They visited about the status of several loans.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to appoint Vicky Simmons to replace Don Johnson on the Solid Waste Committee. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen received permission to travel for Kathy Zach and herself to attend the KPHA Spring Training Meeting from May 13-15, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas. Ms. Hansen asked the payroll department to put a flier about terrorism into the June paychecks. Clerk Hall agreed to include the flier.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2003 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Motion carried.

Following the presentation of correspondence the Board signed the accounts payable vouchers.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 noon and enjoyed a luncheon recess with the Jewell County Commissioners and Jewell County Clerk at A-J's Café. Mr. Perez, and Clerk Hall also joined them.

June 16, 2003 will be the next joint meeting of the Republic County Board and the Jewell County Board of County Commissioners.

At 1:00 p.m. the regular session resumed at the Courthouse in joint session with the Jewell County Board to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Tandy Rundus, Republic County Family and Consumer Science Program and Kristie Nutsch-Fulton, Republic County Agriculture Agent, gave a quarterly report about extension projects and activities.

It was the consensus of the Board to sign the agreement between SRS and Republic County. The agreement allows SRS to put a display of brochures in the Courthouse basement.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney, visited with the Board about his department.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Holl seconded the motion. Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 28, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 5, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Alvin Perez, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters. He noted that Charles Klima would do mowing as part-time summer help with no benefits.

The bridge crew is finishing up on the sidewalks at the Courthouse this week. They will remove the bushes or shrubs from the west side of the building. Mrs. Tom Grover and the Ambassadors will soon start a perennial garden between the two sidewalks. Mrs. Grover stopped by to visit about the project.

Mr. Perez noted that the road groom has been doing a good job on the gravel roads.

The Solid Waste Disposal Interlocal Agreement was signed by the Board of County Commissioners of Republic County and Cloud County Commissioners. Cloud County owns and operates a solid waste disposal area or Transfer Station and the agreement states that the renewal is effective May 1, 2003 and spells out the conditions and charges for depositing and handling Republic County solid waste each month.

Mr. Perez mentioned he had visited with the County Auditor, Randy Hofmeyer and it was agreed that Mr. Perez would put \$42,000 into Special Equipment Fund and \$30,000 into the Special Highway Improvement Fund. He will leave \$100,000 in unencumbered cash to use as a safety net for 2004.

Mr. Perez also spoke about Workers Compensation. He offered new policies for review and approval by the Board. These are mandatory policies of KWORCC and KCAMP that needed to be instituted as soon as possible in 2003. They are as follows: The Autopsies Policy, Cell Phone Policy, County Owned Motor Vehicle Policy, Drug and Alcohol Testing Workers Compensation Policy, Independent Contractors Policy, Statement of Policy Safety Belts, and the Volunteer Workers, Prisoners/Community Service Workers Policy. All policies were approved by the Board and will be given to every department head to deliver to each of their employees.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

Economic Development Director, Charles Westin gave his weekly review. He stated that a new Economic Development Director, Jennifer Ahlvers, has been hired and that he will be giving the incoming director a period of orientation.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons received a permission to travel to the budget seminar on May 22, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Don Anderson, Duffy Strnad and Paul Haase visited with the Board as representatives of the Belleville Fire Department. Raymond Raney was also in attendance, representing the Republic County Emergency Preparedness Department. The question was about the bill to Municipal Emergency Services in the amount of \$118.61 for filters and Weis Fire and Safety Equipment Company, Inc. for \$90.00 for this years air quality testing. That charge was \$90.00 and both bills have been taken out of the Courthouse General Fund for the past several years. This is not the correct fund to be paying the bills for any fire district expenses. The fire districts have their own budgets and governing bodies to pay these types of expenditures. After much discussion the Board agreed that it could be a line item under Emergency Preparedness since all county fire districts have access to this equipment.

Chairman Nelson signed the Hospital Bond papers for Gilmore and Bell, and U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray for the General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds Series 2003-A in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 for the Republic County Hospital Improvement.

Chairman Nelson also signed the engagement letter and a representation letter from our audit firm of Bartlett Settle and Edgerle for the Republic County Hospital Bond Issue that is to close on May 7, 2003. This engagement is solely to assist Republic County in determining that the calculations used in the Feasibility Study are mathematically correct.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek visited with the Board. A permission to travel was signed for Beverly Reynolds and Dave Holloway to attend the Spring Medicare Meeting, May 13, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Mr. Strnad returned the repair estimates for the Ambulance that hit a deer on a routine transfer at the first of the week.

Following a lunch recess the meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2003 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

Cake was enjoyed by all to honor Commissioner Holl's birthday at 2:00 p.m.

The Board sent letters to Senator Janis Lee, Representative Clay Aurand and Representative Sharon Swartz and to Governor Kathleen Sebelius. The Board of County Commissioners across the state were asked to write letters to encourage the legislature to find solid solutions to the budget problems of the State of Kansas. The message they conveyed was to ask them to stop using the smoke and mirrors rational and to take serious steps to find ways to live within the State budget. The counties must limit their spending and prepare a realistic budget they can live within and we expect no less from the leaders of the State of Kansas.

At 3:00 p.m., the county department heads joined the Board to visit with the KCAMP liability insurance representative, Tom Job. He gave an overview of the liability insurance presently carried by Republic County. Kelvin Blecha, James Popelka and Tandy Rundus sat in on the meeting.

The newly adopted policies from the morning session were handed out to each department head to share with their individual employees.

Kelvin Blecha and James Popelka, representing the NCK Fair Agriculture Board, visited with the Board about additional sealing oil and millings to improve area's at the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville, Kansas.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 12, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was Deputy County Clerk, Cheryl Loring.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to review Road and Bridge matters. At 8:35 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into Executive Session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Those in attendance were the Board and Mr. Perez.

Regular session resumed at 8:45 a.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

Mr. Perez told the Board he has been visiting with Belleville City Manager, Allen Bachelor about the Spill Prevention Control requirements for the City and the County.

Mr. Perez mentioned that he had finished up on the County Landfill Permit Number 0136 renewal. It will be sent to the Department of Health and Environment.

The Board signed an agreement between Republic County and the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District that granted the district permission to construct and operate an underground pipeline located in the SE ¼ SW ¼, Section 17, Township 3-5, Range 5W and the NE ¼ NW ¼, Section 20, Township 3-5 and Range 5W.

Mike Kasl visited with the Board about the removal of tree stumps in the courtyard.

Sheriff, Ron Blad asked permission to fly the American flag at half-mast on May 15, 2003 to observe National Peace Officers Day. Permission was granted and Mr. Blad will notify the custodian.

Brent Melby has been hired as the part time jailer at \$7.00 per hour.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the morning prayer.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek visited with the Board about billing procedures in the Ambulance Department. The Board suggested that Mr. Strnad check into the requirements of seeking payments through small claims court.

During public forum, Kay Shoemaker received permission to put a sign on the courthouse lawn to advertise Vacation Bible School.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Belleville City Manager, Allen Bachelor introduced Jennifer Ahlvers as the new Economic Development Director. This is Ms. Ahlvers first day of work. Mike Hadachek was also present at the meeting.

Mr. Hadachek visited with the Board about RCD matters.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall joined the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen visited with the Board.

Permission to travel was approved for Mrs. Hansen to attend the Health Aide Conference on May 15, 2003 in Hays, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Susan Swanson to attend the Introduction to Basic Epidemiology Seminar on May 19, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Karen Henke to attend the Introduction to Basic Epidemiology Seminar on May 30, 2003 in Topeka, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Mrs. Hansen to attend the Annual Family Planning Conference on June 5-6, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas.

Weed Director, Steve Pounds received permission to travel to the May 15, 2003 NCWDAK meeting in Beloit, Kansas.

At 11:00 a.m., Don LaCamp and Jackie Moravek of the Peoples Exchange Bank visited with the Board about investing the money from the hospital bond issuance. The Board visited with Greg Vahrenberg on a telephone conference call to review the procedures for the investments. Those present at the meeting were the Board, Blaine Miller, County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, Sharon Kalivoda and Clerk Hall.

Commissioner Holl made a motion for National Family Bank of Munden, Kansas and Swedish American State Bank in Courtland, Kansas to each invest \$500,000.00 for 90 days and Peoples Exchange Bank of Belleville, Kansas to invest the balance of the money received for the Hospital Improvement Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

It was noted that the average investment rates are 1.26 % interest for up to 89 days investment, 1.02% interest for 90 days to 6 months investment and 1.08% interest for 15-month investments. It was agreed that this is indeed a good time for anyone needing to borrow money but that the proceeds from investing money is very low.

Custodian, George Bean visited with the Board about the carpet for the law library. He also mentioned that he would get the fountain running for the upcoming holiday

weekend. He reported it takes approximately \$300.00 per year just for chemicals and that an automatic chlorinator would cost \$100.00 and there are other expenses to keep the memorial fountain going each year. The Board would like to visit with the Arbuthnot family about the general condition and maintenance of the fountain.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 noon for a luncheon recess.

Bob Knudson visited with the Board about the new flower garden and offered to make a donation to that project.

The Board requested that Jennifer Ahlvers, Blaine Miller and Deb Hadachek receive the scheduled dates the Commissioners plan to hold the morning business session in the small towns.

Tandy Rundus and Kristi Nutsch-Fulton visited with the Board about liability insurance and ownership of the 4-H Building. Records indicate that the Board of County Commissioners granted permission to build the 4-H Building in 1970.

The Board attended the retirement coffee for Gene Herrman. Mr. Herrman was presented a plaque for 20 years of service to Republic County.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville, Kansas.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 19, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe, received permission to travel to a meeting June 3-6, 2003 in Arkansas City, Kansas. Ms. Rahe said that Gene Herrman would be working in the office in her absence.

Ms. Rahe told the Board she wrote a Letter of Acceptance on behalf of Republic County as recipients of the grant money to improve the front steps of the Courthouse.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board to discuss billing at the Ambulance Department. He noted that County Attorney, Frank G. Spurney, Jr. reminded him that there is a 2-year statute of limitation.

It was the consensus of the Board to go ahead and recarpet the law library. The old carpet was dangerous and on the KWORC list of improvements needing immediate attention. Bachelor-Faulkner-Dart-Surber Furniture Store will replace the carpet in the law library at a cost of \$625.83 that includes installation.

Representatives of the Main Street Project visited with the Board about various matters. Those present were Gerald Blazek, Leah Krotz, Melinda Pierson, Jennifer Ahlvers, Rod Woods and Kristi Fulton-Nutsch.

Mr. Blazek told the Board of their plans to start the Farmers Market on July 12, 2003. He also noted that Frank Filipi and Bob Webber would be in charge as the Market Managers. The hours will be Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with no early sales. The board gave them permission to mark the curb with a small letter or number to mark the vendor booths on the inside of the Courthouse square.

The Board also gave their permission for the Main Street Appreciation Activities to be held on the courtyard, June 22, 2003. Ms. Pierson mentioned they would like a portable stage for the event if one could be found.

She also told the Board that the Mainstreet Committee would assist with fundraising activities for an automatic sprinkler system for the courthouse lawn. Being the center of Belleville City they would be interested in helping to assure that the lawn is beautiful for residents and visitors. She also noted that within the Main Street Project Application it noted some landscaping that could be included to make the Courthouse and the yard a major downtown focal point.

Doug McKinney, North Central Regional Planning Commission, met with the Board to discuss the Hospital Improvement Grant for the Republic County Hospital Project. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to have the chairman sign this

agreement for the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. It was duly signed. Mr. McKinney will get the Environmental Review to the County Clerk along with the Procurement procedures. Mr. McKinney left a draft copy but said the final copy for signatures will not be out for a couple weeks.

Weed Director, Steve Pounds met with the Board about various matters.

At 11:09 a.m., Chairman Nelson made a motion to go into an Executive Session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Those present were the Board and Steve Pounds.

The Board regular session resumed at 11:24 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:25 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into Executive Session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Those present were the Board, Steve Pounds and County Attorney, Frank G. Spurney, Jr.

The regular session resumed at 11:35 p.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

County Attorney, Frank Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board and offered legal advice on the one half mile of closed road running east and west between section 23 and 26 in Township 3 South, Range 1 West. The road had been closed and declared as a minimum maintenance road by a resolution dated August 30, 1993. Upon review Mr. Spurney told the Board that they as the Board of County Commissioners may lay out or alter any road when deemed necessary by the Board. The Board, having made this determination should then follow K.S.A. 68-102a. The County Clerk shall give notice of the proposed road closing action by a publication one time in the official county newspaper and by sending a notice by certified mail to each owner of property adjoining the road at the address where the owner's tax statement is sent.

Mr. Spurney said he would get the publication ready for the Belleville Telescope and offer the same to the County Clerk.

Correspondence was reviewed and the Board signed the accounts payable vouchers.

At 12:00 noon the Board recessed for lunch.

Following a luncheon recess the Board resumed regular session at 1:00 p.m.

The Board visited about the cost of maintaining the water fountain on the west side of the Courthouse. There are bricks that are loose and other concerns about future costs. Clerk Hall will try and find a maintenance agreement in prior commissioner

minutes to inform the Board of any prior arrangements made for the upkeep of the fountain which was gifted to the County by Melissa Arbuthot and her family. The Board instructed Clerk Hall to ask Melissa Arbuthnot to come in and visit about the fountain.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter met with the Board to discuss interviews and hiring of a new employee in his department. The Board agreed that the beginning salary for the Personal Property Clerk would be \$7.75 and go to \$8.00 after completing the 3-month probation period.

OCCK Representatives, Gary Cook, Carolee Miner and Patrick Wallerius met with the Board and were seeking a 2% increase in appropriations for the 2004 budget year.

Tandy Rundus and Kristi Nutsch-Fulton, representing the County Extension Office, met with the Board about the 4-H Building. There is no real estate deed giving the property to the 4-H Foundation. However, the 4-H supporters did indeed build their building on county owned property with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners. The question came up as to who owned the 4-H Building and who owned the land. There is no problem with the previous arrangement but the KWORC Insurance representative posed the question. After investigation this explanation covers his inquiry about ownership. It was agreed by all that the 4-H Advisory Board would continue to carry all insurance on the building.

At 2:30 p.m., Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. Mr. Perez told the Board he has been in contact with the City of Belleville about the Fuel Containment requirements.

He noted that the bridge crew has completed the sidewalk improvements around the Courthouse.

Mr. Perez received permission to travel on June 17, 2003 to a Risk Management Meeting in Salina, KS.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall visited with the Board about the NCK Free Fair Exhibitor Booth. The Board felt the County Economic Development Director would want to continue with the 2003 contract. The cost is \$60.00 per booth.

Dr. Sean Wheeler stopped to visit with the Board about Economic Development.

The Board visited about the updating of the County Employee Manual. It was the suggestion of the Board to put a cap or limit on the vacation hours and sick leave hours that employees can carry into each new year. The subject will be revisited at a later date.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons received signatures on payment vouchers for the Hospital Renovation Project.

There being no further business the session adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. following the Memorial Day Holiday.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters.

Mr. Perez reported that the project at the Republic County Medical Clinic is complete. The curb was cut and rock applied to the exit. The signs were placed at the entrance and exit of the parking lot behind the building.

KCAMP representative or insurance adjuster came to Belleville and inspected the county vehicles and some buildings for hail damage. There was no roof damage but there was some hail damage on various vehicles.

Mr. Perez reported that his secretary found records on the present fuel containment tanks at the shop. Two of the storage tanks were purchased in 1999 and those will probably be up to inspection. However, there are two others that are extremely old.

The Board made plans to Lay Out The Road, to close the road, from the MTD Iron facility North of Belleville to Marble Road. It is approximately 1/2 mile and will be closed due to safety concerns resulting from the traffic on this road.

The Board gave their approval for Raymond Raney and Beth Reed to attend the Annual KEMA Conference from September 15-19, 2003 in Manhattan, Kansas.

A permission to travel was approved for County Treasurer, Cindy Coons and Kay Shoemaker to attend the Driver's License Training session on June 5, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas. The Board gave Ms. Coons approval to close the drivers license services for that day.

District Court Clerk, Kris Kling visited with the Board about the old records stored in the downstairs vault. The Board will go look at the vault, discuss the situation and report their findings to Ms. Kling.

Representatives from the Soil Conservation District asked the Board to keep the 2004 appropriation at \$35,250.00 for the 2004 budget year. Those in attendance were the Board, District Conservationist, Terry Alstatt, District Manager, Lori Siemsen and Board Members, Jerome Kieffer, Richard L. Sandell, Jerry Strnad and Wayne Pachta.

Representatives from the Belleville City Main Street Program visited with the Board about improvements on the Courthouse Square. The Design Committee members present were Sue L. Fischer, Susan Arbuthnot, Doris Beardsley, Peggy Bachelor and Main Street director Melinda Pierson. They told the Board that the top priority is to install an underground sprinkling system in the lawn. Mrs.

Bachelor told the Board that the Courthouse square has been identified as a key item in revitalization of downtown Belleville.

Mrs. Pierson plans to contact Kansas State University about the possibility of a landscape design class offering a rendering for the Courthouse Square as a class project. This service would be free. The Board said they certainly appreciate the volunteer efforts to improve the look of the courtyard and would accept the assistance of the Design Committee to raise money for the sprinkle system. The estimate for the sprinkler system was approximately \$18,000.00 installed.

Larry Ray, Belleville City Street Department Supervisor, visited with the Board about a 16 x 24- foot storage building to be added to the Lions Club Baseball field. The City Recreation committee wanted a letter stating the City has permission to build it on County owned property. A letter was written and signed by the Board.

Economic Development Director, Jennifer Ahlvers gave a weekly review.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board and gave an overview of the activities in his department.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to pass Resolution 2003-15. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. The resolution states that Republic County hereby casts its ballot for the appointment of Lynn Hoelting, and Marion Patton to serve an additional four-year term on the Board of Directors of the Mid-States Port Authority as Directors-At-Large for positions 3 and 7, respectively, for terms beginning June 1, 2003, and ending May 31, 2007.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

The Board signed a letter asking all vendors doing business with Republic County to furnish the County Clerk's Office with W-9 forms.

The Board enjoyed a lunch recess at 12:00 noon.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Carol Miller, representing the North Central Kansas Court Appointed Special Advocate Agency, often referred to as CASA, requested \$6,500.00 from Republic County for the 2004 Budget. Board members Eileen Ransopher, Douglas Dutton and Carol Miller also accompanied her.

The Board invited Melissa Arbuthnot to visit about the condition of the Memorial Fountain on the West Side of the Courthouse. She gave the fountain to the County in her husband's memory. Mrs. Arbuthnot said she was aware of the high operating expenses but it was no longer her concern. She noted that all decisions

made in regards to the fountain rests solely with the Board of County Commissioners. She reminded the Board that the County accepted the fountain as a gift from the Arbuthnot family and therefor accepted all ownership and the maintenance of it.

Sharon Kalivoda received signatures from the Board to renew the Subordination Agreement of Peoples Exchange Bank's line of credit for Darrick Klima dba Belleville Motorsports.

Steve Pounds received permission to change the hours in his department. He will be doing the spraying for his department from 8:00 until 2:00 p.m. weather permitting. He will be in the office for chemical sales from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 19th meeting and the minutes from the May 27th meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Ed Splichal received permission to have a Whole Hog Barbecue on the south side of the Courthouse Square on June 22, 2003. This will be a fund-raiser for the Race Car Museum.

Custodian, George Bean reviewed the work in his department. He noted that the automatic door opener on the east door of the courthouse would be installed this week. He also received permission to order new commercial grade rugs for the east door.

Dr. Sean Wheeler visited with the Board about Economic Development matters.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell told the Board that the NCIC Audit has been completed. He also noted that the State of Kansas is no longer covering the charges for the mandated router. The cost to Republic County will be approximately \$200.00 per month.

There being no further business Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the session at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 9, 2003 with the morning session being held in Courtland, Kansas starting at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 9, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., at the Courtland Community Center, Courtland, Kansas. Those present were Commissioner Holl, Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Wilber and County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez visited with the Board on routine highway matters. Mr. Perez noted that his crews would start doing the sealing on the road near the Highbanks Race Track. This job needs to be completed now so the mix can be seasoned before the NCK Fair starts.

Mr. Perez also mentioned that he is presently working on the 2004 Road and Bridge budget with the knowledge revenues will be down approximately \$95,000.00 for the coming year. This shortfall is due to demand transfers the State of Kansas plans to hold back from the counties and cities. The State of Kansas will use the money to help balance the State budget. Mr. Perez said he was unsure how the shortfall would effect the department, as they are presently being very conservative as they work through 2003.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2003 as amended. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

During public forum discussion was held about the Arbuthnot Memorial Fountain. It is again in need of repairs. To get it up and running again it will need a \$400.00 bearing and that doesn't begin to address the continual cost of repairs and upkeep on the fountain.

The subject of the Courthouse steps was reviewed and the Board would like to see that project move forward. They hope to seek bids for that project in the very near future. Ruth Rahe, who was instrumental in the grant application, will be contacted for an update on the project.

Jennifer Ahlvers, Economic Development Director met with the Board for a general review.

The Board recessed for lunch.

At 1:00 p.m. the Board resumed regular session at the Courthouse, Belleville.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the days prayer.

Mike Hadachek, Sharon Kalivoda and Jerry Swanson all representing the RCD Committee met with the Board. Frank Spurney, Jr. also attended the meeting. The Board made a decision to file a suit to force Denise Strait and Mary Brown to clear up and/or finalize the Scandia Grocery Store arrangement. Someone else has

shown an interest in opening the store and nothing can be done until Ms. Strait and Ms. Brown no longer have an interest in the building or equipment.

Quint Huncovsky will also be receiving legal papers in regards to his RCD Loan.

It was also mentioned that if a person is interested in purchasing the Munden Café they should “make an offer” and direct it to the RCD Committee or Mr. Matt Tolliver of the National Family Bank in Munden for review. The committee is aware that they may not be able to get the total amount owed on the loan but would be interested in finding a workable solution for the community café.

The Board signed an Employment Agreement with Economic Development Director, Jennifer Ahlvers.

The Board asked Melinda Pierson, Main Street Coordinator and Peggy Bachelor, member of the Design Committee, to discuss the future of the Arbutnot Fountain and the perpetual care of it. Mike Hadachek was also in attendance.

Mr. & Mrs. Don Vroman stopped to ask the Board to encourage recycling in Republic County. The Board suggested they write to Clay Aurand and Janis Lee on the subject.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about the hail damage on the cars at the Health Department. It was agreed that the money from the damage on the older cars would be saved and used next year when the department trades cars.

Ms. Hansen received signatures on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, also known as the K.D.H.E., Aid to Local Program Universal Contract effective July 1, 2003.

Ms. Hansen reported that for decades the State of Kansas has provided vaccine for early childhood immunizations of Kansas children. The State is now cutting back and has sent the Health Departments notice that as of July 1, 2003 they will only provide vaccine for children on assistance or those not covered by the guardian’s insurance.

Ms. Hansen said there is approximately 24 shots periodically given to children from birth to the last booster shot they routinely receive before entering kindergarten. The Health Department will now have to purchase the vaccine for Republic County children. She will do a cost estimate for the Board’s review in the near future.

A permission to travel was signed for Marcia Hansen to attend a County Supervisor meeting on June 24, 2003 in Smith Center, Kansas. A second permission to travel was approved for her to attend the K. A. L. H. D. Technology Summit on June 17, 2003 in Salina, Kansas to keep informed of vital technology updates.

A permission to travel to the Immunization Billing Option Workshop on June 19, 2003 in Hays, Kansas was approved for Marcia Hansen, Julie Lindberg, Susan Swanson and Linda Rodolph.

Belleville City Street Supervisor, Larry Ray visited with the Board about the storage building on County property at the Lions Ballfield. The letter of approval was rewritten to include the wording that the building will be built on county property with the understanding that the City would be responsible for all maintenance, insurance, utilities and construction cost. It was also states that the County would reserve the right to have the City remove the building at the City's expense. The Board signed the letter that will serve as the agreement.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board to ask about sending a representative from his department to a grant writing seminar. The registration would be \$300.00 for the employee to attend. It was the consensus of the Board to have Mr. Strnad visit with Raymond Raney, Mark Nordell and Ruth Rahe on the subject as all three have attended similar seminars in the past year.

County Attorney, Frank Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board. The Board agreed to start Nina Adams, the new County Attorney's secretary, at \$8.30 per hour.

Roger McCartney and Mark Stroh visited with the Board about the newly proposed east and west access road, which would be located immediately north of the 81 Livestock Sale Barn property. The future plans would include development of the property to the north of the proposed access road.

Nancy Holt, President of the Republic County Historical Society visited about their plan to help store old county records. She also presented the Board with their 2004 budget request.

Ms. Holt also noted that the Historical Society Board would like to encourage the Board of County Commissioners to investigate the possibility of seeking a grant to update the exterior walls of the Floral Hall at the NCK Fairgrounds. She said it is her understanding that it is a very unique historical building and is one of only two octagonal fair buildings left on fairgrounds in our State. The other one being in Stockton, Kansas.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons asked the Board about the air conditioner in her department. The noise level makes it impossible to hear the telephone ring and makes it difficult to converse with the customers. County Clerk, Vickie Hall had posed the same question earlier in the year. Mrs. Coons was directed to seek more information about air conditioners and a possible solution for the two offices.

Ms. Coons also informed the Board that her office would like to purchase a double-sided file cabinet for the motor vehicle records. She suggested the money could

come from the motor vehicle money to cover the cost of it. They directed Ms. Coons to shop around and bring prices to the next Board meeting.

Custodian, George Bean met with the Board. He informed them that the Memorial Fountain would not be running this weekend. If the Board did decide to order the \$400.00 bearing for the fountain it would be two weeks before it would be delivered to us. The Board agreed they would not put any additional money into repairs until the future of the fountain has been decided and the whole issue thoroughly studied.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter received permission to promote Retha Blecha to the mapping position Mary Rundus vacated upon retirement. The job position pays \$8.90 per hour.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall received permission to change Cheryl Loring to the job description of Deputy County Clerk, which pays \$9.88 per hour.

There being no further business a motion was made by Commissioner Wilber to adjourn for the day. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

The next meeting will be held on June 16, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, Kansas.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 16, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine highway matters. Randy Rahe requested the county gravel a road between 90 Road and 100 Road. No one is living along that road at this time so Mr. Rahe would need to purchase the gravel. This would be in keeping with the policy for county road maintenance.

Mr. Perez told the Board that another pit would be dug at the county landfill due to the amount of roofing replacements and home demolition's going on in the county at the present time.

The Board signed an agreement with Krob Trenching to bury an underground telephone line for Southwestern Bell from Highway 81 go two miles east on Timber Road to 180 Road.

Mr. Perez has planned for a 3.5 % cost of living increases and decreased the total budget by \$95,000.00 from the loss of LAVTR money. That is quite a hit for the Road and Bridge budget. Mr. Perez hopes that after the county budget is studied thoroughly some funds might be shifted to replace a portion of the shortfall in his department.

He also noted that the 2004 Transportation Budget request remains the same as the 2003 Transportation Budget.

Commissioner Holl made a motion at 8:52 a.m., to go into executive session for a period of five minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and Alvin Perez.

Regular session resumed at 8:57 a.m., with no action being taken by the Board.

District Court Clerk, Kris Kling presented the Annual 12th Judicial District 2004 Budget request with no increases requested for her department.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the 2004 budget request of \$47,976.00 for the 12th Judicial District. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made the motion unanimous. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board that Chairman Martin Nelson be the Republic County Voting Delegate to cast a ballot for Republic County to elect a representative to the Governing Board of the National Association of Counties for the term September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2005. The ballot was cast and certified by the Republic County Clerk.

Republic County Hospital Administrator, Blaine Miller visited with the Board about using the old Ambulance Building as an office for the builders. It could save the cost of a construction trailer normally used for the office. The Board would like to grant their request if the construction company agrees and can modify it to be workable for them.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board about various matters. He visited with the Board about transportation for the EMT's at the High Banks race track events. County Clerk, Vickie Hall will check with KCAMP representative, Tom Job about it.

The Board appointed Deb Hadachek to serve on the Republic County Hospital Board, to complete the unexpired term of Eddie Valek. It was Mr. Valek's request that she be appointed to sit on this board in his stead. The appointment would be effective immediately and Ms. Hadachek told the Board she would accept the appointment.

Raymond Raney and Beth Reed gave the Board an overview of the present courthouse telephone system.

Belleville City Manager, Allen Bachelor visited with the Board. He shared an invitation to attend an Open House on June 26, 2003 to welcome Jenny Ahlvers into the community. Ms. Ahlvers is the new Republic County Economic Development Director.

Beth Ball, Janet Jones, Louis Johnson, Larry Krob and Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about the Senior Care Act. There is a new Incentive Fund and the county portion of the payment would be \$1500.00 this year and would need to be paid by December of 2003. They would like to have a line item on the County budget for that match each year. The Council on Aging does not have enough money to cover it.

At 11:07 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into Executive Session for a period of 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

At 11:12 a.m. the Board resumed regular session with no action being taken.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney informed the Board that he would be away from the office for one week to go to Mobile, Alabama. He stated that should any problems arise the Emergency Preparedness Director from Washington County would be available to serve the county in his absence.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe visited with the Board. A patron complained that it takes several weeks for checks written to the Register of Deeds to clear the bank.

The Board reminded Ms. Rahe that they sent a memo out some time ago directing all departments to deposit their money on a weekly basis.

Ms. Rahe also gave an update on the grant project to repair the Courthouse steps. A contract must be signed between Republic County and the State Historical Society before bids are sought for this project.

Tandy Rundus and Kristi Nutsch-Fulton presented the 2004 budget request for the County Extension Council. Chairman David Blecha was also in attendance.

April Vaughn, Wayne Gardner and James Allman of Southwestern Bell visited with the Board about options for updating the county telephone system. The Board is very interested in the Plexar Telephone System and the County would receive considerable savings in the monthly billing.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons visited with the Board about the air conditioner noise. The Board will consider her request for a cooling system that is reasonably quiet.

The Board visited the District Court vault on the second floor of the Courthouse. District Court Clerk, Kris Kling had asked them to look at it.

There being no further business Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the session at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 23, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Early in the day the Courthouse was a buzz with personnel from the Emergency Services Departments and the American Red Cross due to the storm.

At 8:30 a.m., the Board signed an Official Declaration to declare Republic County a disaster area due to the damage done by violent storms and tornadoes the evening of June 22, 2003. The extreme amounts of rainfall in various areas is causing extensive flooding in a large portion of the county.

At 10:00 a.m., an Official Public Hearing was held for the Proposed Road Opening and Resolution for the Minimum Maintenance of that county road in Richland Township. A motion was made to open the road and officially declare that mile a minimum maintenance road. The motion was seconded and carried as all members of the Board approved it. Eight patrons in support of this road opening were in attendance.

A permission to travel was approved for County Clerk, Vickie Hall and Cheryl Loring to attend the Department of Revenue Workshop, Working With Abstracts, to be held in Salina, Kansas.

Jenny Ahlvers gave a review of the Economic Development Department.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

At 11:00 a.m., the Board of County Commissioners went to Scandia to take a ride in the Kansas Highway Patrol Helicopter to view the storm damage and flooding in Republic County.

Following a luncheon recess the Board returned to the Courthouse.

Regular session resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez visited with the Board about placing barricades at the closing of numerous county roads. The ultimate concern is for public safety and the water level must go down considerably before a thorough inspection of the bridges and culverts can take place.

The regular session adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 30, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 14, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board. The Road and Bridge Department have opened seven bridge structures this past week. They continue to haul dirt to washouts around culverts to get the roads widened out to accommodate two-lane traffic. The district men have also worked on getting the roads in their districts shaped back up for gravel.

Mr. Perez asked the Board about the work his department did at the fairgrounds for the Fair Amusement Board. A partial payment was received minus the amount for machinery hours. The Board agreed the total amount is due and payable for work done by the Road and Bridge Department.

At 8:41 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into an executive session for a period of ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion. Those present were Commissioners Holl and Wilber and Mr. Perez.

Regular session resumed at 8:40 a.m. with no action taken.

Mr. Perez noted that Don Danielson's resignation from the Road and Bridge Department was accepted with regret.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the morning prayer.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to deny Janie Marcotte's request for a RCD loan. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it a unanimous decision. The Board signed a letter to Ms. Marcotte, denying funding of her Republic County Industrial Development Committee loan request.

Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers, stopped during public forum. She gave a progress report from her department. The farmers market was a huge success.

Kathy Brzon stopped to visit with the Board about the intersection of 160 and King Road. She said the tall corn made it a dangerous intersection and asked if stop signs might be appropriate. Mr. Perez will investigate and report back to the Board.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe visited with the Board about her budget request.

At 10:00 a.m., representatives from the Republic County Council on Aging presented the Board with their 2004 Budget request. President Larry Krob, Treasurer Louis Johnson and County Coordinator Beth Ball were in attendance.

The Board assured the group that the 2004 match money would continue to come from the County Health Department budget and be repaid to the local Council on Aging group.

At 10:30 a.m., Nellie McChesney fell in front of the County Commissioner's door. The County EMS was called and transported her to the hospital.

Kelvin Blecha and James Popelka presented their 2004 NCK Fair Budget request to the Board. They gave a progress report on utility upgrades and the general condition of the buildings and the fairgrounds. They reported two large holes in the asphalt strip north of the Commercial Building.

Commissioner Nelson joined the regular session at 11:30 a.m., as the Board adjourned for lunch. The Board and Clerk Hall joined the Jewell County Commissioners for lunch in Mankato, KS and held a meeting following to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Regular session resumed at 2:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney presented the new contract for 2003 dispatching services for Belleville City to increase the dollar amount to \$40,000.00 per year.

The Board signed the Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Belleville to provide dispatching at a rate of \$40,000.00 per year to be effective for the entire year of 2003.

County Clerk, Vickie Hall called the Intrust Bank representative about the tax statement for Valley Vegetable and asked when they are going to pay the tax statement for that property. Ms. Hall told them the county would appreciate receiving immediate payment of \$696.00 for the real estate taxes.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Commissioner Holl abstained from the vote, as she was not in attendance at that meeting. Motion carried.

The afternoon was dedicated to individual appointments with each county department head to visit about their 2004 budget request. Sheriff, Ron Blad, County Attorney, Frank Spurney, Jr., EMS Director, David Strnad, County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, Communications Director, Mark Nordell, Custodian, George Bean, County Appraiser, Barry Porter, Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney and County Clerk, Vickie Hall met at 15 minute intervals with the Board.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen reviewed her 2004 budget request with the Board. She asked the Board to sign the school-nursing contract for USD 426. The contract was duly signed.

Ms. Hansen also presented four requests to travel out of the county by employees in her department. Permission was granted for all requests. Kathy Zach will attend a workshop on Personal Protective Equipment and Decontamination Equipment, July 15-16, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas.

Karen Henke will go to the Outbreak Investigation Training on July 18, 2003 in Topeka, Kansas. The Regional Bioterrorism Grant will cover expenses.

Julie Lindberg and Linda Rudolph will attend the KIPHS NCK Summer Workshop 2003 to be held July 24-25, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

The fourth permission to travel was for Julie Lindberg to attend a quarterly billing meeting on August 5, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell stopped to tell the Board that the air-conditioner in the outer office is not working at this time. He wants to quickly repair it or purchase another air-conditioner. Custodian, George Bean will be looking into the situation.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Board plans to hold a special meeting on Thursday evening, July 17, 2003, Courthouse, to complete the 2004 budget preparation.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 21, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 21, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez gave a review of work being done by the Road and Bridge Department employees. He noted that they have patched the two holes in the pavement in front of the Commercial Building at the NCK Fairgrounds.

Mr. Perez presented the new guidelines for the Republic County Landfill. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the guidelines for the Republic County C/D Landfill. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Deb Hadachek was given a copy of it for the Telescope.

A permission to travel to the Kansas Department of Transportation meeting, July 22, 2003 in Minneapolis, Kansas was approved for Mr. Perez and Darlene Havel.

Mr. Perez said they have opened up five more structures and bridges last week. These culverts were located on Rock-10.7, 140-Lincoln.5, Elm-220.5 and a box culvert on 160-Cedar.1 and at Hickory-250.6. The employees are working on other closed areas this week.

Mr. Perez noted that he had a discussion with Don Dean, Campbell and Johnson Engineers, late Friday afternoon and it was decided that the Pawnee Bridge should be closed until corrective action can be taken to prevent further damage to the structure. The Board agreed with this plan of action.

Republic County has received a temporary permit for the new cell at the landfill.

Mr. Perez reported a mishap at the county shops. A dump truck backed into an overhead door at the shop. Replacement cost will be \$1,869.00 with a \$500.00 deductible. K-Camp Insurance Company has been notified.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the morning prayer.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers throughout the morning. A discussion arose about ribbons for the big computer. Six ribbons were ordered and it was the consensus of the Board that those who use it the most should share the cost of the ribbons. Clerk Hall agreed she would pay for half of the ribbons from the County Clerk's budget and the other half should then come from the Appraiser's budget.

Blaine Miller, Republic County Hospital Administrator, met with the Board. The Board had lowered the Hospital Maintenance appropriation for 2004. It was the consensus of those in attendance that they could accept \$5,000 less this coming year. Mr. Miller visited about the hospital improvement project.

At 10:00 a.m., Bindweed Director, Steve Pounds met with the Board for a telephone hearing with the Department of Human Resources due to an appeal filed for unemployment benefits.

At 10:15 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board, Mr. Pounds and County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

At 10:25 a.m., regular session resumed with no action being taken by the Board.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2003. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson abstained from the vote as he was absent for the morning session.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting, July 17, 2003 held at 5:30 p.m. to prepare the county budget. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the State Homeland Security Grant Program Assessment for Funds during the fiscal year 2004. Mr. Raney told the Board he had completed the assessment and had already mailed the form in on behalf of Republic County.

They also visited about the NFIP or National Flood Insurance Program and the Tower north of Belleville. There are currently four renters that pay the county to have their personal radio antennas on the tower. Those using the tower are Mike Brzon, Jerry Strnad, Bruce Ball/Rural Gas and Brad Krenke. All rental accounts are current.

The Board informed Raymond Raney of their intent to change the Emergency Preparedness Director's position from a full time position to a half time position in 2004. Mr. Wilber has been researching the subject and noted that other counties the size of Republic County do not have full time directors. It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Raney's job performance is not a factor in their decision to make a possible a change in his department. Since many other counties have directors who serve on a half time basis and those counties have not been adversely affected by it, the Board felt Republic County should investigate making a change in 2004.

Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD matters.

At 1:00 p.m., following a luncheon recess, the Board resumed regular session.

The Board visited about the Arbuthnot fountain and concluded they would like to take some type of formal action by August 1, 2003. A letter was sent to Melissa

Arbuthnot asking her if she and/or her family would consider setting up a fully funded perpetual care plan to cover all present and future costs of maintenance and upkeep on the fountain. The letter indicated the Board would take such a plan into consideration if the Arbuthnot family would like to have a voice in the future of the Arbuthnot Memorial Fountain.

Wanda Backstrum reviewed the Department of Corrections Budget. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the Department of Community Corrections Grant Funds Budget for 2004. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board about EMS matters. At 1:34 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Those in attendance were the Board and Mr. Strnad.

At 1:44 p.m., regular session resumed and Commissioner Holl made another motion to extend the executive session for another 10 minutes. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Regular session resumed at 1:54 p.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board signed a utility agreement for underground telephone lines east of 180 Road at the Bill Lowell residence. The agreement was between Krob Trenching and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

The Board approved the Memorandum of Solid Waste Agreement between Republic County and the City of Courtland. Another agreement was also approved between Republic County and the City of Scandia.

Beverly Estes visited with the Board about the Scandia Grocery Store.

Southwestern Bell representatives, April Vaughn, Jim Allman and Wayne Gardner, presented a plan that would give Republic County considerable savings on telephone services. Raymond Raney and Beth Reed have been the liaisons for the county to acquaint SWB with our present system and the current needs of the County.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to change to the new Southwestern Bell Plexar II System. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried. Southwestern Bell approached the County to offer considerable savings in telephone services.

A department head meeting will be called to inform departments of the upcoming change in service and to allow each department head to address any needs that might be specific to that department.

At 4:00 p.m., Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney came in to visit with the Board about various matters.

At 4:01 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those in attendance were the Board and Mr. Raney.

At 4:16 p.m., regular session resumed followed by another motion from Commissioner Nelson to extend the executive session by an additional 10 minutes to continue the discussion about non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

At 4:26 p.m., the regular session resumed but was followed by another motion from Commissioner Holl to extend the executive session by an additional 20 minutes to continue the discussion about non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

At 4:47 p.m., regular session resumed but was followed by one last motion by Commissioner Holl to extend the executive session by 10 minutes. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Regular session resumed at 4:57 p.m. and the Board took no action.

At 5:00 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn for the day. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

A special meeting will be held Wednesday morning, July 23, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., with the county auditor to review the 2004 County Budget.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 28, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in Special Session on Wednesday morning, July 23, 2003, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl and Wilber present. Commissioner Nelson was absent due to a prior commitment. Also present was the County Clerk, Vickie Hall and the County Auditors, Randall Hofmeier and Jerry Pugh of Bartlett Settle and Edgerle in Hutchinson, Kansas.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed 2004 Republic County Budget with the County Auditors. The group reviewed each department or fund within the budget. After a few minor adjustments the group agreed the budget was ready for publication. The public hearing will be held, August 11, 2003, 10:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

It was noted that this has been a difficult year for city and county governments to prepare budgets with the loss of revenues, generally known as demand transfers, from the State of Kansas. Between 2002 and 2004 the county lost \$308,610.00 in demand transfers. An additional loss came in lower Intangibles Tax and Interest on Idle Funds, which adds another \$81,161.00 in lost revenues. That is a loss of \$389,771.00 or a total loss in revenues of 8.535 mills. That is a huge loss for a small county and the Board worked hard to cut expenditures and yet maintain services for county residents. They did not want to increase the county levy.

At 10:00 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on July 28, 2003, at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 28, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss various matters. Dirt is still being hauled to specific road repair projects. He noted that gravel replacement would be starting today.

Materials were ordered for the repair of the Pawnee Bridge. Mr. Perez stated it is difficult to predict how long it will take to complete the general reinforcement on that bridge.

Mr. Perez received the report back from Campbell and Johnson Engineers and the following is a list of their findings:

DEBRIS/DRIFT REMOVAL PROJECTS

13 – FAS Bridges
39 – Off System Bridges
11 – Box Bridges
63 – Total

DAMAGE REPORT – Need Attention

18 – FAS Bridges
44 - Off System Bridges
32 – Box Bridges
94 – Total

He reported that there are 5 bridges closed for repair at this time and they will reopen these 5 prior to working on the minor damages to the others listed above. Some bridges will require considerable time to repair due to the amount of scour they had at the site. Debris needs to be removed at several of the bridge sites prior to repairs being made.

Mr. Perez mentioned that the County is only running the transportation bus to the surrounding small towns on Thursday and Fridays due to the lack of riders. The Board thought the extreme heat might be the cause for the lack of participation and mentioned that the weather could cause the older people to stay home.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the morning prayer.

The Board reviewed a letter from Melissa Arbuthnot in regards to the operation and maintenance of the Arbuthnot Memorial Fountain. The letter states that any final decision made about the fountain belongs solely with the County since it is now the property of Republic County.

The Board signed a letter to Mr. Harold Klaege, State Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The letter was seeking assistance from Emergency Watershed Projects to aid in the efforts to recover from the storm that hit Republic County on June 22, 2003. The flash flooding caused a massive amount of damage to the roads, bridges, and culverts around the County.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board about routine EMS matters.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe read a two-page review of the daily operations and complaints of the Register of Deeds office. Ms. Rahe stated that her department's personal services budget request was lowered when others were increased for personal services. The Board explained that they personally reviewed each department budget thoroughly and felt each department had been adequately funded. County employees paid from the general fund in the past will now be paid out of the correct department budget. Those salaries were moved out of the Courthouse General Budget and added to other budgets to reflect the actual expenses for each department.

Ms. Rahe also gave a progress report on the grant received to improve the Courthouse steps. She noted that letters were sent out to request bids for an architect for the project and that those bids must be returned by August 8, 2003. The next step will be to take bids from contractors interested in the project.

Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers visited about various projects in Republic County.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons visited with the Board about investing the funds for the Hospital Improvement Project.

A letter or Notice of Approval for the Request for Release of Funds (RROF) was received with no objection made to the certification and the release of federal funds. The Program Field Services Coordinator hereby approved a release of funds for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. The CDBG Grant refers to the Republic County Hospital Improvement Project.

Ms. Coons noted that the \$500,000.00 Certificate of Deposit that is held in the Munden Bank and the one that is held in the Courtland Bank would each come due in August. It was the consensus of the Board to renew the two CD's for another six months.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2003 regular meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 23, 2003 with the county auditors. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen and Secretary, Julie Lindberg visited with the Board about the proposed telephone system. Ambulance Director, David Strnad also attended the session. Both department heads voiced their concerns about always having open lines so their departments would not miss any calls. More information will be shared at next week's department head meeting.

Chairman Martin Nelson signed the contract between the #455 School District and the County Health Department for student health services.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the proposed 2004 County Budget for publication in the Belleville Telescope. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. The mill levy did not change from the previous budget year.

The Board recessed for lunch at the Republic County Hospital Board Meeting.

Regular session resumed at 1:30 p.m., in the Commissioner's Room.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter offered to add Raymond Raney as a half-time employee in his department starting in 2004. He noted that Mr. Raney was familiar with the GIS Program, mapping and other aspects of Republic County. Mr. Porter told the Board it might be something they would want to consider for the future.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell proposed a change in his department. Val Gene Issacson will be retiring at the end of this year. Mr. Nordell suggested that he would not hire another employee for that position. Mr. Nordell would personally cover that dispatching shift himself, which would account for considerable savings to the County. He noted that the County would also receive the savings of one benefit package if the Board gave their approval. Mr. Nordell asked for an increase of \$4,000.00 in his yearly salary to cover the additional dispatch duties. He assured the Board that he could handle the supervisory part of his job and the additional duties of a full time dispatcher. The Board said they would consider his proposal.

Dr. Sean Wheeler stopped to visit with the Board about the proposed truck stop.

There being no further business Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 4, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. The braces are in place on the Pawnee Bridge and backfill is now in place. The men are removing the damaged concrete from under the truss pads. They will re-pour the pads this week. In a couple weeks, after the concrete cures, it will be reopened to the public.

Mr. Perez talked to the Board about a request from the City of Republic. They asked about purchasing asphalt for 2.5 blocks of city streets. It would require about 20 loads or 264 tons. They also want to do 4 blocks with Millings, which would be approximately 50 loads or 704 tons. The County is going to run short on millings so the City may need to purchase the millings from another source. This is not an unusual request as the County tries to assist small cities as time and resources allow. Mr. Perez pointed out that the work force at the Road and Bridge Department is spread pretty thin as they continue to make repairs to county roadways following flooding from the June storm. He thought it would be hard to take on any additional projects this year.

Belleville Chamber of Commerce Secretary, Mary Kolsky received permission to hold the August 21, 2003 Tailgate Party to kick off the beginning of the new school year, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., on the Courthouse lawn.

Permission to travel to was approved for Julie Lindberg to attend a training meeting for Medicaid Claims, August 12, 2003, in Salina, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for County Appraiser, Barry Porter, to attend a Compliance Workshop, September 12, 2003, in Wichita, Kansas.

Permission was granted for County Appraiser, Barry Porter to attend the IAAO Annual Conference, September 13-18, 2003 in Nashville, Tennessee. He noted that Kansas County Appraiser's Association would pay expenses for the conference.

The Board reviewed a letter from the United States Department of Agriculture; Natural Resources Conservation Service dated August 1, 2003. The letter was in response to Republic Counties request for assistance through the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program. The main message of the letter was “the Republic County disaster request will remain on file until additional funding is authorized by Congress”. The program is designed for the installation of recovery measures. It also stated that for repairing roads, bridges, and culverts, funds might be available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Kansas City.

Sheriff Ron Blad received approval to hire Chris Springer as a full time deputy in the Sheriff's office. Mr. Springer will receive \$9.20 per hour and replace Deputy Jeff Smith who recently submitted his resignation.

Deb Tipton visited with the Board on behalf of the Munden City Park Committee. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to give \$700.00 to the Munden City Park Project from the Parks and Recreation Fund. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Kathy Zach, RN with the Republic County Health Department, received signatures from the Board on the USD 427 Contract for Student Health Services.

A department head meeting was held with Southwestern Bell Telephone representative, Wayne Gardner giving clarification on the different telephone options available to the county. One of the main concerns was the number of dedicated incoming trunk lines. Various subjects were covered including the proposed 2004 County Budget and Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance.

Those attending the department head meeting were: Weed Director, Steve Pounds, Communications Director, Mark Nordell, Council on Aging, Beth Ball, County Attorney Secretary, Cathy Calkins, County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney, County Appraiser, Barry Porter, Sheriff, Ron Blad, Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe, Ambulance Director, David Strnad, Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez, Health Department representative, Kathy Zach and County Clerk, Vickie Hall. Wayne Gardner was also present.

Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD matters.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to adjourn for a luncheon recess. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 1:00 p.m., the Board resumed regular session.

Courthouse Custodian, George Bean, told the Board that the air conditioner in the computer room has quit, possibly due to lightening. It was agreed that the window air conditioner from the clerk's office could be used to replace it.

Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers met with the Board about various matters in her department.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, visited with the Board about the billing from Invision and R. L. Faus and Company for the architectural services on the Republic County Medical Arts Building project.

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 11, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez visited with the Board about the Road and Bridge Department. The crew has been working on the gravel replacement and dragging roads in the county.

The concrete work on the Pawnee Bridge has been completed and after the concrete cures for 14 days they will reopen that bridge to traffic.

Mr. Perez said they have had reports of numerous signs being knocked down on the eastern part of the county over the weekend. At last count the report was 21 signs but the men will probably find more down as they drive the roads to repair and replace the signs.

Mr. Perez and Sheriff Blad have had several reports of irrigation sprinklers spraying the county roads. When motorists travel at a fast pace on very dry roads, then suddenly come upon one of the spots over-sprayed by a pivot, it creates a hazardous road condition for motorists.

At 8:37 a.m., Commissioner Wilber made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. The Board and Mr. Perez were in attendance.

At 8:52 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken.

Mr. Perez told the Board that he would ask Ed Ball to work at the county shop in the absence of Larry Olsen. Mr. Ball will be asked to work for nine days, starting wage at \$9.87 per hour. The job will be classified as temporary part-time and begin on August 12, 2003.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

A permission to travel was approved for Weed Director; Steve Pounds, to attend a meeting August 14, 2003 in Beloit, Kansas.

County Extension Agent, Tandy Rundus visited with the Board. Kristi Fulton-Nutsch resigned as Republic County Agriculture Agent. The Board asked Ms. Rundus to research the possibility of sharing an extension agent with another county.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad and Assistant Director, Rod Dusek, visited with the Board. They received signatures on a permission to travel for Beverly Reynolds

and Winter Kuehn to attend the Medicaid Claims meeting, August 12, 2003, in Salina, Kansas.

At 9:40 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5 minutes executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 9:45 a.m., the Board resumed regular session and no action was taken. Mr. Strnad, Mr. Dusek and the Board were in attendance for the executive session.

At 10:00 a.m., Chairman Martin Nelson opened the official 2004 Republic County Budget Hearing that was held in the County Courtroom. Those in attendance were Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney, Weed Director, Steve Pounds, Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez, Ambulance Director, David Strnad, Ambulance Assistant Director, Rod Dusek, Communications Director, Mark Nordell, County Appraiser, Barry Porter, Custodian, George Bean, County Clerk, Vickie Hall, Mr. Charles Westin and the Commissioners.

At 10:30 a.m. the Board and County Clerk, Vickie Hall returned to the County Commissioners Room to resume regular session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilber to adopt the proposed 2004 Republic County Budget. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. There were no changes made to the proposed budget.

Commissioner Nelson made a telephone call to Bonnie Mosher who is working with the Valley Vegetable project. Mr. Nelson asked that they get the property mowed and encouraged them to put a FOR SALE sign at the site.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons is trying to research past payments on the Republic County Medical Arts project. Jeffrey Anderzhon, AIA with InVision Architecture spoke with the Board over the speaker telephone. The argument is over \$2,867.25 of which a portion may have been paid to the wrong vendor. Ms. Coons is trying to acquire clear and concise billings from both R.L. Faus and InVision. The Board wants to pay the correct amount and finalize the completed project.

Frank G. Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board about various matters. Mr. Spurney will send a letter to Mary Brown and Denise Strait telling them the County is taking possession of the equipment in the Scandia Grocery Store. He will convey to them that we have assumed ownership of the equipment.

Mr. Spurney will also write to the Scandia State Bank about money in an account that would belong to the RCD Revolving Loan Account. This is money derived from the sale of final inventory or stock. The RCD Committee would like to get this account closed.

Emergency Preparedness Director, Raymond Raney, visited with the Board about the new Plexar Telephone System.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 4, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Following a luncheon recess the Board visited with Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers.

The Board visited with Communications Director, Mark Nordell. All agreed that effective November 1, 2003; Mr. Nordell will assume a regular shift of dispatching in the 911 Communications Center. The Board agreed to pay Nordell an additional \$4,000.00 per year in salary. Mr. Nordell suggested this proposal and emphasized that he will save the department \$30,000.00 a year in salary and benefits by taking a regular shift and not rehiring a full time employee to replace Mr. Isaacson when he retires.

It was also agreed that Mr. Nordell's salary would revert back to his present annual salary if this arrangement does not work out and a full time employee would be hired to work that shift.

County Attorney, Frank G. Spurney, Jr. stopped to visit with the Board.

At 2:00 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes, to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion was carried. Those present were Mr. Spurney and the Board.

At 2:15 p.m., regular session resumed with no action being taken.

There being no further business, Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn at 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., in Agenda, Kansas. The afternoon session will be held at the Courthouse in Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 18, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Agenda City Hall, Agenda, Kansas with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss various Road and Bridge matters. Mr. Perez noted that the Pawnee Bridge would be reopened this Wednesday morning.

Mr. Perez delivered maps to the post offices and schools in the county and asked them to update their routes for his records. This helps the Road Department to be sure there is sufficient gravel on those routes.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the Republic County Confined Space Entry Policy For Non-Emergency Personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe visited with the Board about the grant to repair the Courthouse steps.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the low bid of Campbell and Johnson Engineers, Concordia, to manage and design the Republic County Courthouse front steps. The improvement project bid was at 8.5% of the project cost. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Lunch was enjoyed at the Agenda Café.

At 1:00 p.m., the afternoon session resumed at the Courthouse.

The Board reviewed all correspondence and approved the accounts payable vouchers.

County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen, visited with the Board about the laws and procedures that must be followed when old or abandoned buildings become health hazards and are reported to the County Health Director.

Solid Waste Hearings were scheduled from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. for county landowners. The Board and Solid Waste Director, Alvin Perez attended the session. No landowners attended the hearing.

Mr. Perez visited with the Board about the proposed solid waste rate increase. Commissioner Holl made a motion to adopt Resolution 2003-16 that effects all

residents and businesses located in Republic County, Kansas, as they shall be charged a monthly fee for solid waste disposal, effective January 1, 2004, in accordance with the approved fee schedule listed in the resolution.

The resolution actually returns the monthly charge to its 1995 level. Commissioners then initially approved a \$5.00 per household per month fee, and backed it off to \$4.50 about a year later as the fund collected more revenues than it needed.

Cloud County has now increased the fee from \$39.00 per ton to \$42.00 per ton. Trash haulers currently take all household waste to the Cloud County Transfer Station south of Concordia. Trash then gets transported to a site near Topeka, Kansas and Republic County pays a fuel adjustment cost for those transportation costs when gas goes over \$1.20 per gallon.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, received permission to travel to the Fall Kansas County Treasurer's Association meeting September 9-12, 2003 in Topeka, Kansas.

Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers visited with the Board.

At 3:20 p.m., Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Those present were the Board and Mr. Perez.

Regular session resumed at 3:50 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD matters. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approved Betty Hollowell's RCD loan in the amount of \$12,500.00 with an additional \$3,825.00 coming from pledges that must be to the National Family Bank prior to loan closing. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. The \$12,500.00 loan is for the building and equipment. The pledges will cover \$1,475.00 for a new freezer, food/inventory, utilities and other start-up costs.

A Memorandum of Agreement for Solid Waste Disposal was signed between the City of Agenda and Republic County.

Courthouse Custodian, George Bean visited with the Board about air conditioners.

At 4:15 p.m. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 25, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, in Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 25, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters.

Mr. Perez noted that of the 28 sites submitted only 18 reports are being considered for funding by the Soil Conservation Service. These are large bridges that are plugged with debris from the flood. Terry Alstatt, Director of Republic County Soil Conservation Service shared the information. Mr. Perez received Chairman, Martin Nelson's signature on the requests for funds. Mr. Alstatt said there was no money set-aside at this time but he will still request the funding from the federal government through the United States Department of Agriculture. The request was in the amount of \$53,000.00 of which Republic County would be required to pay \$13,250.00 or twenty-five percent. Of that amount it may be made up by in-kind services from the Road and Bridge employees for the county share.

Mr. Perez received permission to travel to attend the Managing Conflict in the Workplace training to be held September 11-12, 2003 in Wichita, Kansas. The Kansas Association of Counties and the Kansas Supreme Court is sponsoring the training.

The Board approved a utility agreement for Rural Water District No. 2 to install a water line under the road at the intersection of 220 Road and Shady Road.

Mr. Perez also presented a utility agreement with Southwestern Bell Telephone on Project #5126929. The Board signed the agreement.

The Board signed a permission to travel for County Appraiser, Barry Porter to attend the Kansas County Appraiser's Association board meeting, August 27, 2003.

Register of Deeds, Ruth Rahe gave a progress report on the grant to repair the Courthouse steps.

The Board signed a Solid Waste Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Munden.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 18, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Two lease agreements were signed for use of the antenna tower and related communications equipment at a cost of \$420.00 per year. One agreement was with Bruce Ball and the other with Jerry Strnad.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board about the Ambulance Department. At 9:46 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Those present were the Board and Mr. Strnad.

Taking no action the regular session resumed at 9:56 a.m.

Sheriff, Ron Blad met with the Board to discuss salary increases for employees in his department.

At 11:10 a.m., Ambulance Director, David Strnad returned to visit. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to have a 10 minutes executive session. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and David Strnad.

Regular session resumed at 11:20 a.m., with Commissioner Holl making a motion for an additional 5 minutes of executive session. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

At 11:25 a.m., the Board resumed regular session. No action was taken at this time.

The Board joined the Hospital Board for lunch.

At 1:30 p.m., the Board resumed regular session.

Wanda Backstrum explained the FY04-SB123 Plan, which was designed to reduce the prison population by requiring a mandatory treatment program. Ms. Backstrum visited about the various policies and goals of the program. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve the FY04-SB123 Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson.

Ms. Backstrum also requested approval of the FY03 Community Corrections budget. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the 2003 budget modifications. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. They must have this additional budget approval to move money from one line item to another line item.

Sheriff, Ron Blad returned to continue his discussion with the Board about wages in the Sheriff's Department.

Tandy Rundus, Republic County Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, Dr. J. D. McNutt, Mike Hadachek, David Blecha, and Gerald Blazek visited with the Board. As representatives of the Republic County Extension Council the Board visited with them about possibly sharing an agriculture agent with another county.

At 4:00 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2003 due to the Labor Day Holiday. The session will begin at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 2, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters.

Resource Management, a permitted mono-fill, for waste tire disposal, in Brownell, Kansas, had contacted Mr. Perez. Republic County has been using Champlin Tire Recycling to dispose of tires to date. Resource Management charges less and Resource Management has the equipment to handle the tires on their own. Mr. Perez has had to send men out to help hand load tires for Champlin Tire Recycling. The Board agreed with Mr. Perez that the cost savings and convenience was reasoning enough to change companies.

The Board signed a Solid Waste Disposal Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Narka, Kansas.

Dave White, CGI Representative, visited with the Board about the long distance service and the billing for Republic County. Commissioner Holl made a motion to get all departments on CGI billing and issue new codes to each county employee. It will allow calls to be billed to each department and give a listing of each employee's calls. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 25, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Economic Development Director, Jennifer Ahlvers visited with the Board about attracting businesses to the area.

Belleville City Manager, Allen Bachelor visited with the Board about Law Enforcement Consolidation. Riley County joined the City of Manhattan to form one single unit of law enforcement back in 1974. Due to the economic environment Cloud County and the City of Concordia are also talking about combining into one law enforcement agency. Mr. Bachelor noted that we need to explore all possibilities to utilize the tax dollars in the most efficient manner. Both the county and the city will seek more information on the subject and hold a joint meeting later in the year.

The Board adjourned for lunch. At 1:00 p.m., the Board resumed regular session.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad visited with the Board. A permission to travel was approved for Beverly Reynolds and Winter Kuehn to attend the Electronic

Media Service Annual User Group Meeting, September 11, 2003, to be held in Wichita, Kansas.

Mr. Strnad also noted that EMT Jeff Smith is now taking calls and will receive \$6.20 per hour.

At 1:14 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for a period of 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried. Those present were the Board and David Strnad.

Regular session resumed at 1:29 p.m., with no action being taken by the Board.

Mr. Strnad told the Board that Winter Kuehn would be the new HIPPA Officer for the Ambulance Department.

At 1:59 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Willber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Those present were the Board and Mark Nordell.

Regular session resumed at 2:09 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Communications Director, Mark Nordell continued to visit with the Board about his department. Mr. Nordell voluntarily rescinded his earlier proposal to cover the full time dispatcher position being vacated by Val Gene Isaacson for an additional \$4,000 per year. It is the intent of Mr. Nordell to cover 3 daytime shifts of dispatching per week and to hire a part time person to cover other shifts. Mr. Nordell will not receive the additional \$4,000.00 as previously agreed.

Health Director, Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about various matters. The roof on the Health Department building has been a problem for several years. The water leaks continue to damage the ceiling and some of the building contents. The Board agreed the roof should be repaired before winter. Ms. Hansen will return with more information and estimates for the repair.

Permission to travel was approved for Kathy Zach to attend the Home Care Association annual meeting September 10-11, in Lawrence, Kansas. Donna Moravek, Nila Skupa and Juanita Ashby received permission to attend the meeting on September 11th in Lawrence, Kansas.

Permission to travel was also approved for Marcia Hansen to attend a Perinatal Care Conference, September 11-12, 2003 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Cindy Coons and Kay Shoemaker to attend the District County Treasurer's meeting October 8, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Weed Director, Steve Pounds received permission to travel to a workshop on September 17, 2003 in Great Bend, Kansas.

The Board emphasized that when department heads hire new employees they are not to make any guarantee of a future salary increase. At the end of the six-month probation period, the Board will review the employee's status but does not guarantee an increase in pay.

Dr. Sean Wheeler visited with the Board about his plans for a new business. County Attorney, Frank Spurney, Jr. was also in attendance. Mr. Spurney was directed by the Board to write a letter to the Kansas Department of Transportation stating that Republic County Board of County Commissioners supports the Truck Stop project.

Mike Hadachek stopped to visit with the Board about RCD matters.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. The Board had asked Mr. Perez about the cost to reclaim a mile of road in Republic County. Mr. Perez estimated an over all cost of \$6,590.80 per mile. If you subtract county employee's salaries and the using of county equipment the cost is \$3,823.50 per mile to redo a paved road. The Board would like to do 10 miles of resurfacing each year if the money is available to do it.

There being no further business Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 8, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 8, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss the work being done by his department. The men are completing asphalt work north of Scandia. Some of the district men are working on roads and cleaning ditches in their districts. The two mowers continue to run in the county as well.

Dewey Bates is back to work from disability leave.

The Board signed a permission to travel for Grace Evelyn Love, Carol Pachta and Alvin Perez to attend a seminar, to be given by the Kansas Department of Transportation. The seminar will be October 8, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

The Board signed another permission to travel for Alvin Perez to travel to a Worker's Compensation training session, October 8, 2003, in Overland Park, Kansas.

At 8:36 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15 minutes executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Those present were the Board and Alvin Perez. Regular session resumed at 8:51 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

County Treasurer, Cindy Coons received signatures from the Board for landscaping near the county ambulance building.

At 9:30 a.m., Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board to discuss various matters. Mr. Strnad informed the Board that he hopes to hire a full time paramedic in the near future.

Paramedic, Don Lieb will be representing Republic County at the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services 2003 Annual Educators Conference, October 4, 2003, in Salina, Kansas.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

County Appraiser, Barry Porter met with the Board to discuss various matters. Chairman Nelson signed the Annual Reappraisal Maintenance Specifications Plan for 2004.

The Board told Mr. Porter that they were not interested in his previous proposal to have Raymond Raney work in the Appraiser's office as a half time employee. The Board noted that they want to hold the line on spending in the Appraiser's 2004

Budget and not increase it. Raney's job as Emergency Preparedness Director will be cut to a half time position starting January 1, 2004.

A permission to travel was signed for Weed Director, Steve Pounds to attend the district meeting, September 11, 2003, in Mankato, Kansas.

A permission to travel was signed for County Clerk, Vickie Hall to attend the North Central Kansas County Clerk's fall meeting, September 18, 2003 in Mankato, Kansas.

The Board gave their approval to Sheriff, Ron Blad to hire Brett Bottger as a part time jailer at \$7.00 per hour.

The Board spoke with Mike Kasl, of Kasl Tree Service, Belleville, Kansas. The Board, Deb Hadachek, County Clerk, Vickie Hall and Mr. Kasl walked around the courthouse yard to view the lawn and the trees that have been trimmed or removed from the grounds. All agreed that in a couple years the drastic trimming would make a noticeable improvement when the trees fill out. The younger trees will now receive a good amount of sunlight and have equal foliage on all sides of the tree as they grow.

County Health Nurse, Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about the leaking roof at the county health department. Mr. Steve Geisler, of Geisler Roofing, Inc. attended the session with various solutions for roof repair. The Board approved Ms. Hansen's use of funds to speed the repairs for the project. There is \$8200.00 in the Health Capital Outlay fund and approximately \$2300.00 in hail insurance money from health department cars. Ms. Hansen thinks if she uses the two amounts of money the Health Department can pay for the repairs to the roof.

Home Economist, Tandy Rundus gave the Board the quarterly report and update on Extension activities.

Economic Development Director, Jenny Ahlvers gave a report on the Prosperity Conference given by the Department of Commerce.

At 11:46 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Only the Board was present for this session.

Regular session resumed at 11:56 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

The Board adjourned for a luncheon recess.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 2, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

A permission to travel was signed for County Treasurer, Cindy Coons, and Deputy Karen Bonner to attend the Kansas Department of Transportation meeting, September 19th in Wichita, Kansas.

There being no further business, Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn for the day. Commissioner Nelson seconded the meeting and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

The next meeting will be September 15, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED_____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl and Nelson present. Also present was County Clerk Vickie Hall. Commissioner Wilber was absent from the meeting.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez visited with the Board about the condition of the county roads. The recent rain has created additional road problems. The ditches were already full of debris from the June flood making water go across the county roads in many areas. The department is still struggling as they make repairs to the areas they have already repaired due to the June flood.

Mr. Perez noted that Frank Neilander issued a complaint about the road that leads to the county landfill. The problem will be reviewed in the Spring of 2004.

Commissioner Nelson and Alvin Perez plan to attend the Low Volume Road Seminar hosted by Osborne County, on September 17, 2003 in Downs, Kansas.

Weed Director Steve Pounds stopped to visit about various matters.

Pastor Bill Brazil offered the morning prayer.

Ambulance Director David Strnad visited about various matters in his department. Mr. Strnad wants to add another paramedic to his department in October.

At 9:53 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10 minutes executive session with County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. to discuss non-elected personnel. At 10:03 a.m., the Board resumed regular session. No action was taken.

Mike Hadachek, Sharon Kalivoda and County Attorney Frank Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board about RCD matters.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve a RCD Loan in the amount of \$53,130.00 for 10 years to Sheila and Jack Cornett for the expansion of their business, Sew Country. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve a RCD Loan in the amount of \$15,000.00 for 5 years to Louis and Dawn Havel to expand Havel's Gardens in Cuba, Kansas. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe gave the Board an update on the renovation of the courthouse steps.

The Board approved a permission to travel for Ruth Rahe to attend the North Central District Register of Deeds meeting October 8, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Ms. Rahe also received permission to travel to the Kansas Register of Deeds Association meeting on legislative updates September 26, 2003 in Junction City, Kansas.

Ms. Rahe received permission to travel to a telenet class on Budgeting and Financial Management in Kansas Counties. This class will be offered October 3, 2003 in Salina, Kansas and the hours may be used towards continuing education for certified Register of Deeds.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board joined Jewell County Commissioners and the Jewell County Clerk for lunch at A J's Café.

At 1:00 p.m., regular session resumed as the two Boards met in the Commissioner's room at the Courthouse in Belleville to discuss matters of mutual interest. The next joint meeting will be in Mankato at the Jewell County Courthouse on November 17, 2003.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave the Board an update of activities in her department.

County Health Nurse Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about the roof on the Health Department Building. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to award Giesler Roofing a contract for \$9,400.00 to install a modified Bituman Roofing System on the Republic County Health Department Building. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson also made a motion to award a second contract for \$780.00 to install a slope on a portion of the roof. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion. Motion carried. The roof will carry a 12-year manufacturers limited warranty.

Beach Brother's Contracting Inc., Lincoln, Kansas presented an estimate of \$11,925.00 to install a Duro Last roofing system on the Republic County Health Department Building. Marcia Hansen will notify both companies of the Board's decision.

At 3:00 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 22, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 22, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters.

Two bids were received for new culverts to replace culverts damaged by the storms. They are \$15,446.70 from DC Wholesale and \$18,000.95 from Welborn Sales. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept DC Wholesale's bid of \$15,446.70 for culverts. Commission Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Nelson signed the agreements for Kansas Department of Transportation in Topeka, Kansas. The agreements are for the signing project along the Kyle Railroad line in the county.

At 8:49 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session with Mr. Perez for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

Regular session resumed at 8:59 a.m., with no action being taken by the Board.

Sadie Kenyon stopped to ask if the employee who grades her road would please not leave a huge ridge of dirt and sand in her residential driveway. Mr. Perez will take care of this matter.

A permission to travel was approved for Alvin Perez and Darlene Havel to attend the Kansas Dept. of Transportation meeting, September 23, 2003, in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Ambulance Director David Strnad and Assistant Director Rod Dusek visited with the Board about various matters.

Mr. Strnad told the Board that he has hired Angela Murray, Mankato, Kansas as a full time Paramedic for the Republic County Ambulance Department. She will be paid \$9.25 per hour and her first day of work is September 22, 2003.

The Board approved an increase in pay for Winter Kuehn from \$7.95 to \$8.10 per hour. She is working out very well and has completed her 6 months probation period.

At 10:08 a.m., Commissioner Wilber made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl

seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. The Board and County Attorney, Frank Spurney, Jr. were present for this session.

At 10:23 a.m., regular session resumed with no action being taken by the Board.

Communications Director Mark Nordell asked the Board about new carpet in the dispatch area. The Board directed Mr. Nordell to seek bids according to previous specifications for the carpet in the County Attorney's office.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber abstained from the vote as he was absent on that day. Motion carried.

Sharon Kalivoda and Karen Bonner visited with the Board about RCD matters. Ms. Kalivoda received signatures from the Board on RCD letters.

The Board had lunch with the Republic County Hospital Board.

Regular session resumed at 1:15 p.m.

The Board and other county employees enjoyed birthday cake in honor of Chairman Nelson's birthday.

The Board reviewed two bids to restripe the Medical Arts parking lot. G & L Services of Kansas bid \$725.00 and Bruce L. Fullerton gave a proposal of \$320.18 to do the job. Commissioner Nelson made the motion to accept the bid from Bruce Fullerton in the amount of \$320.18 to do the striping. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Later in the afternoon the Board joined Highway Administrator Alvin Perez to view county roads.

Chairman Nelson will be the Republic County voting delegate for the 28th Annual Kansas Association of Counties Conference in November. Commissioner Holl will be the alternate.

There being no further business, Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 29, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 29, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was Secretary Beth Reed.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters.

The Board signed a utility agreement between Republic County and Krob Trenching to construct and operate an underground waterline in Freedom Township.

A permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy Cheryl Loring to attend the KPERS Designated Agent Workshop in Concordia, KS.

Melinda Pierson and Brad Chatfield visited with the Board about the Belleville Main Street Projects for 2003-2004. Approval was given for the Scare-On-The-Square parade to be held Friday evening, October 31st at 6:00 p.m. as well as numerous activities following the parade.

The last week of the Farmers Market will be October 4th in conjunction with Autumn Days. The Farmers Market has been a huge success.

The Main Street program will also support a auction fund-raiser to be held October 19th with part of the proceeds going towards a sprinkler system for the Courthouse lawn.

Brad Chatfield, president of the Main Street Program, encouraged Republic County to continue to support the program by renewing the \$250.00 county partnership.

Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe visited with the Board about the renovation of the Courthouse steps.

David Strnad visited with the Board about using name badges on the shirts for EMS personnel. Brad Aaron will teach a defensive driving class in the near future.

The Board visited about having all new county employees pass through the Strength Capacity Testing offered through the Physical Therapy Department at Republic County Hospital. Each department would pay the cost of the testing from that department fund.

Mike Hadachek, Matt Tolliver, Sharon Kalivoda, Keith Anderson, Frank Spurney, Jr. and Betty Hallowell met with the Board to discuss RCD matters. County Attorney Frank Spurney, Jr. will send letters to those RCD accounts that are in arrears. October 9th is the next RCD meeting.

Mary Kolsky of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce gave the Board an update on the Autumn Day Festival, October 6, 2003.

County Health Director, Marcia Hansen received permission for the nurses to attend four different training sessions during the month of October.

Tandy Rundus received permission to hold Community Helpers Day on the County Courtyard October 9, 2003.

The Board visited with County Treasurer Cindy Coons. She noted that there is \$7500.00 of delinquent taxes due the county. The list will be published in the Belleville Telescope.

The Board adjourned for lunch.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m. with County Clerk Vickie Hall in attendance.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave a review of her department. Alvin Perez, Jenny Ahlvers, Allen Bachelor and Bob Knudson visited with the Board in executive session about acquisition of real estate.

Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller visited with the Board about the Republic County Hospital Renovation. October 9, 2003 will be the first bid opening.

Communications Director Mark Nordell visited with the Board about offering the job of part-time dispatcher to Melanie Joerg. He also discussed the bids for carpeting in his department.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the requests for funds from "Homeland Security" appropriations that are being distributed through the Federal Office of Domestic Preparedness.

Sharon Kalivoda received signatures from the Board on RCD letters.

There being no further business the Board adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 6, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 13, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Cuba Community Building, Cuba, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present were County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deb Hadachek.

Highway Administrator, Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. District men are working on the roads in their districts and there will be two Gravel Replacement Projects that will be completed next week.

The bridge crew has been working on storm related damage.

Mr. Perez noted that Republic County paid the Kansas Department of Health and Environment a \$2,440.00 tipping fee last quarter for waste disposed at the county's construction and demolition site. The county usually pays between \$300.00 to \$400.00 per quarter. Mr. Perez reported KDHE collects \$1.00 per ton of materials dumped at the site. That included 1.3 ton of tires, 2.9 tons of metal, and 2,044 yards of shingles and other construction debris.

A thank you was read from Leah Krotz for trimming the trees in the courthouse yard. She complimented the Board for the beautification.

Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe gave the Board an update on the Courthouse Step Renovation Project. Eric Johnson and others pulled up one step and one paver on Friday. They needed to investigate what was under the steps so specifications could be written for the bid process. .

Larry Klima stopped by to ask the Board if they were going to hold another Community Clean-up Day. He noted that it was a good way to get rid of old tires. The Board said they would consider doing it again in the spring.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 6, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

County Clerk Vickie Hall told the Board that accounts payable vouchers needed to be in the Clerk's Office by Thursday at 1:00 p.m. instead of Friday. Friday didn't give the accounts payable staff enough time to get them into the computer and ready for the County Commissioner's on Monday morning.

The Board received a letter, cassette tape and computer disk from a Mr. Tennial in Salina, Kansas. The Board was unsure what to make of the letter. Each sentence seemed to have a different subject, which made it difficult to understand.

Lunch was enjoyed at Two Doors Down Café in Cuba, Kansas.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville.

Ambulance Director, David Strnad met with the Board. Mr. Strnad spoke with the Board about the Physical Capacity Profiling Test to be taken by all new employees.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to re-appointed Robert J. Raney and Deb Hadachek to serve as Republic County Hospital Board of Trustees. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. Mr. Raney and Ms. Hadachek will serve 4-year terms.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers visited with the Board about the Republic County web site. She will speak with Jan Kauer about the current site.

Ms. Ahlvers mentioned an incentive program, Enterprise Zone. The Board would support an enterprise zone that would benefit new businesses. They could then qualify for state investment tax credits, job creation tax credits, and sales tax exemptions related to remodeling, construction, and purchase of equipment.

Ms. Ahlvers also spoke with the Board about upcoming events. She invited the Board to the NCK Tourism meeting October 16, 2003 at the Harvester Room in the Jensik Insurance Building.

Under-Sheriff Vince Crough, Josh Perez, Andy Holmes, Jimmy Shepek and Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about new radios for the Sheriff's department. The Board turned down a request to purchase seven new radios from the 911 Fund.

Mr. Raney noted that Republic County stands to receive at least \$145,000.00 as its share of the Federal Homeland Security grant. Money from that grant could be used to purchase new radios for the Sheriff's Office but that grant money won't be released for another 60-90 days. The Board will speak with Sheriff Ron Blad on October 20, 2003 about the radios.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez again met with the Board to go through the selection process to select a consultant to provide services on the Federal Aid Project Number 79 C-4090-01 and F-9.91.

Five companies were sent letters of intent to bid. Four responded with the required qualifications and one company was selected.

Dr. Sean Wheeler gave the Board a quick progress report on the truck stop.

There being no further business Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 20, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board. He reviewed the general roadwork, mowing and completion of the patching on asphalt roads.

The road department will begin working winter hours on October 27th working from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Perez agreed that his employees would assist in replacement of 911 signs in Republic County. Road and Bridge will be reimbursed for the hours and mileage from the 911 Fund.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Economic Development Director Jennifer Ahlvers met with the Board. She noted that Republic County does not need to apply for or create an enterprise zone. Republic County is currently a part of the NCK Regional Planning Enterprise Zone.

Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe visited with the Board about hosting a County Government Day in April for the 7th and 8th grade students in the County. Ms. Rahe will write a letter to the school districts and ask if they would want to participate.

Don McChesney stopped to voice his concern about the condition of the bomag road north of Munden. Later in the afternoon Mr. Perez and the Board drove out to view that road.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the bid from Boman Floor Covering in the amount of \$469.19 to replace the carpet in the 911 Dispatch Center. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. This was the only bid received by the County.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the age and condition of county radios.

County Health Director Marcia Hansen received signatures on the local contract for the Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Grant. Republic County will be awarded \$20,225.00 upon completion of the required paperwork. The money can be used for computer upgrades, hand held radios and numerous other items.

Ms. Hansen reported that she has hired Debbie Sells for her part time secretary. Ms. Sells will receive \$7.45 per hour, work a minimum of 20 hours per week and receive no benefits.

Ms. Hansen received permission to travel to a Family Planning Conference, October 29, 2003 in Salina, Kansas.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to proclaim November 2003 as National Hospice Month and encourages citizens to increase their awareness of the importance and availability of Hospice Services. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Mike Hadachek, Keith Anderson, County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. and Sharon Kalivoda visited with the Board about RCD matters. Mr. Spurney will send letters to Quentin Huncovsky, Sherry Quackenbush and Don Breeden. All three businesses are behind on loan payments.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Belleville City Manager Allen Bachelor and Economic Development Director Jennifer Ahlvers asked to visit with the Board. At 11:30 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss the acquisition of land. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. At 12:00 p.m., the Board reconvened and Commissioner Holl made a motion for an additional 5 minutes of executive session to discuss the acquisition of land. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 12:05 p.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

The Board recessed for lunch.

At 1:00 p.m., Henry Pierce of Pierce Electronics, Jewell, Kansas called and spoke to the Board by telephone conference.

At 1:30 p.m., the Board visited with Sheriff Ron Blad about radios for his department. Mr. Blad noted that one of the radios is completely out of service and three others are not working very well. The Board asked Mr. Blad to confirm prices on the new radios requested for his office. The Board encouraged Mr. Blad to get all the radios repaired as soon as possible for the safety of his officers. It was mentioned that it would be in the best interest of the county to have a licensed repairman work on county radios.

Mr. Blad reported that he would hire Kimberly Judy and Jesse Birchill as part time jailers at \$7.00 per hour and with no benefits.

There being no further business at 3:30 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 27, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 27, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board. Mr. Perez brought a map of the roads in the county that could be assigned to the minimum maintenance standards. There are numerous roads in the county that receives minimal traffic. He will report on the cost of signs to mark roads that might be designated as minimum maintenance and see if this would save money for the county.

Mr. Perez also reported on the work being done to improve the potholes in the bomag road north of Munden.

Vickie Walker, representing Meadowlark Hospice, received permission to decorate a tree in front of the Courthouse. The designated Tree of Light will be decorated throughout the Christmas season.

Ambulance Director David Strnad talked with the Board about a Duclos Grant application.

Carla Jeardoe received permission from the Board to use a small portion of the Ambulance Building for a couple of hours.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

At 10:00 a.m., the Board held the official bid opening for the tract of land, 185 feet by 195 feet in Big Bend Township. Chairman Nelson made a motion to accept the sealed bid received in the amount of \$110.00 from Danny and Diana Fuller. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. The Board would ask County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. provide a real estate deed to complete the transfer of ownership to Danny and Diana Fuller. County Treasurer Cindy Coons also attended the bid opening. This was the only bid received for this property.

At 10:30 a.m., the Board of County Commissioners and Clerk Hall attended the official ground breaking for the major renovation project for the Republic County Hospital.

Regular session resumed at 11:30 a.m.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 12:00 noon, the Board recessed to join the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch.

Regular session resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez gave the Board estimates for minimum maintenance roads.

Lonnie and Teresa Veteto visited with the Board about a May 26, 2003 car accident involving their son. County Attorney Frank Spurney, Jr. was also present. This case has been officially closed but the Board listened to their concerns about the case.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the bid of \$2,252.40 from Melby Brothers Construction. The bid is for the purchase and installation of 6 doors at the Republic County Medical Arts Building in the dental office. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. The payment for the doors will be made from the medical clinic's rental account. This was the only bid received for this project.

County department heads visited with the Board about various matters. Those present were the Board, County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr., Weed Director Steve Pounds, Communications Director Mark Nordell, County Appraiser Barry Porter, Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe, Sheriff Ron Blad, County Treasurer Cindy Coons, County Health Director Marcia Hansen, Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney, Ambulance Director David Strnad, Highway Administrator Alvin Perez, Custodian George Bean and County Clerk Vickie Hall.

The Board agreed to designate Friday, December 26, 2003 as an additional holiday for county employees this year. County employees are very grateful for the gift of the additional day off to celebrate Christmas. The County offices will close at noon on December 24th and reopen to the public on Monday, December 29, 2003.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into executive session at 2:40 p.m. for a period of 15 minutes to discuss attorney/client privilege. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made the motion unanimous. Motion carried. County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. attended this session.

Regular session resumed at 2:55 p.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

The Board offered to pay the registration cost of one county employee from each department to attend the Fred Pryor Seminar on Wednesday. The seminar is being offered through the Belleville Main Street Program.

Sheriff Ron Blad and Undersheriff Vince Crough visited with the Board about the May 26th car accident and various other matters.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. At 3:54 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for a period of 20 minutes. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 4:17 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Clerk Hall reminded the Board about Val Gene Isaacson's retirement party on Friday, October 31, 2003.

There being no further business at 4:30 p.m., the Board adjourned the meeting. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board. Mr. Perez spoke with the Board about upgrading radios in the Road and Bridge Department. The radio equipment is about 24 years old. The Board encouraged him to wait until after the first of the year and see if grant money might be used to purchase radios.

Kansas Department of Transportation notified Mr. Perez that the two projects that they will let on the Federal Assistance Relief program will require guardrail to be installed on the projects. Project No. 79 C-4086-01 and 79 C-4096-01 were effected and the contracts will need to be redone to include guardrail.

Commissioner Wilber made the motion to re-do the two contracts to include guardrails. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Perez reported that the men attended a Defensive Driving Course. Carl Eyman from KWORCC gave the 8- hour safety class to the road and bridge employees. Weed Director Steve Pounds also attended the class.

The Board signed two Utility Agreements. One agreement between Republic County and Steve Skocny to construct underground water line in SW ¼, SW ¼ Section 11 and NW ¼, NW ¼ Section 14 on the section line 300 feet East of the intersection of Penn Road and 230 Road.

The other agreement is between Republic County and SBC to install telephone facilities along a FAS Road to bury copper telephone cable.

At 9:04 Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. The Board and Alvin Perez were in attendance.

Regular session resumed at 9:24 a.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

Ambulance Director David Strnad visited with the Board about various matters in his department. Strnad received notification that Republic County has been approved to receive approximately \$8,000 in grant moneys to purchase 4 defibrillators and cover some of the costs in training personnel to use them.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers met with the Board and gave an overview of upcoming events.

A Southwestern Bell representative visited with the Board about the telephone system. He will recheck the billing for Republic County.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

It was noted that \$50.00 was not sufficient to cover the cost of an employee retirement party. Department heads should be conservative when planning a retirement party. The Board realizes the cost will fluctuate depending on the number of people expected to attend the celebration.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon.

At 1:00 p.m. the Board resumed regular session. Commissioner Holl was absent from the afternoon session to attend a funeral.

Commissioner Nelson and Commissioner Wilber visited with Alvin Perez at the County Shop to talk about the dust that constantly filters into the computers and the radios. Mr. Nelson and Mr. Wilber returned to the County Commissioner's room.

There being no further business the Board adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 10, 2003, Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 10, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present were County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deb Hadachek.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board. Mr. Perez requested permission to purchase a 1989 Ford L8000 dump truck equipped with a reversible snowplow and stainless steel spreader for \$14,500.00 from State Surplus in Topeka, Kansas. He also wanted to look at a Howard roto-vator for \$400.00 that is in excellent shape to use at the mix strip for mixing asphalt.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to purchase the dump truck and/or the roto-vator if Mr. Perez feels they are in good condition. These purchases would be made from the Special Equipment Fund. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge employees have been listing the 911 signs in the county that need repair or replacement. They will then compile a list of materials needed to repair or replace the 911 signs around the county.

The Board and Mr. Perez opened the bids for the furnace to be installed in the office at the county shop. Mr. Perez will review the bids and a contractor will be selected in the near future. All businesses bidding are located in the Belleville, Kansas.

Rizek Plumbing Heating and Air Conditioning ----	\$2,677.00
Derowitsch Plumbing and Construction -----	\$1, 658.80
Joe's Electric -----	\$2,519.42
Culbertson Heating Air Conditioning & Electric--	\$4,333.00

Mr. Perez received permission to travel to the KU K-TRAN Meeting, November 12, 2003, at the Riley County Courthouse Plaza in Manhattan, Kansas.

Pastor Bill Brazel offered the morning prayer.

Weed Director Steve Pounds received permission to travel to his district meeting, November 13, 2003, in Smith Center, Kansas.

The Board signed the 2004 Annual Computer Support Agreement with Nex-Tech, Hays, Kansas. The \$9,798.00 fee for the service contract will be paid in monthly payments.

Republic County Extension Agent Tandy Rundus introduced Darrel Hosie to the Board. Mr. Hosie is a retired Extension agent who previously worked for the Cloud County Extension Service. Mr. Hosie will work two days a week to assist county residents with agriculture, horticulture and livestock-related questions.

Ms. Rundus told the Board the Extension Council continues to initiate discussions with neighboring counties about an Extension District where two or more counties would share the education service. In the mean time the Republic County Extension Council Executive Board plans to open the agriculture agent position up to get a feel for the availability of applicants in our area.

Ms. Rundus gave a personal invitation to the Board to attend the November 20 Annual Extension Meeting and supper.

County Health Nurse Marcia Hansen joined the meeting to discuss the services offered to the county by the Northeast Kansas Community Action Program. Kim Lapo is the NECAP coordinator in our area. It was a concern that the services offered would be a duplication of programs already well established in Republic County.

Permission to travel was approved for Marcia Hansen to attend the KDHE Disease Surveillance Workshop, November 18, 2003 in Salina, Kansas. Another permission to travel was approved for Sue Swanson, Kathy Zach and Marcia Hansen to attend the Kansas Immunization Conference, November 12-13, Wichita, Kansas.

At 11:26 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 11:36 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to extend the executive session for an additional 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 11:51 a.m. regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 noon for lunch.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m. with the introduction of Gene Wilson, TS&S Consulting, Salina, Kansas. The firm has over 30 years experience in analyzing telephone bills for customers. The firm's goal is to make sure consumers are not being overbilled and also to help insure they are getting the most for their communication dollars.

The Board signed a letter of authorization to allow Mr. Wilson to review county billing and review communication charges, for local services, long distance, and circuits by T W&S Consulting.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to sign the Consulting Agreement. The County agrees to share 33% of the first years-annualized savings for the items agreed upon with T S&S Consulting. If there is no savings to the County there is no

charge for the review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Motion carried.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board about Workman's Compensation matters.

At 1:43 p.m., Commissioner Wilber made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. Alvin Perez was present for this session.

At 2:03 p.m. the Board resumed regular session with no action being taken by the Board.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers met with the Board and discussed business incubators and related matters. She asked the Board about liability insurance that is now required for the Travel and Tourism display booth at the 2004 Kansas Sampler Festival. Clerk Hall will check with the county's insurance representative, Tom Job.

There being no further business, at 2:30 p.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, Kansas.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 17, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. Mr. Perez presented final agreements and received signatures on project 79 C-4090-01 and 79 C-4096-01. They will be sent back to KDOT for final approval.

Mr. Perez met with Butcher, Willis, and Ratliff and representatives from the City of Belleville regarding the SPCC Plan and joint fueling site.

The excavator was purchased and picked up in Topeka, Kansas. The truck was also purchased and it will be picked up later this week.

At 8:45 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into an executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. Mr. Perez was present at this session.

At 8:55 a.m., regular session resumed with no action being taken by the Board.

Sheriff Ron Blad noted that Kimberlee Judy, part-time jailer, has been moved to a full time jailer. She will receive \$7.00 per hour with benefits.

Mr. Blad told the Board he would like to serve on the committee to discuss joint law enforcement with Belleville City.

Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

During public forum Register of Deeds Ruth Rahe visited with the Board. She asked what she might do if she were at the two-day Kansas Association of Counties Conference in Overland Park, Kansas and an emergency situation came up in her office. The Board agreed that in an emergency situation a note might be put on the Register of Deeds Office door and the office closed until Ms. Rahe could return to her office.

Ambulance Director David Strnad visited about the schedules in his department and a payment to Purple Splash. The check to Purple Splash was issued but has not been cashed so a replacement check will be issued to them.

Sharon Kalivoda and Sherry Quakenbush met with the Board. Ms. Quakenbush told the Board that she is in the process of taking money from a personal retirement account to pay off the balance of her loan.

Ms. Kalivoda noted that 2003 repayment of loans has brought in 25,389.54 and an addition of about \$500.00 in late fees.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 3, 2003 meeting and minutes from the November 10, 2003 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 11:30 a.m., the Board, Clerk Hall and Alvin Perez met Jewell County Commissioners in Mankato, Kansas for lunch.

A joint meeting was held following lunch to discuss matters of mutual interest.

The Board returned to Belleville at 3:00 p.m. and the regular session resumed at the Courthouse in Belleville.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers met with the Board. Also attending the session were Bob Knudson, Ed Splichal and Mike Hadachek. At 3:05 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 20 minutes to discuss acquisition of land. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

At 3:25 p.m. regular session resumed with no action being taken by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to appointed Jay Carlgren to represent Norway Township on the NCK Fair Board. Mick Valek was also appointed to represent Grant Township on that Board. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that tax notices were mailed out today. Ms. Coons noted that it took \$1600.00 in postage to mail the notices. She also visited about the telephone system in the courthouse.

There being no further business Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Motion carried.

The County Commissioners will not meet next Monday due to the KAC Annual Conference in Overland Park, Kansas.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, December 3, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 1, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. He noted that Pierce Electronics installed the new radio system in the road and bridge office. This has really improved the radio reception as the employees call into the office.

One utility agreement was signed with Rural Water District No. 2 for a waterline North of Q-18. A second utility agreement was signed with Krob Trenching for an underground telephone line North of Q-18. The Board approved both agreements.

Mr. Perez reported that they picked up the additional truck from the State Surplus on the 19th of November. The truck has been readied for snow removal and ice control as needed this winter.

A permission to travel was approved for Alvin Perez and Darlene Havel to attend a D & A Testing school in Concordia, Kansas. They will receive updates and supervisor training for the Transportation Department.

At 8:30 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into an executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The Board and Mr. Perez were present for this session.

At 8:40 a.m., the Board resumed regular session.

Sharon Kalivoda discussed RCD matters with the Board. The check received from Sherry Quakenbush was returned to the County as insufficient funds. The Board spoke with County Attorney Frank Spurney and directed him to start proceedings on the Quakenbush loan.

Pastor Harvey Farnsworth offered the morning prayer.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board to ask Carol Bonebrake to file for an exemption from advalorem taxes on the Valley Vegetable Plant. Clerk Hall will ask Ms. Bonebrake to file for the exemption on behalf of Republic County.

Ambulance Director David Strnad told the Board they had received a check in the amount of \$1,000 from the Duclos Foundation to go towards a Vital Signs Monitoring System.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to raise the maximum amount an employee can put into the Medical Flex Plan or Cafeteria Plan to \$2400.00 per year for 2004. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons received permission to travel to the Nex Tech User's Conference, December 10, 2003 in Hays, Kansas.

Ms. Coons noted that the sales tax collections for August were down but things are still on track for the overall sales tax income projections.

County Clerk Vickie Hall presented a permission to travel for Reta Boswell to attend the Nex Tech User's Conference with Mrs. Coons. Permission was granted.

At 10:00 a.m., County Health Director Marcia Hansen visited with the Board. Ms. Hansen presented a permission to travel form for Registered Nurse Kathy Zach to attend the infectious disease seminar in Wichita, Kansas. Ms. Zach will attend the Response To Terrorism and Emerging Infection Seminar.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave a review of the work being done in that department.

Ms. Ahlvers issued a personal invitation for the Board to attend the December 8th Belleville City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. to hear the Special Presentation about a business incubator.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Representative Janet Lancaster received signatures on the 2004 BCBS Contract for Republic County employees. There will be no changes in the benefit coverage and a very small decrease in the monthly premiums.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the 2004 BCBS contract. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion with Commissioner Holl making it unanimous. Motion carried.

At noon the Board recessed for lunch.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Belleville City Manager Allen Bachelor visited with the Board about joint law enforcement. The Belleville City representatives for the law enforcement committee will be Councilman Don Danielson, Police Chief Gary Frint, the Belleville City Attorney Doug Simms and City Manager Allen Bachelor.

At 2:15 p.m., Commissioner Wilber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 8, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., at the Norway Community Center, Norway, Kansas. Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber were present. County Clerk Vickie Hall, Deb Hadachek, Charles G. Hammer, Vivian Carlgren and Dean D. Brewer were also in attendance.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. Mr. Perez gave a basic review of the SPCC Plan for the proposed fueling station. He noted that the next step would be setting up an appointment with the County and City Attorneys to discuss an inter-local agreement before proceeding any further in matter.

Mr. Perez went up to A-11.4 and met with Willis Heitmann about a project he is reviewing and that project is well off the right of way. It will not interfere with any county project scheduled for the coming year.

Mr. Perez and the Board visited about the regular and overtime hours the Road and Bridge Department will work in 2004.

Charles G. Hammer asked the Board to check on the south driveway culvert at 1180 110 Road near his home. Water has been standing on the road.

Mr. Perez told the Board that 79 of the county's 911 road signs need some type of repair. That is 10% of the total signs originally installed. The Road and Bridge employees will do the repair and replacement of the vandalized signs.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers and reviewed general correspondence.

The Board recessed at 12:00 noon and enjoyed lunch at The Kaffee Haus in Scandia, Kansas.

At 1:00 p.m., the Board resumed regular session at the Courthouse in Belleville.

Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller visited with the Board about the bids for the hospital renovation project. They reviewed bids received on the project.

Mike Hadachek and Belleville City Manager Allen Bachelor met with the Board. At 1:33 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

Regular session resumed at 2:03 p.m. after evaluating the Economic Development Director there was no formal action taken by the Board.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board. Mr. Raney presented the proposal of being ½ time for Republic County and ½ time for

Mitchell County. The Board will discuss the proposal in the near future. Mr. Raney had two possible proposals for the Board to review.

County Appraiser Barry Porter received permission to buy a new PC and additional software in the amount of \$2,000.00 and spoke with the Board about the leasing of a new copier.

Electrician Bob Diddle will visit the Barry Porter about wiring in the Appraiser's Office.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board about a late start for County employees on days the weather condition is so severe the schools are closed.

At 3:00 p.m., Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers met with the Board to discuss Economic Development matters.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1, 2003. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous.

The next meeting will be Monday, December 15, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 15, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss Road and Bridge matters. Mr. Perez visited about snow removal and salting the main intersections.

A utility agreement was signed with Sprint/United Telephone Co. of Kansas for an underground telephone cable. The cable will be buried at a minimum depth of 36 inches in section 25-1-5 and section 36-1-5.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to allow Road and Bridge personnel to carry unused vacation hours over into 2004 and use as soon as possible after the first of the year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. The Board encouraged Mr. Perez to monitor hours carried into 2004.

At 8:41 a.m., Commissioner Wilber made a motion to go into a 5 minutes executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried. Those present were the Board and Alvin Perez.

At 8:46 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept Highway Administrator Alvin Perez's proposed work plan for 2004. It would begin on January 1, 2004 and be on a one-year trial basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

The schedule would be changed as follows:

2003 Present Plan

36 weeks @ 5.0 hour OT per wk= 180 hours of OT possible
16 weeks @ 0.0 hour OT per wk= 0.0 hours of OT possible
Total = 180 hours per year OT possible
Less 15 hours OT for Holiday Leave (3 weeks)
Pay for = 165 hours OT per year.

2004 Work Plan

27 weeks @ 2.5 hours OT per wk= 67.5 hours of OT possible
25 weeks @ 5.0 hours OT per wk= 125.0 hours of OT possible
Total = 192.5 hours per year
Less 27.5 hours OT for Holiday Leave (8 weeks)
Pay for = 165.0 hours OT per year

The Road and Bridge Department will start the 9 hours workdays from the last week of April until October.

The working hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the 8.5 hour days and 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the 9 hour workdays. This schedule will take effect on January 1, 2004 until December 31, 2004.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Assistant Ambulance Director Rod Dusek visited with the Board about installing an exhaust system at the Ambulance Barn that would allow exhaust from the vehicles to be vented to the outside of the building. Mr. Dusek stated that it would cost about \$2,200.00 for the system. It was agreed to use all remaining funds from the Ambulance Building Fund and the balance out of the regular ambulance budget.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to continue to take Sharon Kalivoda's wages for being the RCD Secretary/Treasurer from the RCD funds along with other regular RCD expenses in 2005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holl and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

Dr. Sean Wheeler gave the Board an update on the proposed truck stop at the US81/US36 intersection. Construction is planned sometime in 2004.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2003 meeting as written. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Gene Wilson of TSS Consulting reviewed the county's telephone system with the Board. He gave a break down item by item such as the equipment charges, circuits, database and busy studies for each line.

Mr. Wilson said he thought an answering machine could be used if wired ahead of the telephone system (before it gets to the telephone) for the Republic County Extension Office.

Mr. Wilson noted that the county has one year left on a five year, \$15,000 service contract to maintain the Sprint telephone system. He thought that was extremely expensive as Sprint charges approximately \$105.00 per hour to do repairs for users carrying no service contract. He stated that most businesses use the hourly charge for needed updates and repairs. They find it much more cost effective than a service contract. The Board appreciated learning more about the county telephone system.

Art Goppert visited with the Board and asked if trucks could be tarped before they drive to the County Landfill. If the loads were secured things would not fly out.

The Board recessed from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. for lunch.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m. as representatives from the City of Belleville joined the Board to discuss the different options for joint law enforcement. Those present and serving on the law enforcement committee were the Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff Ron Blad, County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr., Belleville City Manager Allen Bachelor, City Attorney Doug Simms, Belleville City Police Chief Gary Frint, and Belleville City Council Representative Don Danielson. Others present were news reporter Deb Hadachek, Sheriff's Deputies, Josh Perez, Andy Holmes and Jimmy Shepek, Jailer Kimbreelee Judy and Under-Sheriff Vince Crough.

It was the consensus of the group that the biggest issues joint law enforcement has is to save tax dollars and provide impartial, efficient and effective law enforcement to all citizens.

Chairman Nelson asked the Belleville City Police Department and Republic County Sheriff's Department to do a lot of research on the subject of combined law enforcement.

At 3:00 p.m., Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave an Economic Development review. Belleville council members Jim Nitcher and Don Danielson, Belleville City Mayor Brad Chatfield and Bob Knudson accompanied her.

At 3:05 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to enter into a 20-minute executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber.

Regular Session resumed at 3:25 p.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

Deputy's Andy Holmes and Josh Perez visited with the Board. Mr. Holmes presented a 2-page list of complaints from the sheriff's office employees about the services received from the county emergency 911-dispatch center. The Board told Mr. Holmes that the department heads from the Sheriff's Department and the Emergency 911 Center need to visit and iron out the problems. If this did not prove to be successful and solve the major problems then the department heads and employees could ask the Board to assist in mediation.

At 4:00 p.m., Sheriff Ron Blad spoke with the Board about the problems between the Sheriff's Department and the 911 Communications Department.

There being no further business Commissioner Wilber made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 22, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 22, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board and discussed the possibility of working with Jewell County on Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste.

Mr. Perez was directed by the Board to run the 2004 Republic County Construction/Demolition Landfill policies and rates in the Belleville Telescope. These rates and policies will take effect January 1, 2004.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to pay accounts payable vouchers one time each month in 2004. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Nelson made it unanimous. Motion carried.

A separate accounts payable for “utilities only” may be done once a month if needed but the new accounts payable dates and deadlines will be left up to the County Clerk and her staff. Vendors will receive notices of the policy change with their January accounts payable checks. Department heads will be notified of the change as soon as specifics are worked out in the Clerk’s Office. The decision to pay bills only one time per month will save in postage, the cost of laser checks and time on the part of employees. This will be done as a cost saving measure for Republic County.

Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave a year end report.

Ambulance Director David Strnad and Assistant Director Rod Dusek visited with the Board about general matters.

At 9:36 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a twenty-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Wilber. Mr. Strnad and Mr. Dusek were present during this executive session.

At 9:56 a.m., regular session resumed with no action being taken by the Board.

Dan Peterson met with the Board in support of the Republic County 911 Communications Center. Mr. Peterson resigned from his position of part-time city policeman, so he could speak as an individual taxpayer. He emphasized that he was not speaking on behalf of the City of Belleville law enforcement. Randy Ainsworth and Coleen Alkire sat in on this meeting.

Randy Ainsworth and Coleen Alkire, employees of the 911 Communications Center, met with the Board.

At 10:08 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into a 15 minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Mr. Ainsworth and Ms. Alkire were present during this session.

Regular session resumed at 10:23 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 10:24 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to extend the executive session for an additional 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Regular session resumed at 10:34 a.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

At 10:35 a.m., the Board asked the 911 Communications Director Mark Nordell to come in and visit with them about various matters. They encouraged Mr. Nordell to change the security codes on the doors of the dispatch center and not to let any tapes go out of that office unless they had a court order requiring it.

At 10:39 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into a 20 minute executive session with Mr. Nordell. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous.

Regular session resumed at 10:59 a.m., with no action being taken by the Board.

The Board approved the hiring of Robin Walker Swank of Republic, KS to be the new employee in the County Clerk's office. She will start work January 2, 2004. Cheryl Denk will be a half-time employee all of 2004 and will train Ms. Swank in the election process.

Keith Anderson visited with the Board about the RCD matters.

The Board joined the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch.

At 1:30 p.m., the Board resumed regular session.

County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. met with the Board. The Board asked Mr. Spurney to speak with the Sheriff and his deputies about the inappropriate conduct of the Sheriff's employees. Mr. Spurney will investigate the accusations and seek a resolution to the present conflict between the Sheriff's Department and the 911 Communications Department and report his findings at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Sean Wheeler stopped to visit with the Board. He gave the Board an update on the proposed US36 and US 81 Truck Stop. He shared a proposed drawing or sketch.

Commissioner Wilber made a motion to sign an Interlocal Agreement with Mitchell County. Raymond Raney would be hired to work one half time as the Emergency Management Director in Republic County and one half time as Emergency Management Director in Mitchell County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nelson and made unanimous by Commissioner Holl.

Republic County will retain the Blue Cross Blue Shield Benefit package for Mr. Raney. Republic County will then send a bill to Mitchell County in January of 2005, for fifty percent of Mr. Raney's 2004 Blue Cross Blue Shield premiums. It will include fifty per cent of the usage, up to \$10,000.00 required by the county's plan, for Raney's Blue Cross Blue Shield Usage in 2004.

Mr. Raney faxed the Interlocal Agreement signed by Republic County Board of County Commissioners to the Mitchell County Commissioners. Mitchell County faxed it back with signatures to complete the one-year contract with Mr. Raney.

There being no further business, Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 29, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 29, 2003 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Holl, Nelson and Wilber present. Also present was County Clerk, Vickie Hall.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez met with the Board to discuss routine Road and Bridge matters.

At 8:30 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Mr. Perez was present at this session.

At 8:35 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. came in to visit with the Board. At 8:42 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into executive session for a period of ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Mr. Spurney, Mr. Perez and the Board were present.

At 8:52 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

During the public forum, Economic Development Director Jenny Ahlvers gave the Board a progress report for the year 2003.

Ambulance Director David Strnad stopped to visit with the Board but had to respond to an ambulance call. He will return later in the day.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2003 meeting as amended. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to appoint Terry Gile to replace Harold G. "Gene" Hammer on the RCD Board. Commissioner Wilber seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Commissioner Nelson made a motion to nominate Commissioner Wilber to serve as the 2004 Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber abstained from voting but agreed to serve as Chairman in 2004. Motion carried.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that the one percent sales tax for the Republic County Hospital Improvement Project is a little ahead of projections.

The Board approved a permission to travel for Reta Boswell to attend the Nex Tech meeting January 6, 2004, in Hays, Kansas.

Highway Administrator Alvin Perez returned to visit with the Board. Commissioner Wilber made a motion to approve Resolution 2003-16. Whereas the need to have cash available to make change to individuals entering the landfill, the Board agreed to transfer \$30.00 from the Landfill Budget to a cash fund to be kept for the above mentioned purpose. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion and Commissioner Holl made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Mike Hadachek visited with the Board about RCD matters. Chairman Nelson signed the final paperwork for Sheila Cornett's RCD Loan to assist in the expansion of Sew Country.

At 10:55 a.m., Ambulance Director David Strnad visited with the Board about various matters. At 10:58 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to go into a twenty-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried. Mr. Strnad was present at this session.

At 11:13 a.m., Commissioner Nelson made a motion to extend the executive session for an additional five-minutes. Commissioner Holl seconded the motion and Commissioner Wilber made it unanimous. Motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 11:18 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 noon for lunch.

At 1:15 p.m., the Board, Alvin Perez and Vickie Hall drove to Scandia to visit with Congressman Jerry Moran.

Regular session resumed at 3:15 p.m. at the Courthouse in Belleville.

Jake Jacobs of Pawnee Mental Health gave a review of the year 2003 and received signatures on the 2004 contract. Joyce Hedstrom was also present at this meeting.

County Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board about various matters. The Board directed Mr. Spurney to take action on the Don Breeden RCD loan. The action of foreclosure will begin on Sherry Quakenbush's RCD loan. Both loans have been delinquent for some time.

There being no further business Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilber and made unanimous by Commissioner Nelson. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 5, 2004 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

APPROVED _____

