

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 3, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytch were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

The Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Appraiser Barry Porter visited with the Board about the Neighborhood Revitalization application process. The application was put out on the Republic County www.ecountyworks.com web site to be more accessible to the public.

Council on Aging Coordinator Carrie Pruitt gave a monthly report.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf received permission to travel to a meeting, January 13th in Salina, Kansas. Discussion was held on the different options that could be used to sell chemicals to patrons in 2011. Mr. Nondorf will ask other weed directors in our area for direction and continue to discuss this with the Board.

Commissioner Bergstrom reported on a December 28th meeting he attended in Mankato, Kansas to discuss the proposed plans for Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Incorporated. The meeting was sponsored by the Jewell County Commissioners.

EMS Director Don Lieb reminded the Board he wants to set up a special ambulance or emergency medical service equipment fund following K.S.A. 12-110d. This would allow the Board to transfer annually, any funds received from a tax levy that will not be needed for general operating expenses of the ambulance or emergency medical service in such year. The fund will be used for the replacement of an ambulance and/or to purchase new equipment. A County resolution will need to be approved in the near future to set up this fund.

Mr. Lieb told the Board he is looking at the various computer software packages for his department. He is very interested in the "Image Transfer" program that the State uses. Republic County EMS is one of the last services to be computerized so this will be a big transition. Mr. Lieb said this really is a good thing for the department but it will require training to implement it.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy noted that Republic County would apply for \$450,000 from the Federal Fund Exchange Program to seal 30 miles of road.

He noted that the Foley Tractor Representative will meet with the Board next week from 10:30 to 11:30 and share dollar figures on "rebuids" for the road graders.

Mr. Joy and Terry Cherney visited with the Board about notifying landowners to request permission to trim trees that are hanging across the road and in the County's road right-of-way.

Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about an emergency preparedness plan required by her department. The County Policies and Procedures Manual must read that "in the event of a

disaster” known as a declared emergency in Republic County, personnel will be reimbursed 1 ½ times the regular hourly rate for any hours worked over 40 in one week. The workman’s compensation page must have similar wording.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that \$6,109,596.07 in taxes has been collected to date.

The County received notification that Frank J. Nielander will drop his suit against Republic County if those involved, Mark Nordell, Joshua Perez, Beth Reed and Frank G. Spurney, Jr. will sign a Settlement Agreement and Release. Frank Nielander hereby releases and forever discharges the Board of County Commissioners of Republic County, all its elected and other officials, employees, agents, representatives and insurers, and Mark Nordell, Joshua Perez, Beth Reed and Frank G. Spurney, Jr. and their successors in office, from any and all claims for any act or omission up to and including the date of this Agreement, including any and all claims for attorney fees, costs or expenses of litigation.

This litigation has been going on for 6-7 years and Mr. Nielander finally gave up and proposed this agreement to put an end to this dispute. County officials and employees did nothing wrong and were more than happy to sign it.

No commissioner minutes were approved today. The December 13 and 27 minutes will need to be approved when Commissioner Holl is in attendance.

At 11:09 a.m., Commissioner Rytych made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with County Clerk Vickie Hall to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Regular session resumed at 11:19 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to appoint Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom as Chairman of the Board for 2011. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to make the following appointments to fill the vacancies on five township boards. Nick Levendofsky was appointed to serve as Big Bend Township Trustee, Leora Rundus as Liberty Township Clerk, Karla Jeardoe as Lincoln Township Treasurer, Judy Keller as Richland Township Trustee and David Weir as White Rock Township Clerk. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. All have agreed to serve as officers in their respective townships.

Commissioner Franklin J. Rytych was officially sworn into office by County Clerk Vickie Hall. Rytych was re-elected to a second four year term on November 2nd. He represents Commissioner District 1.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons shared her Treasurer's Accounting of Funds for the fourth quarter ending December 31, 2010.

Communications Director Raymond Raney asked for clarification of the employee benefits for new employees.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint gave a 2010 Register of Deeds Annual Accounting. A total of 1137 documents were filed and \$94,009.07 was collected in fees.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 13th meeting. Second by Chairman Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Rytych abstained due to his absence at that meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 27th meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Bergstrom abstained due to his absence at that meeting.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to pass Resolution 2011-01 through 2011-16 making appointments to departments within Republic County for 2011. Second by Holl motion passed 3-0.

Appointments are:

Raymond Raney as Emergency Management Director, 9-1-1 Coordinator & Communications Director, Hazardous Materials Advisor, Radiological Officer, County Flood Plain Manager and cCunty Safety Officer

Charles Joy as Director of the Solid Waste Department and Director of Transportation

Charles Joy as Highway Administrator

Don Lieb as Director of Emergency Medical Services

Randy Ainsworth as Assistant Director of Emergency Medical Services

Steven Zukowske as Volunteer Assistant Radiological Officer
Paul Haase as Volunteer Assistant to Emergency Management Department
Marcia Hansen as Director of the County Health Department
Mike Nondorf as Director of the Weed Department

Other annual appointments include The Belleville Telescope as the official County Newspaper and the official depositories for county funds as the Peoples Exchange Bank-Belleville, Astra Bank-Belleville, New Century Bank in Cuba and Belleville, Astra Bank-Scandia, Citizen's National Bank and the Swedish-American Bank in Courtland. A complete listing is on file in the County Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Chairman Bergstrom to pay Weed Director Mike Nondorf \$12.50 per hour for hours worked in the Weed Department. Second by Rytch, motion passed 3-0.

Permission to travel was approved for Mike Nondorf to attend a Weed Management Workshop to be held January 14, 2011 in Hunter, Kansas.

Memorandum of Agreements between Republic County and the cities of Courtland, Cuba and Scandia were signed by the Board concerning the collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisors Terry Cherney and Brad Swanson were joined by Jeff Bender of Foley Equipment Company. He explained the Certified Power Train Rebuild program to the Board. He estimated the cost to rebuild a grader between \$88,000.00 and \$90,000.00 in most cases. Mr. Bender will inspect two of our graders (Andy Evert and Max Wickstrum's) and give a cost estimate in the near future.

Mr. Joy received a signature from Chairman Bergstrom on the Kansas Department of Transportation Bureau of Local Projects Request to Exchange Federal Funds. This application requests \$450,000.00 to fund three separate sealing projects.

Mr. Joy said he is taking applications for an equipment operator, a mechanic and an equipment operator/bridge crew.

The Board announced there will be a department head meeting at 1:00 p.m. on January 24, 2011.

Commissioner Rytch made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 3rd meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl abstained due to being absent at that meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to offer new employees \$1.25 per hour "in lieu of" Blue Cross Blue Shield coverage for dependants. Second by Rytch, motion passed 3-0. Starting in January 2011 a new employee will receive a single plan of medical health coverage free of charge. If the new employee has dependants but declines coverage for dependants and makes application for single coverage only, they will be eligible to receive an additional \$1.25 per hour "in lieu" of health insurance for dependants. The \$1.25 is not part of their official salary but is in place of insurance coverage. Should an employee get married, add a spouse and/or child, the \$1.25 in lieu of will no longer be paid to them.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-17 to set up a Special Ambulance and Medical Equipment Fund to transfer annually any funds not needed to fund the general operating expenses of the Ambulance Department. A portion of the balance remaining in

the regular Ambulance Fund, will be determined for transfer at the time of the annual audit. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-18 to authorize the transfer of funds to the Special Ambulance and Medical Equipment Fund from the year ending 2010. Commissioner Holl seconded, motion passed 3-0. Monies over and above those that was obligated for said year as determined by the County Commissioners and the County Auditor at the time of the annual audit.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-19 (Amended and Restated, Effective November 15, 2010) Bylaws and Interlocal Cooperation Agreement -- The Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 17, 2010 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 17, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about putting in a different vending machine for soda pop. The Coke machine is out of Coke products a good share of the time. The Board agreed it would be nice to offer better service to our people.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons received permission to attend a mandatory vehicle training class to be held February 24-25 in Salina. The class will be given by the Kansas Department of Revenue.

Mrs. Coons will also attend the Kansas County Treasurer's Association Annual Seminar and Certification Class, February 9-11, in Topeka, Kansas.

The Board received an invitation to the Annual Republic County Soil Conservation Supper February 3, 2011 in Cuba, Kansas.

A Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Belleville was signed concerning the collection and payment of solid waste fees.

The Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the Basic Training School to be held March 28 through April 1, presented by the Weed Association of Kansas in Manhattan, Kansas.

County Attorney Marlea James visited with the Board about the increased cost of using the Juvenile Detention Center in 2011. The County will now pay approximately \$2600.00 per quarter which will cover 75 days in 2011. If the County would need more than 75 days of juvenile care or services there would be an additional charge of \$141.00 per day.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10 meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen asked Chairman Bergstrom to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between Cloud County Health Department and Republic County Health Department.

At 10:07 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 10:12 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

The Board visited about using payroll time clocks. Clerk Hall will investigate the cost of setting up an automated time and attendance system for the County.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy, Solid Waste Secretary Beth Reed and Raymond Raney asked the Board to approve having a custom software program written for the Solid Waste Department. Mike Meier of Computer Solutions will write the software to manage accounts receivable and track receipts and expenditures for the Solid Waste Department. He estimated the cost at \$3,000.00 but guaranteed it would not exceed \$3,780.00 for the project. The Board approved the proposal.

Sam Sacco, General Manager of Nesika Energy, visited with the Board. He asked if the Kansas Department of Transportation had completed a traffic count at the corner of 70 Road and 36 Highway. The Board has received no report to date. Clerk Hall will call Leland Tice at KDOT to inquire if any progress has been made to study this dangerous intersection.

EMS Director Don Lieb visited with the Board about various matters.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited about trading the 2003 pick-up truck in for an updated vehicle. It is approaching 200,000 miles and becoming a maintenance issue. The Board will discuss his request next week.

It was a consensus of the Board to purchase a new mini-blind from The Feathered Nest for the window in the County Commissioner's Office.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

The Board began their day by the signing of the accounts payable vouchers.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that Anne and Timothy Coonrod, owners of Annie's Vineyard, completely fulfilled their obligation and paid in full the Republic County Revolving Loan as agreed. The Board sent a letter of thanks to them.

The Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to purchase a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Extended Cab Truck at a cost of \$25,288.91 from Melton Motor Company. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. A second bid of \$23,381.00 was received from the Partner's Program. With the difference being less than ten percent the Board voted to accept the local bid.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2011-20 which shall cause the financial statements and financial reports of Republic County to be prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements as adjusted to show compliance with the cash basis and budget laws of this State. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy visited with the Board. He received a letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation about the Federal Funds Allotment and Federal Fund Exchange available to the county during Federal Fiscal Year 2011. The County must return the request by January 31, 2011 to exchange the federal funds.

Permission to travel was approved for Mr. Joy to attend the monthly District Two Engineers Meeting, January 28, 2011 in Salina.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn for lunch with the Republic County Hospital Board. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom opened the regular session at 1:00 p.m. for a department head meeting. There were 11 departments represented. Those in attendance were Custodian Kevin Calkins, Highway Administrator Charles Joy, EMS Director Don Lieb, Treasurer Cindy Coons, Register of Deeds Peggy Frint, Communications Director Raymond Raney, Appraiser Barry Porter, District Court Clerk Kris Kling, Sheriff Ron Blad, Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and County Clerk Vickie Hall.

Tuesday, March 29th was selected for the County Recognition Supper. Bids will be taken for the catered meal.

Another topic covered was the possible implementation of a time clock or electronic time keeping device.

A reminder was also given asking department heads to monitor the use of personal cell phones during work. The employee policy and procedures manual states “Employees are to use personal cell phones to conduct personal business only while on breaks or lunch periods.” The balance of the work day personal cell phones should be on silent and out of sight.

The Board asked each department head to do a written assessment of their department. Clerk Hall will get an information sheet in department’s mail boxes in the near future. After the written assessment is completed and given to Clerk Hall, department heads should make an appointment to review their individual report with the Board.

It was suggested the County might look into direct deposit for payroll checks. The Board agreed to study the matter.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board about the upcoming RCD meeting. She noted that Larry Beeson has paid off his RCD Loan for It Doesn't Matter Bar and Grill. The Board signed a simple lien release for Mr. Beeson.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited with the Board. Nondorf shared a copy of the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report 2010 for the Boards review.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion for Republic County to proceed with the voucher system as the County continues efforts to control noxious weeds. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. This entails a farmer or patron going to the weed department, wanting to purchase chemicals for weed control, requesting a voucher, taking this voucher to a local vendor to purchase the chemical for weed control. When they return to the weed department with the invoice for this purchase the County will then reimburse a percentage of the cost of chemicals directly to the farmer. There has been a significant change from how patrons have bought chemicals from the County Weed Department in the past. The records will show the County offering the rebate directly to the farmer after they present the invoice as proof of purchase. A letter will go out in the near future to all vendors who offer chemicals for weed control and the Telescope will be notified to help inform the public.

Permission to travel was approved for Nondorf to attend the monthly weed directors meeting at the Vocational Technical School in Beloit, February 10th, with all the past weed directors.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

Kansas Department of Transportation Area Engineer Leland Tice held a telephone conference with the Board to discuss the intersection of Highway 36 and Road 70.

Mr. Tice noted that “Advance Warning” signs have been put up along Highway 36 near this intersection.

The Belleville Telescope Editor monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy, Road Supervisors Terry Cherney and Brad Swanson visited with the Board. They introduced Jeff Bender from Foley Equipment Company. The Board listened to Bender’s proposal to re-build two of the County road graders. At a cost of \$89,313.43 each, the County can re-build two graders for the price of one new road grader. Such a rebuild would give the County near new machines with a 3 years warranty or 5000 hours. It takes 7 weeks to complete a re-build. The Board will make a decision at the next meeting.

It was a consensus of the Board to purchase new grill guards and running boards for the two new pickup trucks recently purchased for the road supervisors.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 7, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 07, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

The Board started their day by signing accounts payable vouchers.

Custodian Kevin Calkins and Part-time Custodian Tom Grover are busy removing the old dark paneling from the walls of the commissioner's room. The ceiling tiles have also been removed and the room is in the process of being restored to its original state. It was a consensus of the Board to order carpet for the room to complete the renovation and purchase additional carpet for Beth Reeds office at the same time since the rooms join at the doorway. Calkins was instructed to seek bids for the carpet.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf received permission to travel to Topeka, Kansas February 24-25, Topeka Public Library, to take the required exam to obtain his commercial certification license.

Sheriff Blad visited with the Board about the high cost of transporting felons.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that she had planned to take the County car to her annual conference in Topeka, Kansas. She said she felt more comfortable driving her personal vehicle with the prediction of snow and bad weather. She asked the Board if they would pay her mileage if she took her own vehicle under the circumstances. The Board approved her request.

Marvin Houdek and Lynn Van Nortwick informed the Board of plans to replace the Belleville First United Methodist Church Food Stand located on the NCK Fair grounds. The men said they are still in the planning stages and that construction would not begin until **after** the 2011 NCK Fair.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-21 to establish a dealer-participating cost-share program for chemicals used to control noxious weeds within Republic County for 2011. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy visited with the Board. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to accept the proposal from Foley Equipment Company to rebuild two motor graders for Republic County Road and Bridge Department. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. The Board accepted the proposal made at the last meeting to re-build the graders at a cost of \$89,313.43 each.

RCD Members Mike Hadachek and Randy Wise along with RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker met with the Board. Upon recommendation by the Republic County Industrial and Commercial Development (RCD) Committee, Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the \$78,700.00 RCD loan application for the Food Mart, Belleville, Kansas. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

The loan will pay for the installation of new cold cases for the store and is part of a larger plan to improve the Food Mart, Belleville. The first year they will pay 4 % interest only followed with a 15 year amortization.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about the energy audit done by Joe Hurla and associates from 360 Energy Solutions. They wish to consider that the courthouse boiler was rebuilt about 3 years ago and should hold up for a long time. Discussion was held that even though the boiler is not used a lot throughout the year, to replace it would be expensive. The energy audit indicated a smaller boiler would be more efficient and would save money over time. The group agreed that the installation of a new Mitsubishi City-Multi System heating and cooling unit in the offices on the ground floor of the Courthouse might be a better use of the energy grant funding. The boiler would seldom be used if the Courthouse had the new heating/cooling system throughout. This will be discussed next week with Joe Hurla of 360 Energy Solutions.

Belleville City Manager Bob Knudson voiced his concern for the building north of the Courthouse that is currently owned by Paul and Jean Meyer. They moved their business, Computers and More, to Concordia because this building is an unsafe structure. Mr. Knudson asked if the County would consider forgiving the landfill fees after the building is torn down. The Board will consider his request.

Jay Beam, Cuba City Mayor, visited with the Board about the taxes levied on the USD #455 School Building currently owned by the City of Cuba.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the commissioner minutes of January 31 and February 7, 2011. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl would abstain as she did not attend either of those meetings.

The Board signed a memorandum of agreement between the City of Agenda and the City of Narka concerning the collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Belleville City Manager Bob Knudson visited with the Board about various matters. It was a consensus of the Board to waive the County landfill fees when the building, currently owned by Paul and Jean Meyer, is torn down. This building is an unsafe structure and the City of Belleville is trying to coordinate a planned demolition. The roof of the old locker plant building could cave in at any time and do extensive damage to the adjoining building. This building is on the north side of the Courthouse Square and could quickly become a public safety issue.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker received signatures on several RCD papers.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell and Luke Mahin gave the Board an economic development progress report.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Custodian Kevin Calkins brought in one bid for carpet in the Commissioner's Office. It was agreed to wait until next Monday and see if any other bids are submitted for this job.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen introduced Sherry Koster, Republic County Sanitarian, who gave the bi-annual seven county environmental protection funding report. The Governor recommends cuts in funding for this program. Currently the State gives the 7 counties \$32,105.00 to be divided between them.

Permission to travel was approved for Karen Henke to attend the 2011 Spring Conference for Kansas Home Care Association March 8-10 in Wichita. Karen Henke and Deb Sells will attend the 2011 WIC Conference March 28-30 in Topeka, Kansas.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson visited with the Board. They received permission to put several old pick-up trucks on a consignment sale March 19th. The Board thought that was a good idea.

At 10:44 a.m., Commissioner Rytych made a motion to go into an executive session with Charles Joy and Brad Swanson. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 10:54 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Joe Hurla, 360 Energy, was in town to complete paperwork and request signatures from the Board on the Historic Tax Credit Application to be submitted to the Kansas State Historical Society for approval. The Board signed the application and Clerk Hall will make a voucher for the \$350.00 application fee. Selling tax credits would result in a net gain of approximately \$8,000.00 for the County.

Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed to attend the KEMA Board meeting on February 17 in Newton, Kansas.

Permission to travel was also approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall to attend a planning session for clerks on February 16 in Junction City, Kansas.

Clerk Hall reminded the Board that due to the holiday on Monday the next meeting will be held on Tuesday.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, February 22, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytch were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

River Valley Extension Agent Gina Aurand and Extension District Director John Forshee asked the Board to update the front office where the secretaries work. The other three rooms in the department were recently updated and they asked that the front office also be remodeled. The Board approved their request.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about bids for carpeting the Commissioners room and Beth Reed's office. Only one bid of \$3,037.44 was received for carpet and installation from Les Shoemaker. Commissioner Holl made a motion to purchase the carpet from Shoemaker and have him install it. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to add two sentences to the Republic County Policies and Procedures Manual for 2011. In Section 306 Title: Overtime, add the sentence. "This would also be enforced in the event of a State or Federal declared disaster." In Section 602 Title: Injury Leave/Worker's Compensation, add the sentence. "This would also include an injury sustained in the event of a State or Federal disaster." Second by Frank, motion passed 3-0. These changes have been made to complete or be included in the Republic County Disaster Planning Manual used by the Republic County Health Department.

It was also the consensus of the Board that Republic County will not pay additional compensation to salaried or elected officials in the event of an emergency situation. The salaried people may work extra hours during a declared disaster or emergency but salaried personnel can take a few extra days off after the event when things slow down and get back to normal hours.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint told the Board that she has hired Shelley Johnson to serve as Deputy Register of Deeds. February 15 was her first day on the job.

Kathy Calkins gave the Board an update on the Kansas Historical Grant to update the Courthouse windows. Two architects made an onsite visit of the building on January 26, 2011 to view the current windows.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson visited with the Board about various Road and Bridge matters.

Kelvin Blecha joined the group and visited about purchasing additional asphalt mix for the NCK Fair Grounds. Mr. Joy will work with the fair board to mix what they need this year.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker, Mike Hadachek and Keith Anderson visited with the Board about RCD matters. Larry Beeson has requested a change in the collateral on his RCD Loan.

Mike Hadachek asked when a check would be written to the Republic County Economic Development Corporation referring to the balance the County budgeted for Economic Development in 2010. That amount will be \$16,175.48 and a check will be written with the next accounts payable.

The Board directed Clerk Hall to send a memo to department heads encouraging employees to offer suggestions or input on county policies they would like to see reviewed by the Board. If employees wish to share ideas where money could be saved or improvements of any kind might be made the Board would like to receive input by the end of February. The deadline is the same for department head reviews.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2011. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl abstained as she did not attend that meeting.

It was a consensus of the Board to make a clarification to the Coordination of Family Medical Leave (FMLA) and Sick Leave on page 53 in the employee policy manual. In 2011 an employee must have used all available vacation hours before submitting a request to coordinate FMLA hours and accrued sick leave hours due to "exceptional circumstances" involving the illness of an immediate family member. A request to deviate from the standard sick leave policy, Section No. 502A, may then be placed before the Board.

Employee David Strnad's request for 5 weeks of unpaid FMLA Leave was approved by the Board.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) Grant Application. The focus of this grant is to reduce obesity, reduce smoking and heart disease and promotes healthy living.

Communications Director Raymond Raney stopped in to inform the Board he will be on vacation from February 17 through March 6, 2011.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of February 22, 2011 meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-22 listing the 2010 Elected Official Salaries for documentation. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Clerk Hall noted that she recently discovered that she did not have that in the 2010 resolutions as documentation for the auditor.

The Board signed letters of support for the Republic County Assisted Living in Belleville, CT Fabrication, and Nesika Energy to support the 2011 applications for Annual Claim for Exemptions. These letters were forwarded to the County Appraiser to file with the exemption applications.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring to attend the NCK County Clerks Spring meeting March 17th in Ellsworth, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Hall to attend a Kansas County Clerk's planning session in Junction City, KS on March 3, 2011.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb communicated that one of the older computers at the Ambulance barn quit working this week. The Board approved new computers for the Ambulance department in the 2011 budget. Computer Solutions Inc. will install a new computer and move all existing data from old computer to the new and set up on the network/internet as well as the printer.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf informed the Board that he did not go to Topeka last week due to the bad weather. He will take the certification testing March 1, 2011 in Hays, Kansas.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and the Board visited about U.S. Cellular Corp. Project V11440 a guyed telecommunications tower proposed in the Republic area. The tower is estimated to be 300 ft and the letter indicates that as part of the evaluation USCC is required to publish Public Notice in the Telescope this week in an effort to gather comments on the potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties.

Currently Republic County does not have zoning regulations but many counties have zoning to protect the county residents. With no zoning a resident can have a commercial tower or large structure placed right across the road from a residence. It would definitely change the landscape as well as the traffic flow and other things.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to rescind a previous motion, made at the January 10, 2011 meeting, to offer new employees a \$1.25 per hour “in lieu of” Blue Cross Blue Shield coverage for dependants. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Upon further study and input/guidance from KCAMP attorney assistance it was decided that offering an in lieu payment is difficult to implement and even harder to get current employees to understand how it would work and/or accept that it is fair to them. No employees have been hired since the original motion of January 10, 2011 therefore rescinding the motion now is timely and appropriate.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy gave his approval to a moving permit for Wardcraft home #4839 coming from Minden, NE and going through Republic County to Clyde, Kansas. Mr. Joy approves the route due to the weight going across the smaller rural bridges.

Richard Wolzen, resident on West 23rd Street, Belleville, joined the group to ask questions about the possible replacement of the bridge near his home. An estimate of \$285,000.00 from the biennial bridge report was shared but it was a consensus of the group, including Mr. Wolzen, that the estimate was very conservative as it does not include the dirt work and demolition of the old structure. Campbell and Johnson listed that as the “replacement cost” of that bridge in their report. The County share of that would be between \$80,000.00 and \$90,000.00 and the time table would probably be two and a half years minimum. Engineering costs are on top of that cost. No commitments have been made for replacement to date.

The Board reviewed written correspondence from department heads and employees who offered suggestions or input on county policies they would like to see reviewed by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting and join the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 7, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 07, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytch were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Kay Shoemaker asked the Board if a Pep Rally for USD 109 could be held on the Courthouse Square as a “send off” as the girls basketball team heads for State Competition. The Board approved that request.

Randy Junek visited with the Board about the energy audit and placing a bid for the heating and cooling improvements at the County Health Department. They gave him until noon on March 14th to submit the bid for Hood Heating, Air, Plumbing and Electric out of Concordia, Kansas.

Communications Director Raymond Raney told the Board that 911 Dispatcher Joe Herrick had turned in his resignation. Raney noted that this is the 4:00 p.m. to midnight shift which may be difficult to fill.

A letter of resignation was received by the Board from Paramedic Dawn Novak. The effective date is April 1, 2011.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Appraiser Barry Porter reviewed his department with the Board.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy visited with the Board. He noted that the closed bridge on west 23rd St. would cost between \$500,000 and \$600,000 to replace. A few weeks ago the replacement cost was listed at \$285,000 in the bridge report from Campbell & Johnson but that was without grading, engineering and demolition.

Joe Hurla of 360 Energy met with the Board. Due to Randy Junek’s request to bid for Hood’s out of Concordia, Mr. Hurla postponed his presentation until a later date.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$8.50 per plate from Dale Huncovsky - Cuba Cash Store to cater the County recognition supper. Second by Rytch, motion passed 3-0. Other bids were Tag’s at \$8.75 and the Treasure Tree for \$10.00 per plate plus \$100.00 to rent the room.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received signatures on a \$7,000.00 State Formula Grant, \$15,000.00 Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant, \$2,144.00

Immunization Action Plan and \$6,562.00 Maternal and Child Health Grant totaling \$30,706.00 in grant applications for July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn for lunch. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom and Commissioner Rytych returned at 1:00 p.m. to visit with Republic County Attorney Marlea James. She asked questions about a county cell phone for her department. The Board will study it.

A seven County NCK LEPC Conference call was held at 1:15 p.m. with commissioners and health administrators from Jewell, Mitchell, Osborne, Phillips, Republic, Rooks and Smith Counties. Sherry Koster, County Sanitarian facilitated the discussion. Due to the State's budget cuts the counties were trying to agree on a way to continue the present level of service, knowing the State has plans to cut funding for the Local Environment Protection Program. County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and County Clerk Vickie Hall joined Commissioners Bergstrom and Rytych for the call and discussion.

The Board will visit about this on Monday morning with Marcia Hansen and notify Sherry Koster by noon on March 14th of Republic County's decision to stay in the compact or get out of it.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on March 14 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Randy Junek, Hood Heating, Air, Plumbing and Electric, Concordia, Kansas told the Board that his employer had submitted their bid for the heating and cooling improvements as agreed at the last meeting.

Belleville Telescope representative Veronica Barrington monitored a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Idan Kauer told the Board that the City of Cuba was in the final stages of selling the Hillcrest School buildings. He said Bradford Built, a Washington, Kansas pickup bed manufacturer, would be the new owner and Kauer wanted to know if there were any tax abatements or incentives available to the new owner. The Board directed him to Economic Development Director Jenny Russell.

Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and the Board discussed the NCK-LEPG Local Environmental Planning Group. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to remain in the compact and have Republic County contribute \$1,200.00 this year and use the \$25,000.00 the compact currently has on hand to maintain the same level of service for the period of July 2011 through June 2012. Second by Commissioner Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This vote was faxed to Smith County Health Department for tabulation. Each county voted and agreed that the majority rule on the structure of the program.

Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed to attend the EMSAK Conference, March 30 to April 1, 2011 as a representative of Republic County Emergency Management Department.

A permission to travel was approved for Sheriff Ron Blad, Under-Sheriff Eric Brunner and Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney to attend the Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings (IRTB) Class, March 20-24, to be held at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM. All expenses will be paid for by Homeland Security.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson visited with the Board. It was noted that they were able to purchase a 1992 Ford F700 dump truck at a cost of \$11,000.00 from Purple Wave Auction.

Mr. Joy presented his official letter of resignation to the Board effective March 31, 2011. He did agree to work until the Board hired someone to take his place.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb visited with the Board. It was a consensus of the group to purchase a portable ventilator to be placed in the ambulance for transfers. Lieb estimated it will cost about \$2500.00 for the basic model.

Doctor Cayle Goertzen joined the discussion and voiced his concern about transferring patients out to other hospitals. They also discussed the need for Republic County Emergency Medical Services wages to be more competitive and in line with neighboring counties.

Debra Carlson Oldhe from North Central Regional Planning Commission along with Hillcrest Library Board Members Brian Angevine, Bernadette Carrico, Marilyn Junek and Trudy Ringer visited with the Board. They asked the County to be the applicant for a Community Block Grant on behalf of the Hillcrest Library. Grant funds would be used to relocate the library. The Board told the group they would research the subject and get back to them.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about wages in his department. Head dispatcher Joe Herrick has resigned and Mr. Raney said he is currently accepting applications for that 4:00 p.m. to midnight shift.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Lennie Maxwell offered the morning prayer.

Jay Kallman, Chairman for Church People Concerned, visited with the Board about activities at the Golden Bell Haven. He shared that the head cook and the director are paid by the North Central Kansas Area on Aging in Manhattan, Kansas. Due to previous cut backs Manhattan no longer pays for an assistant cook. The Church People Concerned pays the dishwasher. Beth Ball, Republic County Council on Aging Co-Chairman sat in on this session. It was decided that the County Council on Aging representatives will discuss the options at their next meeting. Ball said this is a perfect place for the two groups to work together.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson met with the Board. Kevin and Sonny Kuhlman joined the group to visit about damage to County Bridge # E17-3. Kuhlman's tractor carrying round bales attempted to cross this bridge (with a 3 ton weight limit) and a portion of the bridge collapsed due to the excess weight. Thankfully, Kuhlman's 12-ton tractor and the driver were not hurt. This is a 41 foot long structure with at least a 12 foot drop down to the creek that has three to four foot of water in it. The Board directed Mr. Joy to contact Campbell & Johnson Engineers in Concordia to study the situation and get a replacement cost. Kevin Kuhlman acknowledged the mishap was his fault but noted that he sees other over-weight vehicles regularly cross that bridge.

Tire bids were opened with two bids being submitted. Shaun's Tire Service bid \$22,494.30 and the low bid of \$20,028.72 from Crouse Tires, Belleville. Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the low bid from Crouse. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Joy also noted that he purchased a 1999 Chevrolet one ton, 4x4, flatbed pickup truck for \$7,000.00 from Ks. State Surplus.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint submitted bids for roller shelving in her office. Lockwood Company was \$2,782.00 and Steel Fixture-Bear Graphics \$1,946.00 for a standard 8 shelf unit. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to accept the low bid of \$1,946.00 with a second from Rytych. Motion passed 3-0.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Bernadette Carrico, Hillcrest Library board member, visited with the Board.

John Hood, owner of Hood Heating & Electric, Concordia and employee Randy Junek visited with the Board about the proposed building improvements for energy conservation. The group questioned the \$4,000.00 controller on the proposed boiler. The Board thanked them for sharing their expertise.

The Board received notification that the NCK Local Environmental Planning Group sent the results of the vote. The majority voted to stay in the compact and increase the permit fees. The notification was from County Sanitarian Sherry Koster.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14 meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the Nationwide Retirement Solutions 457(b) Governmental Plan Document effective January 1, 2011. This is the Deferred Compensation Plan for Public Employees and includes the Certificate of Participation and Disclosure Document.

The Board reviewed the Republic County Special Notice to Republic County landowners, farmers and ranchers. The notice will be placed in The Telescope, Courtland Journal and Scandia Journal to advertise how to obtain and use the new cost share certificates. These cost share certificates are only for Noxious Weed Chemicals. Farmers will no longer come to the Republic County Weed Department to pick up their chemicals. They will get the cost share certificate and present it to retailers around the County.

Chairman Bergstrom excused himself to attend the Sothers and Sothers Liquidation Sale.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb visited with the Board about salaries in his department. Lieb is asking for pay adjustments to stay competitive with neighboring services. The Board will study the proposal and visit with him again next Monday.

Lieb noted that he would like to hire another full time paramedic to replace Dawn Novak. He added that he has hired James Buller to work part time and has two other EMT's doing the pre-employment testing who have agreed to work part time.

At 12:22 p.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Regular session resumed at 12:27 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Tammy Wickstrom visited with the Board about the NCK Horse Arena Improvement Project. She asked for assistance in moving dirt to raise the low side of the arena and to promote better drainage. The Board said the Road and Bridge Department could assist if dirt could be found close by the fairgrounds. They would have to charge the hourly rate for the county employees assisting in the effort. It was suggested that money from the fairground improvement fund could possibly be used to cover some of the cost for moving dirt.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to go to Wichita April 5, 2011 to take the Commercial Certification Exam.

Communications Director Raymond Raney told the Board he hired Crystal James as a 911 Dispatcher.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker and Peoples Exchange Bank Representative Randy Wise received signatures from the Board to close on the RCD Loan of \$78,700.00 for The Food Mart.

Custodian Kevin Calkins received permission to take bids on pruning the trees on the Courthouse lawn.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney told the Board that the storm spotter meeting is going to be rescheduled but may not include a meal this year.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

It was a consensus of the Board to be the "pass through" for the Hillcrest Library grant application provided they agree to a Memorandum of Understanding or an Inter Local Agreement between Republic County and the Library Board. This would state that the County would not be involved in the LMI Survey (low to moderate income survey) and the County would not be financially responsible for any short fall that might occur with their project. Debra Carlson Ohlde, North Central Regional Planning Commission will assist the Hillcrest Library Board with the survey and the agreement.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb visited with the Board about wages in his department. Commissioner Rytych made a motion to pay full time paramedics a base wage of \$14.00 per hour starting April 3, 2011. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Other wages in this department will be reviewed in the coming weeks.

Mr. Lieb also received a signature from Chairman Bergstrom on a grant application. He noted that the grant helps cover the cost of tuition for the two county residents taking the EMT Class.

Melinda Pierson received permission to hold the Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt on the Courthouse Lawn on April 23, 2011. She also visited about the farmers market and the need for more parking. The plan is for the farmer's market will begin Saturday, May 28, 2011 but details have not been worked out.

Highway Administrator Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson submitted bids for a new wire welder. Bids were \$1,989.00 from Airgas and \$1,990.00 from Linn Weld. It was a consensus of the Board to purchase from Airgas since we currently do business with their firm.

The Republic County Hospital has asked Mr. Joy to fill some pot holes on the street going around the “horse shoe” on the east side of the hospital. There was some discussion as to who is responsible for street maintenance. The County agreed to put some cold mix into the holes for now.

Joe Hurla of 360 Energy Company visited with the Board about the energy grant proposal. The Board agreed to make the HVAC Upgrades or improvements to the heating and cooling efficiency at the Republic County Health Department minus the fancy thermostat. The Board is also interested in replacing the north windows and want to be certain that north wall has sufficient insulation in it. Joe Hurla of 360 Energy will attend the April 4 meeting to finalize the grant application.

The County will be responsible for insulating the ceiling in the health department.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting and join the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Regular session resumed at 1:00 p.m. with interviews for the position of Republic County Highway Administrator.

At 1:07 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Rytych to go into an executive session for a period to discuss non-elected personnel until such time of completion of the four interviews. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 4:13 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

The Board will make a hiring decision in the next few weeks.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

Custodian Kevin Calkins asked to transfer the used pick-up truck from the sheriff's department to the custodian department to haul grass clippings and other supplies. Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the transfer the pick-up to the custodian department. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28th meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The Board signed the KDOT Federal Fund Exchange Agreement 2011. Republic County has requested \$690,573.85 of the annual allotment for federal fiscal year 2011 of Federal Funds to be exchanged for State Funds.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to travel to a Register of Deeds Certification Training in Manhattan, Kansas.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the resignation of Warren Sutton as Norway Township Treasurer and appointed Brad Shrader to service as the Norway Township Treasurer. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

Cathy Calkins, grant administrator for the Courthouse windows, gave the Board a progress report. Unfortunately there has been very little progress because the State wants "one last group" to come and look at the windows before making a decision on how to proceed.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the AFLAC Employers Acknowledgement or Plan Summary for 2011.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

The Board signed a letter of reference for Carrie Pruitt as the Council on Aging Coordinator. She resigned as of April 1, 2011. Not being an employee of Republic County the Board could only issue a generic letter stating she did work in the Courthouse but they had no knowledge of her work habits.

Road Supervisor Brad Swanson and Charlie Joy visited with the Board. They noted that they expected to put the deck on the bridge north of Scandia next week. Richard Wolzen asked about the 23rd Street bridge replacement.

It was discussed that the County must seek damages of \$225,000.00 to the County Bridge # E17-3. This is the replacement value established by Campbell & Johnson Engineers for the 41 foot structure but does not include demolition or dirt work involved in replacement costs.

Jennie Russell and Luke Mahan gave the Board an update from the Economic Development Department.

Joe Hurla, 360 Energy received signatures on the energy grant to be used to make improvements to the heating and cooling system at the Republic County Health Department. This is a 40/60 grant with approximately \$32,250.00 being Republic County's share of the cost of improvements.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb presented two different schedules for the Board to study. One includes hiring one additional employee and the second schedule would allow for two new full time employees. The Board will wait to study and approve any wage adjustments until next week due to the absence of Commissioner Holl.

Commissioner Rytch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, April 11th at 8:00 a.m. The day will begin with canvas of the ballots from the City-School Election held this week.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

The day began with the official canvas of ballots from the April 5, 2011 City-School General Elections.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

Custodian Kevin Calkins told the Board that Les Shoemaker would put the carpet down in their office on Wednesday.

Calkins also received permission to put a receiver hitch on the pick-up and install trailer brakes so the pick-up can pull the trailer full of election equipment to the polling places. The County Clerk will use the truck a couple of times a year.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

At 8:45 a.m., Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting and drive to the Belleville Tourist Information Center on Highway 81North. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

They joined other elected officials, dignitaries and the general public in greeting Kansas Governor Sam Brownback and his Growth Team for one of the “ceremonial signings” of Senate Bill 198. The Governor shared details about the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ). The bill effectively provides a full five year income tax exemption for certain out-of-state taxpayers who have lived outside of the State of Kansas for more than five years and who choose to relocate to one of the 50 designated Kansas counties. Republic County is a ROZ County due to declining population. This exemption is for tax years 2012-2016.

The Board and Clerk Hall returned to the Courthouse at 9:40 a.m. to resume the regular session. The Board signed accounts payable vouchers.

Ambulance Director Don Lieb visited with the Board. Permission to travel was granted for interested employees to attend the Life Star of Kansas Continuing Education class April 27, 2011 in Marysville, Kansas.

The Board also approved Lieb's proposed wage adjustments effective April 3, 2011. The Board encouraged Lieb to hire one additional full time employee due to the resignation of Dawn Novak. Lieb stated he would prefer to hire a paramedic since Novak was a paramedic but stated he may not have that option. He would then hire another full time EMT.

Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson visited with the Board. It was a consensus of the Board to approve the purchase of fourteen new 2-way radios for the Road and Bridge Department and radios for the Bindweed Department. The radios will cost \$475.00 each. All radios must be upgraded before the end of this year.

Commissioner Holl left at 10:45 to take her husband to the doctor.

Cathy Calkins gave an update on the grant for new windows.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The Board held the official coin toss to break the tie between Todd L. Allen and Nick Arnold, both being candidates for the Courtland City Council position in the April 5th General Election. Chairman Bergstrom announced Todd Allen was the winner and will receive the certification of election to the Courtland City Council.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-24 Ordering Preparation of the Tax Foreclosure Sale. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This is the delinquent real estate property tax sale and reflects \$167,000.00 in back taxes.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson shared the March 2011 financial reports. They presented two Utility Agreements between Republic County and Premium Feeders Inc. granting them permission to construct and operate underground waterlines on public road right-of-way. The first agreement describes construction going north of the SE Corner of Section 18-3-4 running east 60 feet into Section 17-3-4. The Second agreement describes construction going 30 feet north of the SE Corner of Section 18-3-4 then running south 60 feet into Section 19-3-4 thru the county road right of way. The Board approved both agreements.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the Reciprocal Road Crossing and Consent Agreement between the US Department of Interior and Republic County, Kansas in connection with Kansas Bostwick Irrigation Unit 09-LM-60-0134 as part of Pump 4 lateral system rehabilitation project.

Charles Joy also noted that long time road and bridge employee Max Wickstrum will be taking a leave of absence from his job for medical reasons.

Road Supervisor Brad Swanson noted that the recycling department needs more storage for cardboard and could use a larger trailer to transport it. Swanson is looking at a diesel pick-up listed on an upcoming sale bill as well as some tools for the road and bridge department.

It was a consensus of the Board to ask County Attorney Marlea James to send a letter to Kevin Kuhlmann seeking monetary damages for Republic County Bridge E-17.3 in the amount of

\$67,500.00 which is calculated at 30 per cent of cost. Replacement cost is listed at \$225,000.00 for this bridge which is conservative since it does not include the cost of demolition or dirt work.

The Board will also ask Ms. James to send a certified letter to Clayton Kauer, Stone Construction, insisting they pay the requested amount for damages to a small structure (bridge) he damaged. The amount requested only includes the material to replace the bridge. The County would cover the labor cost and rebuilt the bridge. That would seem to be an excellent settlement but if Mr. Kauer and his insurance company do not offer payment in the very near future the County will be forced to start litigation to recover the full replacement cost.

The County offices will be closed from twelve noon to two o'clock p.m. on April 22 so employees have the opportunity to observe Good Friday.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about wage increases in his department. They asked him to meet with them April 25 for further discussion on the subject.

At 12:00 noon, Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

At 1:30 p.m., Commissioner Rytych, County Clerk Hall, Kevin and Kathy Calkins, Deb Hadachek, Campbell and Johnson representative Eric Johnson, Kristen Johnston and Architect Ken Price from the Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka gathered to visit about the grant to replace the windows in the Courthouse.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 25, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board on behalf of County Attorney Marlea James. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-25 whereas, County Attorney James will be absent from the area from May 2, 2011 to May 6, 2011 and Darrell Miller has agreed to act as special prosecuting attorney for Republic County during the absence of the Republic County Attorney. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The Board began their day by signing the accounts payable vouchers.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint met with the Board. At 8:34 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10 minute executive session to discuss personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 8:44 a.m. regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the Republic County Historical Society form to complete the gift of assession for the "seed planter" found in the garage. The Commissioners gifted it to the museum so it can be viewed by the public.

RCD Secretary told the Board there would be an RCD meeting on May 4, 2011.

Clerk Vickie Hall received permission to attend the Division of Accounts & Reports Budget Workshop, June 8, 2011, in Salina, Kansas.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board. Raney told the Board that he has promoted Colleen Alkire to Assistant Director of Communications. Commissioner Holl made a motion to increase Alkire's pay by 34 cents per hour and increase Courtney VanNortwick by 35 cents per hour due to a change in her job description. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

On August 30, 2010 the motion discontinued 6 month pay increases following a training period. The Board emphasized that the starting salary for dispatchers will be \$10.50 per hour with no 6 month increase in pay.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to allow Mr. Raney to take \$1,200.00 from the 911 Fund and \$1,200.00 from the Wireless 911 Fund to pay the balance of the recorder. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. A successful grant application paid for all but \$2,400.00 of the purchase.

The Board visited about the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) created to examine the structure and operations of our entire State court system and to make recommendations to our Supreme Court on how our courts can better and more efficiently serve the citizens of Kansas. The meeting will be held in Beloit on May 2, 2011. After visiting with several people about this meeting the Board decided to monitor the outcome but not attend this meeting. Cloud County will be sending a commissioner and Republic County District Court Clerk Kris Kling and others will share the outcome of this upcoming meeting.

Ellen L. Anderson, Director of 12th Judicial District Community Corrections, received signatures from the Board on the proposed 2012 DOC Community Corrections budget. She said she is submitting three separate budget proposals and is not sure when they will know how much money they will receive.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting. They informed her that none of the commissioners will be attending the Republic County Hospital Board meeting today.

County Attorney Marlea James visited with the Board about various matters.

Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson visited with the Board. A Utility Agreement was signed between Republic County and Bergstrom Livestock Inc. granting them permission to construct and operate an underground electric line on public road right-of-way south of the NW corner of Sec. 32-2-5 then west into Section 31-2-5.

Mr. Joy noted that the first rebuilt motor grader is back. He said it looks great and they are ready to take the second grader to Wichita for a rebuild.

He also noted that High Plains is done with the mixing of the asphalt or the small cities. Jewell County will be over to pick-up their share of the mix. It is costing \$46.55 a ton which is \$1.06 higher than last year.

Permission to travel was approved for Darlene Havel to attend the Quarterly Coordinated Transit District #7 Meeting to be held April 26th in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Scott Finkbiner, Clifton, Kansas, an applicant for the position of Republic County Highway Administrator, visited with the Board. The Board told him they would make their decision later in this morning.

After some discussion Commissioner Holl made a motion to offer Mr. Finkbiner \$44,000.00 per year plus benefits. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. A telephone call was made to Mr. Finkbiner and he accepted the job as Republic County Highway Administrator. He will begin May 2, 2011.

Commissioner Holl left at 11:45 a.m. to visit with Belleville City Manager Bob Knudson.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 2, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 02, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, Kansas. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

At 8:41 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a ten minute executive session with Register of Deeds Peggy Frint to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 8:51 a.m., the Board extended the session for another fifteen minutes. Regular session resumed at 9:06 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker told the Board that the Food Mart was ready to draw down on the \$78,700.00 RCD Loan for the freezers. She also reminded the Board of the RCD quarterly meeting to be held May 4th.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to transfer \$30,000.00 of the Republic County Ambulance Funds for the year ending 2010, into the Special Ambulance and Medical Equipment Fund. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. This amount was agreed upon by the Board and the county auditor referring to Resolution 2011-18.

At 9:25 a.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 9:30 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring to attend the KCC&EOA Conference, May 5-7 in Salina, Kansas.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about personnel. John Miner will be leaving the communications department and going to work for Cloud County. Miner has agreed to stay until Raney can advertise and hire a replacement.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about personnel in her department. The Board accepted the resignation of Deb Sells with regret. Sells worked full time at the health department in the WIC clerical administration, Medicare and home health bookkeeping and worked two days per week as a home health aide. Marcia told the Board she would like to advertise to fill the vacated position.

At 9:59 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a ten minute executive session with Marcia Hansen to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This

session was extended by ten minutes. At 10:19 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

The Board introduced Republic County Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner to Charles Joy, Road Supervisors Terry Cherney and Brad Swanson. The group visited about county roads.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to transfer \$250,000.00 of the unencumbered balance remaining in the 2010 Republic County Road and Bridge Fund and transfer that amount into the Special Highway Improvement Fund. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The Board and Clerk Hall made a rough draft of a letter in response to EMC Insurance Company who insured Stone Construction, Company owned by Clayton Kauer. The Board does not want to reconsider and “settle” for \$3,543.00 when the culvert alone cost the County \$5,800.00 before adding the man hours and machine expense for a total cost of \$7,086.00 to repair the culvert. Clerk Hall will ask County Attorney Marlea James to send this letter and respond on behalf of Republic County.

A permission to travel was approved for Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner to attend the annual Kansas County Highway Association Spring Conference in Hays, Kansas.

A Utility Agreement was signed between Republic County and Robison Farms Inc. granting permission to construct and operate an underground water line on certain public road right-of-way commencing at the N1/4 corner of Section 31-2-4 to 30-2-4 thru county road right-of way.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2010 at 8:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 09, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

The Board met with Republic County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and nine of her department employees. Employees in attendance were Juanita Ashby, Beverly Lapo, Lori Benyshek, Sue Swanson, Donna Moravek, Kathy Zach, Joyce Ball, Karen Henke and Ragenia Belden. Marcia asked the Board to speak to her employees in an attempt to address personnel problems and ease the current tension between the health department employees.

Deb Sells asked to recant or retract her letter of resignation. The Board and Marcia Hansen were happy to have her continue working for Republic County Health Department.

LeAnn Dejoia asked the Board to sign the Mental Health Month Proclamation and observe May as Mental Health Month.

Charles Joy and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson held the official culvert bid opening:

J & J Drainage Products	\$38,336.10
KAHN Culverts	\$34,406.38
D-C Wholesale	\$31,828.60
Welborn Sales	\$32,741.70

The Board accepted the low bid from D-C Wholesale.

The Board directed Charles Joy to submit bids on a tire machine for the County shop.

Extension Agent David Coltrain reviewed the 12th Annual Kansas County Fiscal Conditions and Trends report for the River Valley Extension District.

There were no commissioner minutes to approve due to the County Clerk being gone to conference.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell visited with the Board about the Rural Opportunity Zones (ROZs) and Senate Bill 198. The Board chose not to pass a resolution to participate until more information is released about the implementation of this program.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the “in-kind” community support letter for the Republic County Head Start Program.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Belleville City Manager Bob Knudson visited with the Board about baseball fields near the NCK Fairgrounds. He proposed a plan that would build one new ball diamond each year. He noted that half of the youth signed up for the summer baseball and Belleville Summer Recreation Program reside outside the city limits. It will cost \$30,000.00 to purchase the land to expand the sports complex. Knudson was seeking support of money, help to acquire the land or in-kind dirt work or help to build the fences. This project would not start until this fall. The Board will consider the project.

The Board signed Resolution 2011-26, the casting of Republic County's ballot for Lynn Hoelting and Tom Tunnell, who were nominated by MSPA's Board of Directors to serve four-year terms, commencing June 1, 2011, on the Mid-States Port Authority Board of Directors.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 16, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 16, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

The Board directed Clerk Hall to send a photocopy of Resolution 2007-24, establishing fees to be charged to persons for permits and accessing and/or copying open public records, out to each department. This resolution was made to standardize fees and put them in writing. The Board will ask department heads to review the charges and procedures they are currently using to transmit information. The FAX has previously been used for immediate sharing of information. Today scanning of documents and email are more common. Updated information needs to be back to the clerk's office by Friday, May 27, 2011.

Permission to travel was approved for Emergency Preparedness Secretary Beth Reed to travel to the KEMA Board meeting, May 19th, in Newton, Kansas.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker asked the Commissioners if they would agree to amend the criteria sheet for loans requiring all loan applicants requesting \$100,000.00 or more to use the services of NCRPC, with the fees to be paid as part of the loan package. This was proposed by the RCD Committee. The Board of County Commissioners chose not to change or amend the requirements at this time. Some larger loan applicants have successfully used their own personal accountants and/or hired people of their own choosing to complete their business plans and loan applications.

The Board signed a Collateral Assignment Release of life insurance for Larry Beeson that was securing the Junior Herring RCD Loan.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about maintenance on the air-conditioning system. He noted that he found a company where he can purchase pumps for the air conditioning units that eliminate the floats. The pumps cost \$84.00 each and we have paid \$140.00 in the past for replacement pumps. The Board approved ordering 4 or 5 new pumps to have on hand when one of the units goes down.

Holly Brown, Representing Big Brothers-Big Sisters, visited with the Board. The program is in Cloud, Mitchell and Republic Counties. Her request for funding was denied.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbinder visited with the Board. He will be interviewing five applicants on Tuesday. The Board gave him permission to hire up to three equipment operators

and one mechanic for a total of four employees. Mr. Finkbiner will visit with Clerk Hall after lunch about the employee benefits to be offered to new employees.

The Board approved the purchase of a digital camera for the road and bridge department. Finkbiner was also encouraged to speak to Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney and ask if his department might have an extra digital camera that could be checked out and used by the road and bridge department.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board if there was a spending cap he needed to observe when making purchases for his department. Needs come up, purchases need to be made quickly and items need to be ordered to keep the employees in his department working. It was a consensus of the Board that he could make purchases up to \$1,000.00 without the Board's approval and emphasized that they did not want to micro-manage county departments.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board if his department was responsible for replacement of 911 road signs. The Board asked Communications Director Raymond Raney to come in and visit about the 911 road signs. Finkbiner did not receive an answer to his question but will make an appointment to visit with Mr. Raney in the future.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2nd and May 9 commissioners meetings. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

County Attorney Marlea James told the Board that she is in need of more office space. The Board went floor to floor on a tour of the Courthouse then told her they will study this issue and certainly consider her request. Storage is a major problem for most of the offices and further discussion is needed to address it.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 23, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 23, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

The day began with the signing of accounts payable vouchers.

Permission to travel was approved for County Appraiser Barry Porter to attend the Appraiser's Annual Conference June 12-13, 2011 in Topeka, Kansas.

Kansas Association of Counties sent a letter indicating the annual salary survey done of the wages in each Kansas county would either be discontinued due to budget cuts or they will have to charge for the service. Clerk Hall asked the Board if they were willing to pay a fee for this information. The Board indicated that the information is certainly helpful when comparing wages to other counties of similar size but that the County budget is stretched too. Clerk Hall will respond to KAC and offer to pay approximately \$100.00 for the service.

Mandy Fincham, Community Development Specialist for North Central Regional Planning, inquired if the Low to Moderate Income (LMI) Survey that was started last year was being addressed. She said 12 additional households would need to be completed to proceed with this project. The Board suggested that Economic Development people follow up.

Permission to travel was approved for County Treasurer Cindy Coons to attend the June 7-8 training mandated by the Dept. of Revenue Motor Vehicle Training in Topeka, Kansas. Ms. Coons will also attend the KCTA Conference and Certification Class, June 14-17, in Wichita, Kansas.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about needed maintenance on the Courthouse roof. Giesler Roofing has been called for repairs. Rain water is leaking into the building and damaging the ceiling in the jail.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen presented a permission to travel for RN Sue Swanson to attend the annual Family Conference, May 31 through June 2, in Wichita, Kansas. Grant funds will pay all the expenses while attending this conference.

Belleville City Manager Bob Knudson visited with the Board about budgets, the cost of health care and employee benefits and two properties that the City of Belleville will be tearing down in the coming months.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Holl excused herself to take her husband to a doctor's appointment.

The Board signed a letter officially appointing Scott C. Finkbiner as Republic County Highway Administrator effective May 2, 2011. The Kansas Department of Transportation, Bureau of Local Projects, needed the written documentation.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner submitted vouchers for payment, visited about securing several permits for bridges or culverts and reviewed work being done by his department.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to purchase a hydraulic hose crimper and fittings to shorten the time equipment is out of service. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. The machine cost \$1,600.00 and they will have to order a small inventory of standard fittings most often used by the department.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that the new tire machine should be in this next week.

Mr. Finkbiner and the Board visited about the future of the County landfill. Future plans of the landfill were discussed because within 5 years the landfill will probably be full. Finkbiner will look into crushing or grinding the concrete piled at the landfill. This could be used for road base and would extend the life of the landfill if the concrete was removed from the site.

Road Supervisor Brad Swanson joined the group and presented pick-up truck bids from Melton Motor Company. Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to purchase a 2003 Chevrolet pickup truck for the County Recycling Program. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. The County will pay \$11,500.00 to Melton Motor Company for this truck.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board. The Board signed a mortgage release on Larry Beeson's house. A letter was directed to Larry Beeson, thanking him for paying in full the loan he received from the County RCD Loan Fund.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting and attend the Republic County Hospital Board Meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on TUESDAY, May 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Permission to travel was approved for Communications Director Raymond Raney and Colleen Alkire to attend the APCO Institute Communications Training Officer Course, June 19-22, 2011, in Garden City, Kansas.

The Board approved Doane Sells request to use County property for the MidAmerican Cruise-In Car Show to be held June 18. The cars will be displayed at the Belleville City Park. Sells asked the Board for funding to assist with advertisement as it does bring a lot of people to Republic County. Commissioner Holl made a motion to give \$200.00 from the Economic Development Fund to assist with advertising this event. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Permission to travel was approved for Register of Deeds Peggy Frint to attend the Register of Deeds Seminar June 7-10 in Junction City, Kansas.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 8:59 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 9:04 a.m., the session was extended for five additional minutes. Regular session resumed at 9:09 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen told the Board that the new heating and air-conditioning system has been installed and both heating and cooling will now be more evenly distributed in that building. The system was paid through a Kansas State Energy Commission on a grant for energy-efficiency improvements with 60% paid by the grant and Republic County match of 40%. The only work left to be done is the replacement windows which the KCC has agreed to pay 100% of that cost through an Addendum to Memorandum of Agreement signed today by the County Clerk as Republic County's contact person.

Mrs. Hansen asked the Board to raise the fees for services offered by the Republic County Health Department. Fees have not been increased in several years and Republic County fees are lower than the neighboring counties. The list was reviewed and the new fees were set and will become effective June 1, 2011.

Hansen told the Board that grant money will be used to purchase a new photo copier. Bid opening will be held at 10:00 a. m. on June 6, 2011.

The Board also visited with Mrs. Hansen and Beverly Lapo about "time off without pay". If FMLA is required then the proper steps need to be taken to request it. The Board cautioned Lapo about taking time off over and above her earned sick leave and vacation time.

Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller visited with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to pass Resolution 2011-27 declaring it necessary to issue Hospital Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$700,000.00 for the purpose of paying the costs related to constructing, equipping and furnishing a limited care residential facility addition to the Republic County Hospital, described as two duplexes, with four total living units. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2011-28, Authorizing the Offering for Sale of Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series 2011, of Republic County, Kansas. Whereas, Republic County (the "Issuer") selects Astra Bank, Belleville, Kansas as the purchaser for approximately \$600,000.00 principal amount of bonds to be designated "Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series 2011", the proceeds of which are to be used to finance "the project", the building of two duplexes, with four total living units. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. Permission to travel was approved for Mr. Finkbiner to attend the T-Works Update Meeting, June 1st in McPherson, Kansas.

He also noted that the new tire machine has arrived and the company will be up to train the employees. He also told the Board that they are working on the new office building and hope to move his office and Secretary Darlene Havel's over

to that building in the coming months. He noted that after the offices are moved he would like to repurpose the vacated offices by removing the south wall and putting it back to the original two shop bays. He would use one bay for changing oil in pick-up trucks or smaller vehicle repair and use the second bay for an area to weld. On days the employees could not work on the roads some could be working in the additional work bays. It would keep more employees busy on days of inclement weather and more work could be accomplished in the additional work bays. The Board gave their approval.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board if he could have his employees build a storm shelter in between jobs or in their down time. It is a concern that there is no storm shelter for the employees at the Weed Department, County Road and Bridge Office and Maintenance Shop. Finkbiner said if the employees build it the cost will be reasonable. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to build a storm shelter at the County Shop, second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. All agreed it is time to address this need for employee safety.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that he hired three new employees for the Road and Bridge Department. Justin Novak and Allan Carlson were hired as Equipment Operators and Lance Mason as a mechanic.

Joe Hurla of 360 Energy visited with the Board. He visited with the Board about the energy-efficiency improvements identified in the original grant application. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve and sign the Addendum to Memorandum of Agreement between the Kansas Corporation Commission (known as "KCC") and Republic County. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This award represents 100%, not to exceed \$150,000.00 of the cost of eligible improvements listed in Attachment A of the original grant application. The Public Projects grant offered by the Kansas State Energy Office is being administered by 360 Energy Solutions. The County's out of pocket expenses or "match money" for these improvements would be no more than \$39,000.00 and if tax credits are sold it could be as low as \$32,000.00 in match money.

The Board also signed a new contract between Republic County and 360 Energy Solutions. This document lists the total compensation to be received from grant funding by Republic County, which is obligated to 360 Energy Solutions, increased to \$189,020.00 due to the additional grant funding referred to in the previous paragraph. It has been projected that the County will save \$7,500.00 per year due to the energy efficiency from the upgrades in fixtures.

Republic County Soil Conservation District representatives presented their 2012 budget request. Those present were Lori Siemsen, John Robison, Wayne Pacht and Richard Sandell. The Board approved the request of \$33,000.00 and thanked them for working with the same budget appropriation for the past several years.

The Board spoke by telephone with Economic Development Director Jenny Russell about the LMI Survey. Jenney told them she would attempt to complete the process.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 6 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 06, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Permission to travel was approved for Election Deputy Beth Ball to attend the Candidate Filing Training, July 13th, in Topeka, Kansas.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Rytych gave a report from his Juvenile Detention meeting. He noted that Republic County should budget \$8,063.12 for JJA for 2012.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and Office Manager Regina Belden visited with the Board. Bid opening for a new photo copier with fax capabilities was held at 10:00 a.m. and two bids were received. Central Office Service, Clay Center, Kansas bid \$3,994.00 and Computer Solutions, Beloit, Kansas bid \$6,327.00. Steve Wickersham of Central Office Service and Supply offered the low bid and was in attendance for the bid opening. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid from Central Office Service and Supply. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Permission to travel was approved for Regina Belden to attend a meeting on insurance billing procedures June 8th in Salina, Kansas. She was given permission to take the County car home the night before the class since she lives in Concordia and would need to leave early in the morning for Salina.

At 10:06 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 10:11 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner, Jim Peterson and Richard Wolzen visited with the Board about the 23rd street bridge near their homes. No promises were made as it will probably be two years before construction could start and that is after the County has considered all the options and secured funding for replacement.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Rolling Hills Electric to install underground electrical on certain public road right-of-way described as follows: Commencing from north intersection of Hwy 36 going south on 180 Road go 1000 ft south on 180 Road thence crossing from section 12-3-3 into section 11-3-3. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbinder asked Clerk Hall to write a revised job description for a "Light Duty Assignment" for Richard Bergstrom who is an equipment operator at the Road and Bridge Department.

There was considerable discussion about our K-Camp Liability Insurance paying on any damaged tire that has not been visually inspected by Road and Bridge personnel to confirm the damage is consistent with damage done by a railroad spike or other damage reported by the traveling public. It was a consensus of the group that if the County pays for a new tire the damaged tire should become the property of Republic County before any payment is made for replacement. Clerk Hall will call Tom Job and ask questions about the policy.

Mr. Finkbinder noted that he will meet with Larry Ray about who is responsible for some of the pavement connecting city streets to our county roads. He also mentioned that the recycling trailer in the City of Belleville is not a depository for Styrofoam and other trash.

Carolee Miner, President and CEO of OCCK along with Shelia Nelson-Stout and Patrick Wallerius visited with the Board. The 2012 OCCK budget request is \$23,307.00 or the same as 2011.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytch, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 13, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 13, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

The Board began their day by signing accounts payable vouchers.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend a Weed Identification Class, June 16, 2011, in Lucas, Kansas.

Kathy Calkins, Belleville Main Street Committee, Donald Bechard, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce and Republic County Economic Development Director Jenny Russell visited with the Board. It was noted that the Chamber and Main Street will be merging and it is a consensus of those two groups that travel and tourism has often been overlooked due to time constraints. Jenny Russell indicated that the Economic Development Committee had discussed tourism and felt travel and tourism duties needed to be a separate committee or board. The Board agreed to table this for a few weeks to allow for time to discuss travel and tourism with others. There are people who are interested and currently working in travel and tourism on behalf of Republic County and know the importance of advertising events and promotion of activities throughout the County. It is also important to have an up to date web site when inviting people to local events. They asked the Board to think about it and share any ideas they might have on the direction Republic County travel and tourism should go.

US Cellular Representative James Hedstrom visited with the Board. He advised that the County is eligible to renew at this time and could do that to lock in the current agreement that is working well for Republic County. Commissioner Holl made a motion to renew the two year contract with US Cellular. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Republic County Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He noted that Robert E. Graham, Jr. has turned in his resignation. The Board accepted the resignation with regret.

Mr. Finkbiner visited about the Rubble Construction Company, Inc. currently working in Scandia grinding up concrete. The County is interested in recycling the large amount of concrete at the County's construction and demolition landfill to gain space and extend the life of the landfill.

Finkbiner informed the Board that he would like to work with Rubble Construction Company and get the discarded cement out of the landfill. The Board indicated they would let Finkbiner decide what would work best for his department. The cost to the County would be about \$20,000.00 but it would provide his department with 2000-4000 ton of good road base product and there is sufficient money in that budget. This could be used for road base and replace the railroad rock and eliminate the railroad spike problem that now interferes with the traveling public.

The City of Belleville has asked Finkbiner if the County would assist in improvements to the west side of the fueling station. It was a consensus of the Board to assist with this effort if and when his department employees have the time to help with the needed improvements.

The County owned lot on M Street requires mowing the grass. The Board was asked if this lot would have more value to the City of Belleville with the location being near their utilities. The Board will visit about this at a later date and decide if the County has any future plans for the empty lot.

Pawnee Mental Health Executive Director Robbin Cole and board member Leann DeJoia visited with the Board and requested that Republic County maintain the current funding support of \$23,152.00 for the Pawnee Mental Health appropriation or 2012 budget.

Renee Lippincott, Rural Opportunity Representative, visited with the Board about the Kansas Rural Development program regarding participation in the Rural Opportunity Zones. There are Kansas Income Tax incentives and a Student Loan Repayment Program set in place by Governor Sam Brownback. His focus is on re-population in the rural counties. The Board agreed to read the "draft" regulations Ms. Lippincott emailed to County Clerk Hall.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek, Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller and Economic Development Director Jenny Russell listened to Ms. Lippincott's presentation and asked numerous questions.

Only 6 counties out of 50 possible have currently signed up to participate in the program. The Board is not willing to sign at this time as they have many reservations about the program. It makes little sense for the State of Kansas to cut funding for K-12 grade schools and at the same time creates a program that gives State dollars back to college graduates to help them pay towards their student loans. Either the State of Kansas has money for education or they do not.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych were in attendance. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received the signature of Chairman Bergstrom on the contract between Republic County Health Department and USD #109 for school health nursing services. The contract runs from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

During the public forum Ted Williams, Belleville City Mayor Tatum Couture, Belleville City Councilman Blaine Miller and Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek visited with the Board. The topic of discussion was the Belleville City Police Department and the survey "your opinion counts" mailed to each household within the City of Belleville.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-29, waiving the requirement to designate a specific County surveyor for reviewing survey plats prior to recording at the Register of Deeds Office pursuant to K.S.A. 58-2005. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Only subdivision plats, town houses and the like will require a licensed Kansas land surveyor to review the plat prior to being recorded at the Register of Deeds Office. This is effective June 20, 2011.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the commissioner minutes from the meetings of June 6 and June 13, 2011. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner told the Board that two of the main dump trucks have some serious maintenance issues. He will do an individual evaluation or diagnostic on each truck and decide if they are worth fixing. The maintenance on the trucks is costing more than they are worth. The engine on the reserve John Deere maintainer is also in need of major repair. No decision was made on those needed repairs.

The Board visited about the County construction and demolition landfill. Finkbiner said they are going to move the entry to that landfill back to the top of the hill for safety reasons. He also noted that the Rubble Construction Co. will be grinding concrete at the County C&D Landfill in the future.

Mr. Finkbiner also noted that Hood Electrical has agreed to do the electrical wiring at the new office building. They are in the process of sheet rock and painting. Progress is being made so the offices can move out of the maintenance shop building and into the remodeled office building next to the shop.

Finkbiner told the Board that several of the road and bridge employees asked if they could donate a sizable amount of their unused sick leave hours to a fellow employee with a serious

health condition. Those close to retirement are aware they lose accumulated hours of sick leave when they retire. The Board will study this issue.

The Board agreed to contract with a person to cut and bale the 20 acres of prairie hay at the landfill. The County will take bids and have it put up on shares with the option to buy the County's share of the hay. Mr. Finkbiner will take care of the advertising and the bids.

Sheriff Ron Blad and Deputy Jimmy Shepek visited with the Board about law enforcement. The Board reminded them that the County won't be involved unless the Belleville City Council makes a decision about the future of the police department. Chairman Bergstrom also stated that no matter what decision the Belleville City Council made the Sheriff's Department needed to operate within the current budget.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rytych made the second, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Republic County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that she is aware the County will be cited in the 2010 auditors report for not having sufficient security pledges on county money. She stated it was an oversight on her part. She wanted the Board to hear it from her rather than just reading it in the audit report.

Paul Kallman visited with the Board about Republic County Travel and Tourism. He gave an overview of the current work he and other county residents are doing to promote Republic County. The Board asked him to put together a small budget that would assist in the printing of brochures and cover the very basics expenses.

Belleville City Mayor Tatum Couture visited with the Board about the Belleville City Survey. She noted that 509 signed surveys were returned. Approximately 300 wanted to keep the police department, 160 some said to "disband" the department and 60 or so checked neither box or both boxes. She said the bulk of the surveys had hand written responses and all but 15 of them were signed. Mayor Couture said they will continue to study the subject and move forward with future discussion at the upcoming council meetings.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen shared that she had applied for a Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant and \$15,000.00 was awarded to Republic County. Sister Mary Savoie, Belleville, Kansas will be paid \$11,000.00 to administer this grant.

Mrs. Hansen presented her budget proposal for the County Health Department. She noted that her proposal asked for no additional tax dollars. Medicare Home Health income or reimbursements are down as well as referrals due in part to the assisted living facilities and as well as a loss in population.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Main Street Director Belinda Pierson presented three separate requests to use the Courthouse Square for Belleville City events. August 5 the Poker Run registration table; August 26 the school tailgate party and October 15 a new event called Saturday on the Square will be held. All were approved.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Rural Water District II granting permission to construct and operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way commencing 560 feet south of Hwy 36 on 180 Road then crossing from Section 12-3-3 into Section 11-3-3.

Finkbiner noted that he met with FEMA people on Thursday and has totaled \$134,000 in damage to County roads and bridges due to the excessive rain in Eastern Republic County. This does not include any man hours for making repairs.

The County owned lot at 902 M Street was discussed by the Board. It takes time for the county employees to continue to pick up trash from the vacant lot and mow it. The Board discussed offering it to the City of Belleville since it is adjacent to the city utilities. If they would continue to allow the County to park the recycling trailers on other city owned property the lot at 902 M might be of some value to them. The Board directed Finkbiner to contact the city and see if they might be interested in making some type of agreement.

It was noted that the County has received a check from EMC Insurance Company in the amount of \$7,086.00 as a final settlement of all claims for damages incurred by Stone Construction Co., Inc. on a structure located 1 mile east of US Hwy 81 on Timber Lane, a quarter mile south on 160 Road. Clayton Kauer, the dozer

operator, did not “plank” the structure as required by K.S.A. 68-1129 law to minimize damages when crossing bridges and culverts. Road and Bridge employees replaced the structure and the County assessed only the cost of the building supplies to the insurance company.

Plans for final settlement with Farm Bureau Financial Services are moving forward on the Republic County Bridge # E-17.3 near Kevin Kuhlman’s residence. The County has asked for a 30% replacement cost, a total of \$67,500.00, for damage done to that bridge on March 18, 2011. The estimated cost is \$225,000.00 for bridge replacement as listed in the Campbell and Johnson Engineering firm report.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that due to the heavy truck traffic on the highway south of Narka the road is really being tore up. They are hauling corn out of Narka, Kansas and the road indicates some trucks might be overloaded. With the predicted heat index of well over 100 degrees next week it is a concern that the road may deteriorate rapidly.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell and Assistant Luke Mahin visited with the Board about the Rural Opportunity Zone Student Loan Repayment. The Board still has questions about how fair it is to pledge tax dollars to help repay student loans for a half dozen young people when there are many county residents working on repaying their student loans. Clerk Hall was asked to call neighboring counties and see if they plan to participate in the program and how they came to their decision. Ms. Russell will return July 5 as she continues to encourage the County to participate.

Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller and Roger Johns, CEO of Great Plains Health Alliance met with the Board. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-30 authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery of \$600,000 principal amount of Hospital Revenue Bonds, Series 2011, of Republic County, Kansas to finance the building of two duplexes, with four total living units. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. These units will be limited care residential facilities, an addition to the Republic County Hospital. Astra Bank of Belleville purchased the bonds offering a rate of 4.25% interest.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting to attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Mr. Rytych will be the only commissioner attending this meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on **TUESDAY**, July 6, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Linda Holl and Frank Rytch present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek joined the meeting.

Republic County Clerk of the District Court Kris Kling presented the proposed 2012 District Court budget. The projected budget was increase by \$600.00 for the county share of district expenses.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf gave a review of his department. Mike shared that he will be off work for 2-3 weeks following surgery on his knee. Permission to travel was approved for Mike to attend the district meeting July 7, 2011 in Clay Center, Kansas.

The Board gave approval for the Belleville City Library to use the south Courthouse lawn for children's games on July 7 and July 28, 2011.

Larry Sharp, KCAMP member services representative, gave the Board the annual KCAMP Insurance review. This reviews current insurance coverage and general usage.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Scandia concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Only one bid was received to harvest the prairie hay at the County Landfill. Dan Wilber was awarded a three year contract to bale the hay on shares.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that his men will be doing a one mile overlay on the Narka Road.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell visited with the Board about the Rural Opportunity Zone. Russell proposed using Economic Development dollars to sponsor a minimum of 3 qualifying students. The commissioners are not convinced the County should commit tax dollars to match state funds to help repay student loans.

The Board had asked Mrs. Russell if she would have time to work with Republic County Travel and Tourism. Russell was to put together a bid from her company spelling out the services she felt they could offer if she devoted 2-5 hours per week on tourism. Option One was coordinating tourism where she would focus on the marketing end and organization and promoting events through social media at a cost of \$5,200.00 per year. Option Two only involved promoting events through social media and handling and responding to tourism inquiries through the phone

and Facebook. This option would not cover any registration fees, the \$3,900.00 per year would only include time spent in the office. The Board will study her proposal.

Russell also asked if she should move forward with the LMI Survey that Mandy Fincham, North Central Regional Planning Commission, was trying to complete. This contact was made to search for grant funding that might allow the County to repave the blacktop road from the city of Munden south to Highway 36. The pre-application process of the survey is only partially complete. Referring to an email from Fincham, she noted that she thought there are a few options out there. However, the Board told Mrs. Russell the County does not have the “match money” required to proceed with such a grant application.

County Attorney Marlea James visited with the Board about budget preparation for her department.

Rod and Jared Dusek visited with the Board about the County owned communications tower, located on Dusek’s property north of Belleville. The lease agreement does not expire until 2022. The Board will visit with Communications Director Raymond Raney about the tower.

The Board continued to visit about the Rural Opportunity Zone Regulations and if that program and continued to question if this program is right for Republic County.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 11, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 11, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Paul Kallman, representing the Republic County Tourism Board, visited with the Board. He reported that Melinda Pierson through the Belleville Main Street and the Chamber of Commerce currently works together with the Republic County Tourism Board. The County Commissioners indicated that they would cover some tourism expenses in 2012.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker asked the Board to sign the Income Report of Economic Development.

Beth Ball and Joan Grover visited with the Board about senior services and the Republic County Council on Aging. They asked the Board to continue the current funding amount for the seniors as they are still seeking ways to serve all the small communities throughout the County.

Communications Director Raymond Raney reported that the County's public repeater must be updated by 2013. January 1, 2013 the FCC is mandating narrow banding. The cost will be approximately \$1,800.00 for a new repeater. The Board asked Raymond to study the options.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner and Norm Shinn visited with the Board. Shinn questioned if the R-14.2 Bridge on Rock Road between 140th and 150th Road will be repaired or replaced in the future. The Board told him it will not be replaced due to the \$350,000.00 estimated replacement cost. Bridge records show it was built in 1910. The Board agreed to hold future discussions about officially closing that road. Shinn said he owns the land on both sides of that bridge in Section 20-3-3 and if the road was permanently closed he would personally sign any and all documents required by Republic County to alleviate the County of any responsibility or liability for the bridge.

A memorandum of agreement was signed between Republic County and the City of Courtland concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to state that Republic County will not participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone student loan repayment program. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. No official action was required but the Board wanted to have the decision on record.

Finkbiner noted that the men did some sheetrock work in the new office building the day that it rained and work on the office continues as time allows.

Marvin Houdek and Lynn VanNortwick asked the County for assistance in the demolition of the Methodist Food Stand following the 2011 NCK Free Fair. They hope to take it down mid-August to begin construction of the new building this fall. The food stand is located on the NCK Fairgrounds.

Clerk Hall will call the Blue Cross Blue Shield representative and try to get projections on 2012 rates for Republic County Employees.

Clerk Hall asked the Board if she can remove the room divider in the election equipment storage room in the basement. This would allow for all the maintenance, programming, testing and charging of the batteries on voting machines to take place in that room. It was a consensus of the Board to allow Clerk Hall to use that entire vault for elections. Two shelving units will be purchased to spread the equipment out.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion carried 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that Kyle Heltne has fulfilled his obligation to the County by completing his payments as agreed into the Republic County Revolving Loan Fund. The Board signed a letter thanking Heltne for honoring his obligation.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring reviewed the preliminary budget figures for the 2012 Republic County budget.

Clerk Hall passed out the Treasurer's Accounting for funds on hand as of 6-30-11. The Board reviewed the funds on hand and the funds invested. The Board decided to ask County Treasurer Cindy Coons to solicit interest rate bids from the local banks on a regular quarterly basis. The County must stay informed about current interest rates in order to gain as much revenue as possible from invested funds.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. An agreement was signed between Dan Wilber and Republic County for mowing the hay at the County landfill.

Finkbiner noted that Duane Swanson, who works for landfill and recycling, is out on medical leave. The Board approved Finkbiner's request to hire two or three part time employees to work for approximately 2 months. He needs help flagging as they have a couple employees absent due to illness.

He noted that he had his men fill the pot holes in the USD 109 School parking lot.

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Bergstrom called the Solid Waste Hearings into session. There were no patrons in attendance.

EMS Director Don Lieb visited with the Board. He noted that the Kansas State Board of Pharmacy had made an inspection of his facility. He mentioned that he will need to purchase small electrical coolers to go into the Ambulance units. Numerous drugs need to be kept at a temperature between 60 and 80 degrees.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting and join the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on July 25, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 25, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

County Auditor Randall Hofmeier, Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris, Hutchinson, Kansas and the County Commissioners spent most of the morning on preliminary budget discussion. County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring joined in the discussion.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-31 expressing the property taxation policy of the Board of Rural Fire Districts No. 1 and 2 with respect to financing the 2012 annual budget for Rural Fire District Nos. 1 and 2, Republic County. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This is to notify the public of the increased property taxes to finance the 2012 budgets is greater than the amount levied to finance the 2011 Fire District budgets.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holl to approve Resolution 2011-32. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This resolution will notify the public that the property taxes levied to finance the 2012 Republic County budget exceed the amount levied to finance the 2011 Republic County budget. It was the intent of the Board to keep the 2012 levy at the same rate as 2011. While the Board was successful in keeping the levy the same, the small increase in county valuation increased the total expenditures making this resolution necessary.

The governing body of Republic County will meet on August 15, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., at the Republic County Courthouse, in the Commissioners Room for the 2012 Budget Hearing.

Belleville Telescope representative Veronica Barrington monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. The Narka blacktop road was discussed along with other road repairs around the County.

It was a consensus of the Board to invite Carl Eyman, Loss Prevention Specialist with Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties, to visit Republic County to offer additional safety training for employees.

Memorandum of Agreement was signed between Republic County and the City of Belleville concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Scott Finkbiner received permission to attend the North Central Kansas Transportation Commission District Meeting to be held in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Ellen Anderson, Community Corrections, updated the Board on the FY 2012 Carryover Reimbursement Budget Summary for the 12th Judicial District Community Corrections.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2011 Quarterly Adjustment Report reflecting \$12,666.17 in carry-over reimbursement. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board. The Board advised her to check with the banks on a monthly basis to check interest rates. Document their bids and obviously invest the County fund in the best place possible. The County auditor visited with the Commissioners earlier in the day about the loss in revenue due to the low interest rates.

The Board asked Clerk Hall to tell County Treasurer Cindy Coons that they want the State Driver's License equipment, currently in the room next to the County Attorney's Office, moved to another site to allow the County Attorney to use that office. The county attorney is in need of additional space and the Commissioners want to increase the work area for that office.

At 11:43 a.m., Commissioners Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:48 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held August 1, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 1, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

Raymond Raney presented four applications for permission to travel. Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed to attend the KEMA Board Meeting, August 10-11 in Topeka, Kansas. Beth Reed and Raymond Raney will also attend the annual KEMA Conference September 12-16, 2011 in Topeka, Kansas. Beth Reed and Raymond Raney will also attend the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Training Course, August 23-26, 2011, in Augusta, Kansas. This is a class that is required for counties receiving grant funds.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board about various matters. She proposed that we re-arrange the computer room to also serve as a break room for employees to enjoy their lunch. The current break room could then serve as the Full Service Driver's License Examiner's Office for the State of Kansas. The Board will discuss this further next week when Commissioner Holl is available to join the discussion.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbinder visited with the Board about road matters and solid waste. He noted that some people are ignoring the specific hours set for the Republic County Construction & Demolition Landfill and are dumping items outside the landfill gate. This is causing the employees to spend extra man hours to clean up the unnecessary dumping. Dumping outside the gate is not only unacceptable, but if it continues, the use of the Landfill may have to be limited.

The Board received a telephone call from Justin Murdock, Cloud County Solid Waste Director. They visited over the speaker phone about the Cloud County Transfer Station's request to raise the tonnage fee from \$52.00 per ton to \$62.00 per ton for Republic County. Republic County and Cloud County currently have an inter local agreement to transfer waste on to Topeka, Kansas. The Board asked for two weeks to study the proposal. Cloud County Commissioners will instigate the telephone conference call at 10:00 a.m. on August 22, 2011.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Kathy Calkins gave the Board an update on the historical grant to update the windows in the Courthouse. Her report was not really an update as things are on hold. She told the Board that we can get an extension.

Clerk Hall told the Board that she had been in contact with a health benefit specialist. The Board gave permission to investigate the services offered by Mark Isley, the owner of Group Benefit Specialists.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Attorney Marlea James visited about road closings. She asked the Board to send the initial contact letter from the Board of County Commissioners or the Road and Bridge Department when communicating with the public about matters such as a damaged bridge or road closings. She does not feel she should be the contact person as all the needed information or negotiations involve the commissioners or the highway administrator.

At 9:34 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:54 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about closing a road. Norm Shinn and Dan Wilber, land owners affected by the proposed closing, participated in the discussion.

Scott Finkbiner and the Board discussed various solid waste disposal options available to the County. He noted that Republic County currently sends approximately 2300 ton of solid waste a year to the Cloud County Transfer Station.

Motion was made by Chairman Bergstrom to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl abstained from voting as she did not attend this meeting.

Joe Hurla, 360 Energy Consultant, notified the Board that the new boiler system would be installed in the courthouse this coming week.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 15, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 15, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall to attend the KCOA Conference, September 14-16 in Wichita, Kansas. Clerk Hall along with Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring will also attend the training session Working with Abstracts 2011, September 23rd in Salina, Kansas. The Board also gave permission for Clerk Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring to meet Mark Isley, Group Benefit Specialist, August 18th in Salina, Kansas to learn more about employee health benefits and health care reform.

Kevin Milner, USD 109 school board member, thanked the Board for repairing the parking lot at the school.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

At 9:30 a.m., Commissioner Holl excused herself to attend a funeral.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a job description for a flagger. Richard Wolzen stopped to visit about the 23rd Street Bridge. Engineers have previously evaluated the bridge and said it is not salvageable. Husker Steel out of Nebraska is coming down to look at the bridge and will give a second opinion. It will be some time before a new bridge is built due to the cost of replacing such a large bridge and the traffic count is also taken into consideration.

The Board signed a Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Narka concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

A Utility Agreement was approved for Rural Water District 2 to construct and operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way commencing 750' west of Talmo Lane and Nickel Road intersection, crossing near the NW ¼ of 6-3-2. The second Utility Agreement was approved for Rural Water District 2 commencing 45' south of Talmo Lane and Nickel Road intersection crossing from the NW ¼ of 6-3-2 into the NE ¼ of 6-3-2.

The Board visited with Finkbiner about solid waste. He noted that the Washington County solid waste director is too busy to work on a proposal at this time.

At 10:30 a.m., Commissioner Holl returned to the meeting.

The Board approved the purchase of hanging magnets to put on the back of the road graders. It was a consensus of the Board to order 10 Sweepers at \$225.00 each from Master Magnetics, Inc.

At 11:00 a.m., Chairman Bergstrom opened the Solid Waste Hearing. There were no patrons in attendance.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to move the Kansas Driver's License Examiner's Station in the Courthouse to the current employee break room in the basement. The employee break room will be incorporated into the current computer room. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The Board will ask Court Clerk Kris Kling to move the district court law books and any other items stored in that office to allow a smooth transition of this room to become the front office for the county attorney and her secretary. The vault will remain in the custody of the Court Clerk and will not be affected. County Treasurer Cindy Coons will notify the authorities in Topeka for approval and authorization to move the Driver's License Examiner downstairs.

The Board signed the Republic County Conservation District 2012 Operations Fund Budget.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 22, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Highway Administrator and Solid Waste Director Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board and reviewed the proposal from Cloud County Commissioners to increase the charge to accept Material Solid Waste generated in Republic County and delivered to the Cloud County Transfer Station. The cost will increase to \$54.70 per ton plus the Republic County share of the fuel compensation cost for 2011. There will be a slight yearly increase in cost thru 2014. This contract between Republic County and Cloud County was re-negotiated today during a telephone conference call with the Cloud County Commissioner Johnita Crawford, Gary Caspers and Gail Engle. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the Inter Local Agreement between Republic County and the Cloud County Transfer Station with the scheduled increases thru 2014. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The County did take quotes and reviewed the current solid waste disposal process with surrounding counties along with recycling efforts. As noted above, the contract was re-negotiated with Cloud County Transfer Station and approved thru 2014. Interest has been shown by a local businessman to locate a solid waste transfer station within Republic County. The County would consider that option if made available to them in the future. The County would be agreeable to transfer the current recycling program to a local vendor as well if given the opportunity. To free up space at the County Construction and Demolition Site this summer, Republic County crushed 4,000 ton of concrete at no expense to the County. The City of Scandia will use the crushed concrete as rip-rap to reinforce sanitation dikes.

The Board signed a Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Republic concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

A joint road-waterway use permit was signed between the Republic County Highway Department and Larry Chopp- Chopp Farms, Republic County in Section 6-2-3.

A motion was made by Chairman Bergstrom to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Republic County was awarded \$9,154.00 through a Public Health Preparedness grant. The agreement between Republic County Health Department and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment was signed by Chairman Bergstrom.

Permission to travel was approved for RN Kathy Zach along with Home Health Aides Donna Moravek, Lori Benyshek, Nila Skupa and Debbie Sells to attend and Kansas Home Care Conference, September 13-14, 2011, in Lawrence, Kansas.

Republic County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen will attend the Kansas Immunization Conference, September 6-8, 2011, in Topeka, Kansas.

At 10:00 a.m. the Republic County Budget Hearing was called to order. Those in attendance were Randy and Phyllis Rahe, Jim and Kay Nitcher, Richard Lindberg, Michael Allen, Nick Levendofsky, Randy Nelson, Bentley Parker, Carolyn Simms and Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek was in attendance to ask questions of the Commissioners. The Board welcomed their questions and comments. County

Clerk Vickie Hall, Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring, Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner and County Health Director Marcia Hansen were also in attendance. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the proposed 2012 County Budget as presented, second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Jeff and Stanley Krohn visited with the Board about a proposed road closing from the intersection of Willow Road and Wayne Lane going south for one half mile to the William Borchardt property line. The proposed road closure is due to bridge number 21.5W3 that is out and already closed to traffic. Public hearing notices will be done in the future.

Casey Fraser, Foley Equipment Company Representative and Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about a used 12H CAT motor grader with low hours. The Board will study this proposal.

Scott Finkbiner also visited with the Board about the work being done on the new office building. He presented two bids to install new heating and air conditioning for the new office building. Rizek Plumbing bid \$8,726.00 but was not a complete project bid and Hood Heating and Air, Concordia, bid \$9,865.00. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to accept the bid from Hood Heating, second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring attended a meeting, August 18th, in Salina, Kansas to study employee benefits. Mark Isley, President of Group Benefit Specialists, gave an overview of what his company has to offer in the way of coordination of group benefits. Clerk Hall shared with him the current Republic County benefit program and told Mr. Isley of the goals, concerns and needs of Republic County employees. The County needs to pay less for health insurance premiums but maintain quality benefits for our employees. Isley is a health insurance broker who works closely with the employees. He will get the facts and figures from the Clerk's office and offer the commissioners several options for Republic County Employees. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to hire Group Benefit Specialists, second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall will notify Mr. Isley of the Board's decision to work with his company. Work will begin this next week to study the current benefit plans and coverage offered to employees. BCBS renewal figures should be available sometime in late October for comparisons.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 29, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 29, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 9:26 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a fifteen minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Regular session resumed at 9:41 a.m.

The Board continued to visit with Republic County Health Department Administrator Marcia Hansen. Commissioner Holl made a motion to appoint RN Kathy Zach as the Administrator/Director of Republic County Home Health Agency effective today. Second by Chairman Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board an update on the 2011 Sales Tax fund. She also noted that after taking bids for interest rates on County investments , the highest bid received was one per cent interest, offered by Swedish American State Bank in Courtland. Ms. Coons told the Board she invested \$350,000.00 at 1% interest.

Cindy Coons told the Board she had the opportunity to update the Pitney Bowes postage meter. The new model would automatically weigh the envelope and put the correct postage on it. Letters are currently individually weighed then posted. To update the County would be required to pay an additional \$1,668.00 per year. Ms. Coons noted that her office uses the postage meter more than most and she would be willing to pay the \$1,668.00 from her department budget and the motor vehicle budget if the Board would agree to the update. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to update the current postage meter. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The Board agreed to write a letter to the Kansas Department of Revenue, Driver's License Bureau in Topeka, KS requesting permission to move the driver's license examiner to a room in the basement of the Courthouse by October 1, 2011.

Craig Tebow, Tebow Plumbing, Courtland, Kansas has inquired about adding a diagnostic program on the Courthouse computer system so he could monitor the cooling and heating system from his shop in Courtland. It costs everyone money when he has to drive over to Belleville to do a simple diagnosis. If he could check the system by using his laptop at the shop it would save him time and the County would save in the price of the "trip" or service call. The Board said they would consider his proposal if Computer Solutions would send a letter to confirm that the addition of this program would not allow Tebow any access other than the heating and cooling system.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner and Road Supervisor Brad Swanson met with the Board. Gary Nutter joined the group. They all went to check the water flow a half mile east of Shady Road and 180 Road.

Finkbiner also noted that Jeff Strnad asked about closing a portion of Queen Road south of Premium Feeders Feedlot. Brad Swanson told the Board that Mr. Strnad had offered to pay twenty-five thousand dollars to the County if they would close that road.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that the new magnets have arrived at Road and Bridge and they have installed a magnet on all ten of the County road graders.

District Court Clerk Kris Kling and Probate Judge John Eyer visited with the Board about various matters concerning storage of permanent county records kept in the probate court vault on the second floor. The Board noted that the driver's license examiner would be moved out of that area and into the basement. Discussion will continue on how the room will be used in the future. The older files from the County Attorney's Office could possibly be moved into the outer office beside the probate court vault. The Board told Mrs. Kling and Judge Eyer that they would be included in all future discussions about the probate vault and the adjoining room.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board. He noted that Jonathan Shelley had graduated from the fourteen weeks Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center Course.

Nancy Holt stopped to visit with the Board. She gave the Board an update on things at the Republic County Museum and left a hard copy of their proposed 2012 budget.

She also informed the Board that Republic, Jewell, Cloud, a portion of Mitchell and three counties in Nebraska have committed to raising money for world hunger through the Heartland Against Hunger campaign to take place on Sunday, October 16 at the 4-H Building.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on TUESDAY, September 6, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 06, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the regular district meeting September 8, 2011 in Salina, Kansas.

The County was invoiced from Computer Solutions for removing a virus from the computers in the Extension Office. It was a consensus of the Board that this bill should be presented to River Valley Extension for payment.

The Board signed one accounts payable voucher to Hoard Oil in the amount of \$27,279.11 for fuel.

Lynn VanNortwick, Marvin Houdek and Allan Johnson, representatives of the Belleville Methodist Church, visited with the Board about building a new Methodist food stand on the NCK Fairgrounds. They inquired about securing a 99 year lease on the small plot of land the new Methodist food stand will sit on. The Board understood their concern and will check with County Attorney Marlea James.

Chairman Bergstrom signed the employee benefits consulting and Compensation Proposal for Mark D. Isley, Insurance Advisory Services, Group Benefit Specialists, Inc. in Wichita, Kansas.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board about moving the current Kansas Driver's License Examiners Office to a room in the basement of the Courthouse. She also noted that vehicle clerk, Karen Bonner, will retire as of October 1, 2011. Mrs. Coons told the Board she did not plan to fill that position in the future. In previous discussions with the Board, Ms. Coons agreed this would be a considerable savings to the County.

County Attorney Marlea James visited with the Board about property leases.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker reminded the Board about the quarterly meeting. She also noted that Kent Swartz, Republic Oil Company, has paid in full his RCD Loan through the Kansas Department of Commerce.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about road and bridge matters. Kathy Pugh and Richard Wolzen stopped in to discuss the 23rd Street Bridge. They were once again reminded that this bridge will require a minimum of \$300,000.00 to replace. It will require the assistance of private contractors, permits, engineers and a lot of money. The county bridge crew builds smaller structures that are less than 20 feet in length. These cost about \$30,000.00 and can be completed in 3 weeks with good weather.

At 10:30 a.m. the official bid opening for motor grader blades was held. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid of \$8,707.10 from Welborn Sales, Inc. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Representative Gary Montrae was in attendance. There was one other bid submitted for \$8,399.30 from D-C Wholesale.

Clerk Hall did not present minutes from the previous meeting. She will have August 29 and September 6 minutes ready for approval at the next meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Lennie Maxwell offered the morning prayer.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from August 29 and September 6, 2011. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about road and bridge matters. He reported that County equipment was vandalized at King Road and 90 Road. The packer and the road broom were both damaged.

Mr. Finkbiner also asked about giving wage increases to County employees. He stressed the importance of keeping experienced employees. The Board indicated they were studying employee benefits.

Finkbiner had been in contact with Kirkham Michael engineering firm to get another opinion about the 23rd Street Bridge. If the County does the dirt work and pours the deck of the bridge and Kirkham Michael contractors did all the rest of the construction work it would still be a two year process to replace the bridge. Getting the permits and engineering are only a small part of bridge replacement. The total cost could be upward of \$400,000.00 for this bridge. Finkbiner is also looking into grants and programs that might help cover some of the replacement cost. However, that too is a very slow process and application does not guarantee success.

Charlene Trost, Pawnee Mental Health, received signatures from the Board to proclaim September 2011 as "Recovery Month." This is to recognize the

importance of recovery and to raise community awareness and understanding of substance use, mental disorders and the need for accessible services for all people.

The Board will send one final letter to Kuhlman's insurance company for settlement on the bridge.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about vandalism to County property and other matters of interest.

The Board toured the election equipment storage room. It was suggested that installing a ceiling fan might make the room more comfortable. The County is currently accepting bids for the carpet. The new energy efficient lights will be installed after the new carpet is put down and the shelving units are put up. Clerk Hall is excited to get this room set up before the big 2012 Election process begins.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited about spraying roadsides. He will bill the road department for chemicals used for spraying trees in areas cleared by that department.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

James D. Foster, Kansas Department of Commerce & Rural Development met with the Board along with Economic Development Director Jenny Russell, Luke Mahin, Mike Hadachek, Randy Wise, Jimmie Blecha and Blaine Miller. The group was asking the Board to reconsider participating in a state-matching program to repay 20 percent of outstanding student loans up to \$3,000 per year (not to exceed \$15,000) for students who move to a participating Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) County. The Board had previously decided not to participate because they did not want to levy tax dollars to pay the county's share of the match towards student loans. The Board listened to their arguments for participation in the program.

Jimmie Blecha told the Board that he had received a letter from the United States Postal Service suggesting Munden customers get delivery and service from the Republic City Post Office. The postal representatives will hold a public meeting on the plan at the Munden Community Hall on September 29th at 7:00 p.m. The Commissioners drafted a letter to the postal service telling them how important a full service post office is to each of our rural communities.

At 10:31 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a ten-minute executive session with County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 10:41 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Cloud County Health Department and Republic County Health Department for Chairman Bergstrom's signature. This agreement relates to the implementation of a Family Planning program and runs from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Highway Administrator received permission to travel to the Kansas Landfill Association Convention October 5 & 6 in Salina, Kansas.

The Board signed a Utility Agreement granting Kansas Gas Service permission to construct and operate an underground 4 inch natural gas pipeline on certain public road right-of-way as it crosses 14 county roads in Republic County.

An agreement for engineering services between Republic County and Kirkham, Michael and Associates, Inc., was signed by Chairman Bergstrom. The engineering services are for the design and replacement bridge project on 230 Road, just north of Hwy. K-148. This is near Dale Cherney's place.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner was successful in getting the Kansas Department of Transportation to place Federal Bridge number 000790787503245 back in their data base. The bridge has been reinstated into the NBI database. The County would like to seek federal funding to replace the 100 foot steel beam/concrete deck bridge with 120 foot RCHS. The existing bridge was closed in 2010 due to severe deterioration in concrete abutments and piers.

The estimated cost of the project (2011):	
Construction	\$426,838
Construction Engineering/Inspection	95,000
Inflation Amount (sum a & b x 0.164)	85,581
Total Estimated Cost	607,419
Local Match (20% required)	121,484
Federal Match (80%)	\$485,935

Application was made for the Off-System Bridge Program, Federal Fiscal Year 2013. The above figures are the opinion of probable construction costs for the Republic County Bridge Number N.5-16.4 sometimes called the West 23rd St. Bridge. He was told that there is only eight million dollars in the federal funding and they have 50 some applications for federal funding projects.

Mr. Finkbiner has done a salary study for his department. He asked the Board to study his findings and consider his request for salary increases in the Road and Bridge Department and the other departments within the County.

Belleville Telescope Editor monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons received permission to travel on October 3rd to the mandatory meeting in Salina about the installation of equipment in the driver's license office.

Permission to travel was also granted for Ms. Coons, Kay Shoemaker and Linda Melton to attend the KDOR Mandatory Driver's License training on October 21st. The Republic County Treasurer's Office will be closed that day.

County Clerk Vickie Hall presented bids to replace and install the carpet in the Election work room. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$1,055.63 from Bachelor-Faulkner-Dart-Surber Furniture Store. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The only other bid was for \$1,253.60 from Les Shoemaker.

At 11:40 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:45 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday September 26, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 26, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited about the cost of spraying. It is currently costing \$177.60 to mix a 300 gallon tank of chemicals to spray trees.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

County Attorney Secretary Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the Courthouse window grant and the data collection documents from Campbell and Johnson in Concordia. The data collection phase is \$3,200.00 and the contract said we would pay at the completion of the grant process. Calkins asked the Board if they would consider paying in advance to move the process along.

Mrs. Calkins also mentioned that County Attorney Marlea James will proceed with the 2010 Delinquent Tax Sale.

The Board visited about County Bridge #E-17.3 and the replacement cost. A letter was received from Farm Bureau Insurance now offering a \$40,000.00 final settlement. Some time back Farm Bureau sent a letter agreeing to pay a \$67,000 settlement for damage to this bridge if the County would send pictures or plans of the agreed upon replacement bridge. That original figure of \$67,000.00 is approximately 30% of the actual replacement cost and is certainly not unreasonable. The Board directed Mr. Finkbiner to visit with Kevin Kuhlman as \$40,000.00 is unacceptable.

County Appraiser Barry Porter told the Board that the County car needs new tires and the brakes serviced. The Board asked Porter to take bids.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

At 9:26 a.m., Commissioner Rytych made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with County Treasurer Cindy Coons to visit about non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also in attendance. Regular session resumed at 9:41 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 9:50 a.m., Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with County Clerk Vickie Hall and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring to visit about non-elected personnel. Regular session resumed at 10:05 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. Permission to travel was approved for Duain Swanson to attend the Waste Coalition Meeting September 30th in Osborne, Kansas.

Finkbiner noted that he had met with representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation. They were considering making new entrances to the Feedlot and Hansen Mueller Grain Elevator with proposed turn lanes. He had a map of the proposed changes but work would not be done until 2013 or 2014. The turn lanes would assist the truck traffic to Nesika Ethanol Plant. The proposal is in the preliminary stages but it is good news for the safety of those traveling on 36 Highway.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to proclaim October 2011 as Down Syndrome Awareness Month, second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The Board visited about a request to enhance the old break room in the basement. The Kansas Driver's License Examiner will relocate to this room October 3, 2011. It was a consensus of the Board to simply paint the room and find a small oscillating fan for improved air flow. They saw no need to carpet this room or go to the expenses of installing a new ceiling fan.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 3, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 03, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

County Attorney Secretary Kathy Calkins told the Board she had visited with Eric Johnson of Campbell and Johnson, Concordia, and he said he will have the data collection documents for the Courthouse window grant project done by the end of October.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker announced that there would be an RCD meeting on Wednesday, October 5th as loan applications have been received for study.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that all the new equipment for the Kansas State Driver's License Examiner has been installed and that driver's license testing will now be done in the basement of the Courthouse. She stated that the telephone worked but the display window didn't show who was calling. Mrs. Coons noted that a new telephone was installed and she would like to have that charged to Courthouse General Fund since the County asked them to relocate the office.

Clerk Hall noted that the new telephone cost \$200.00 and the final bill was over \$400.00 with the additional charges for programming, mileage and hourly rate.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board. Permission to travel was approved for Jimmy Shepek to attend the Annual Fall APCO Conference, October 16-18, in Wichita, Kansas. Communications Director Raymond Raney and Dispatcher Colleen Alkire will also attend this conference.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to travel to the North Central Kansas Register of Deeds Fall Meeting on October 14 in Salina, Kansas.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about purchasing a new telephone system to be installed in the new Road and Bridge Office building. They are replacing a 10 year old system. He is checking to be sure this system is compatible or will coordinate with the Courthouse telephone system. AT&T Business Communications Services submitted a bid for \$5,162.74 and AT&T is their current carrier. This includes 2 analog lines and 4 telephones that have the ability to connect with the Courthouse offices.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid from Welborn Sales and order 100 sheets of 10 gauge black bridge deck sheeting at a cost of \$278.00 each. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. The only other bid received was \$295.00 from D-C Wholesale.

Finkbiner noted that the Republic County Transportation Bus had been involved in an accident while backing the bus up on Thursday. He reported it to KCAMP the County's insurance carrier. The County was at fault and a safety review was held with the driver.

The Board approved Mr. Finkbiner's request to hire a part time secretary to work 20-36 hours each week at the Road and Bridge Department. He will get a help wanted advertisement in the newspapers seeking part time help to assist Darlene Havel, his current full time secretary.

Currently there is no employee trained to keep the road and bridge office running smoothly when his long time office manager is out of the office for vacation or sick leave.

Finkbiner asked the Board again to think about the cost of the five and one half miles of black top roads that goes through the small towns in Republic County. He would like to see the cities share in the cost of the upkeep of the County highway since it is also a city street. They will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Clerk Hall noted that she and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring work with the small cities in budget preparation and they do not have the resources to help pay for blacktop overlay on the County road going through the city. Clerk Hall highly discouraged this proposal because the small cities are struggling to meet their current expenses. The County gets disgruntled when the State of Kansas passes their bills on to us and this would essentially be doing the same thing to the small cities if we asked the cities to increase the budgets to pay the County back for the upkeep on the County road going through their town.

County Appraiser Barry Porter presented the bid for car tires. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$452.00 from Melton Motor Company for the four new tires for the County car. Second by Rytych, motion passed. Porter will also request an inspection of the brakes. Other bids were received from Reliable Auto, \$496.00 and \$560.00 from Conoco Service.

Carol Lee Miner, Sheila Nelson-Stout and Patrick Wallerius gave their yearly update on OCCK.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The second was made by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He inquired about replacement 911 signs in the rural areas. He also told the Board they need to replace the excavator. He has been shopping around for one with low hours. It was also noted that his employees are doing more blacktop sealing this week on the Narka and Cuba road. It takes 3800 gallons per mile to seal.

Mr. Finkbiner asked about the policy for salaried employees to confirm his allotted sick and vacation hours. He receives 3 weeks vacation per year and 12 days sick leave each year.

Chamber Secretary Melinda Pierson presented Hold Harmless Agreements for the Board's approval for the Autumn Fest on Saturday and the Trunk or Treat on Halloween evening to block off the inside square for a few hours. Both were approved.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board. With the recommendation of the Republic County Industrial and Commercial Development (RCD) Committee, Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the RCD loan of \$20,000.00 to Jason Sugars. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Mr. Sugars is buying the Scandia Auto Parts business from Gary Cline and will use this loan for working capital. He will call his new business J & H Automotive and Parts, located at 200 4th Street in Scandia, Kansas.

Wednesday, October 19th, they will hold another RCD Meeting to review another loan application.

County Attorney Marlea James told the Board she felt her salary of \$40,000.00 was low considering the number of hours required to do a thorough job for Republic County and the amount of education required to become an attorney. She noted that the new highway administrator makes \$44,000.00 per year without an engineer's degree and no prior experience. The Board agreed to look into salaries paid by other counties of our size.

At 10:53 a.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with County Treasurer Cindy Coons to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. County Clerk Hall was also in attendance. Regular session resumed at 11:08 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received permission to travel for RN Karen Henke to attend a Wound Care Conference on October 11, 2011 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Mrs. Hansen also told the Board that she is taking bids on a computer for the health department. They have to replace an old computer.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 3rd meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0. Bergstrom abstained as he did not attend that meeting.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 26th meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl abstained as she did not attend that meeting.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that Brian Isaacson, Half Moon Graphix, Belleville, has paid in full the loan he received from the Republic County Revolving Loan Fund. A letter was sent thanking him for honoring this obligation.

She also noted that Jason Sugars previously requested and was approved for a RCD Loan in the amount of \$20,000 to purchase Scandia Auto Parts. He called to decline the approved loan sighting the required environmental study that take up to 45 days. He did not want to wait that long to get the business in operation.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Permission to travel was approved for Register of Deeds Peggy Frint to attend the training on the Mortgage Electronic Registration System, October 25, 2011, in Salina, Kansas.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell and Assistant Luke Mahin informed the Board that they were working on a housing study with Fort Hays and the Docking Institute to compile statistics on Republic County housing. They gave a review of that department.

Russell also told the Board that a Spec-Building would be built in the Industrial Park. The Economic Development Board voted to use \$90,000.00 from the sale of the MC Building for construction costs in hopes of attracting a new business to move into Belleville.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He reviewed the various projects in his department. He also noted that the carpenter he hired to remodel and/or improve the new office building did quality work when he was there but he couldn't get him to show up to work. Finkbiner had to "let him go" and has hired Brad Klima to finish the work at the office building.

Mr. Finkbiner plans to hire another secretary so presented the bids to purchase a new computer for the office. Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the proposal of \$1,237.99 for a new computer from Computer Solutions. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that he thinks the County needs a Safety and Project Review Committee or Board. There needs to be a regular program of safety classes for the employees to bring our workman's compensation claims down.

Clerk Hall reported that she spoke with a K-Camp Insurance representative about a proposed road closing that includes an old iron bridge. It would take considerable man hours to cut the bridge up and sell it for scrap iron. Simply gifting the bridge to the adjacent land owner would be the quick fix. The insurance company suggested that we dismantle the bridge. He suggests it has value and to cut it up and sell it for scrap was the only way to keep the County safe.

Mark Isley, President of Group Benefit Specialists, presented the Kansas State Employee Health Medical Benefit Plan to the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go with the "State Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan" for Non State Groups. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This change means continuing coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas for the Republic County Employees. The employees will also be offered a vision plan, guaranteed life insurance, accident, cancer and long term care insurance through payroll deduction. The financial feasibility of this change made sense. The County will be saving over three hundred thousand dollars in premiums. Informational meetings for employees will be held on November 16 and 17, 2011. Employees must show an original married certificate to cover a spouse and certified birth certificates on all dependent children 26 years or under.

It was noted that the Area Drug and Alcohol Council meeting will be held at 4:30 this evening and plans are to officially disband the Republic County Area Drug and Alcohol Council. Information was gleaned from the minutes of their previous meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting. Commissioner Linda Holl was absent due to the recent death of her husband, Lee Holl.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about 911 matters. Currently people pay a seventy-five cent fee for cell phones and twenty-five cents for land lines. He reported they have made a change in how 911 Collections will be returned to the counties. Counties with a population of 10,000 and under will receive a flat \$50,000 so Republic County should not lose any money.

Republic County currently has a fund for land line and a separate fund for the wireless tax. We can now have one fund and the new money will be kept separate. The money currently in the land line fund will remain there until it is spent as the land line fee doesn't have as many restrictions or regulations on it.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to appoint appointed Deb Hadachek and Kent Larson to another four year term on the Republic County Hospital Board of Trustees. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. The term will end October 31, 2015.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board. Following the recommendation of the RCD Committee the Board, Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Shannon and Kendra Short's application for a RCD Loan in the amount of \$85,000 to purchase The Gym from the family of the late Mark and Diane Miller. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. The name of their business is B-Defined Fitness Studio and will combine a dance studio and a fitness center.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-33 to confirm that Scott Finkbiner serves as Director of Republic County Transportation. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Members of the Board also signed a letter of support for the grant Republic County is applying for from the Kansas Department of Transportation System.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. Permission to travel was approved for Finkbiner and Secretary Darlene Havel to attend the Transportation meeting, October 25, 2011, in Minneapolis, Kansas. Permission to travel was also approved for Finkbiner and Duane Swanson to attend the training, November 9-10, for landfill operators and directors in Wichita, Kansas.

Mr. Finkbiner received permission from the Board to run an ad for an additional equipment operator. He also noted that he is planning to purchase two dump trucks, an excavator and possibly another back hoe to assist the bridge crew and help with the installation of culverts. The County is scheduled to receive approximately \$540,000 from the Federal Fund Exchange Program in the future.

Finkbiner asked the Board to study the cost of recycling in Republic County and consider discontinuing it. He has documented the items and pounds sent to recycling and it

actually costs the County to have a recycling program. He indicated the loss to the County in the past 9 months is upward of \$5,000 as that does not include the salary and benefits of the employee who delivers the recycling trailers to our small towns. Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek volunteered to run an article in the newspaper about recycling.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about wage increases for the employees in his department. The jail brings in money by housing prisoners from other counties. Blad said we currently have 7 prisoners from Sedgwick County, 2 from Jewell County and 2 from Republic County. The County charges \$30.00 per day per prisoner.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting so he could attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 31, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

Permission to travel was approved for Emergency Preparedness Secretary Beth Reed to attend the KEMA Board meeting, November 2, 2011 in Newton, Kansas.

Nick Levendofsky visited with the Board about recycling in Republic County. He is looking into a “recycling cooperative” and asked the Board if they would be interested if he researched the subject. The Board not only agreed but encouraged him to look into it and share that information with them in the future.

At 8:44 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall was included in this discussion. At 8:49 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2011 meeting with one correction. It should read that the recycling program had a loss upward of \$5,000.00 to the County in the past 9 months and not upwards of \$15,000 as printed in the draft copy of the minutes. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0 with Commissioner Holl abstaining due to her absence at that meeting.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2011 meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board and reviewed the work being done on the new office building. The Board approved his request to replace the windows in the building. Carpenter Brad Klima told Finkbiner that he could caulk around the windows but replacing them would be the only way to know they were not going to leak. Replacing the windows will cost about \$200.00 per window to replace the cheap mobile home windows that are there. New windows would also be energy efficient.

The Board told Finkbiner that Nick Levendofsky had suggested a “cooperative” for recycling and possibly putting recycling into other people’s hands instead of the County. The Board will study the research before making any changes. Levendofsky had been told that Jewell County is now accepting glass in their recycling program. The Board asked Finkbiner to be sure they are recycling glass.

Finkbiner also told the Board that Dan Wilber would be willing to purchase the County’s share of the hay from the area around the landfill.

He also noted that BWR, Bucher Willis & Ratliff Engineers from Salina, are in the process of updating our landfill permit. Republic County needs more cells designated or established at the landfill.

The Board held a thorough discussion on the Rural Opportunity Zone Program knowing the sign up period ends in December 2011. The Board stands by their original decision and will not participate or opt-in to the county-state match on the student loan repayment portion of the program.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 07, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Art Bliese offered the morning prayer.

Three departments submitted requests for permission to travel and all were approved by the Board. County Appraiser Barry Porter will attend the KAC Conference, November 13-14, 2011 in Topeka, Kansas, Weed Director Mike Nondorf will attend the district meeting November 10, 2011 in Mankato and Election Deputy Beth Ball will attend the KAC Conference, November 14 to get the latest directives on elections from the Kansas Secretary of State's Office.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about the new boiler and other building maintenance. He noted that the existing steam trap needs to be rebuilt or replaced. Clerk Hall notified 360 Energy Representative Justin Pape who said the contractor who installed the boiler will make the repair with no additional expense to the County.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell, Assistant Luke Mahin, Blaine Miller, Mike Hadachek, Department of Commerce Representative James Foster and Randy Wise visited with the Board about the Rural Opportunity Zone. The Board listened to the group.

RCD Secretary and Mike Hadachek visited with the Board about RCD matters. The Board agreed to draft a letter to make the Kansas legislature aware of how the "environmental review" policy drags out the loan process when the applicants want and need to proceed with their project. The Board will ask them to relax the requirements on the environmental review to facilitate and promote economic growth in our rural communities.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about roads. He noted that in the future, all crane operators will be required to take a class to receive the required crane certification. There is a Crane Operator Training prep class to be held November 28-30 in Wichita, Kansas. A written test follows with a registration fee of \$1200.00 per operator. The practical exam will be scheduled later.

He also noted that road and bridge employees will return to a five day work week on Monday, November 14, 2011.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board he had submitted an application for the Federal Fiscal Year 2013 Off-System Bridge Program. His efforts paid off and he received notification from KDOT

Program Specialist David Marten that the 23rd St. Bridge west of Belleville was one of 21 projects selected to be part of the FFY 2013 Program. The project number will be 79 C-0329-01.

Charles Westin stopped by to compliment and thank the Board for participating in recycling.

Mr. Finkbiner and Secretary Beth Reed reviewed the solid waste program with the Board. No changes will be made in the program or billing process at this time. The City of Munden will need to study their current billing system and possibly change it for 2012.

Kelvin Blecha visited with the Board about the NCK Fair. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to take money from the Fairground Improvement Fund and pay off the John Deere tractor that the NCK Fair Board has set up on a lease purchase through John Deere Finance. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Blecha will get a “pay out” or dollar figure to Clerk Hall in the next couple of weeks. Blecha reminded the Board that the NCK Free Fair Board annual meeting will be held December 5, 2011.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 14, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Beth Reed visited with the Board about solid waste billing.

The Board reviewed the proposed 99 year lease between Republic County and the Belleville First United Methodist Church to build a new "Methodist Food Stand" on County property at the NCK Free Fairgrounds in Belleville. They have agreed to pay \$1.00 per year and be responsible for liability insurance and total upkeep on this food stand. This building replaces the old food stand and the church has agreed to pay \$99.00 at the time the agreement. This lease will not need to be renewed on an annual basis but the church will provide an annual certificate of insurance to be filed with the County Clerk.

Belleville Telescope Editor monitored a portion of the meeting.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen presented a permission to travel for RN Kathy Zach to attend the KHCA Winter Conference December 5-6 in Wichita and the District 5 KITCA Meeting November 16 in Salina. Both were approved.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Rural Water District Number Two to construct and operate an underground waterline going from ½ mile line, Section 17-3-3 then crossing into Section 8-3-3. Motion by Chairman Bergstrom to approve the agreement, second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner reminded the Board that Republic County will receive \$97,751.33 from FEMA to repair culverts and replace gravel washed off the roads due to the storm.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to spend up to \$108,500.00 on the purchase of a Hitachi excavator but work to get the price a little lower if possible. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner also visited with the Board about two trucks he would like to purchase for the road and bridge department. Commissioner Holl made a motion to purchase two 2007 MACK dump trucks. Each truck will cost \$95,099.00 and both have between 90,000 and 100,000 miles on them. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner invited the Board to visit the County yards next Monday to view the new office building and visit about a proposed poll shed and other needed improvements. The Board agreed to stop by after lunch on Monday.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the upcoming Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting to be held on November 11, 2011.

Raney told the Board of a project that he would like to pursue. Knowing that rural fireman all carry cell phones, ADT (home security) has made available a system that sends out a text and call to all fireman on the call list. It is a kind of “reverse 911” system. It notifies first responders. Raney will continue to study the program and report back to the Board.

Melinda Pierson, representing the Belleville Chamber and Main Street, received permission to block off the inside of the Courthouse square on Friday, November 25 for Christmas on the Square. This makes it safer for the horse and carriage rides.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 7 meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl did not vote due to being absent at this meeting.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to make a pay adjustment in November for County employees. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 21 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Lennie Maxwell offered the morning prayer.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rytych to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2011 meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Luke Mahin visited with the Board about Economic Development. Prior to his visit, the Board had thoroughly discussed the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) program. The Board informed Mahin that they stood by their original decision and do not plan to sign Republic County up for this program.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board and proposed pay increases for his department.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a quote of \$1,088.57 from Pierce Electronics, Mankato, Kansas to relocate the current communications system to the new office building.

Mr. Finkbiner also noted that the final purchase price of \$107,500.00 will cover the cost of the new excavator and includes some warranty.

Finkbiner also accept Commissioner Rytych's offer to go with Nathan Craig to Virginia to pick up the two Mack dump trucks the County purchased. They will fly out on November 29 and drive the trucks back to Republic County.

The Board discussed employee time cards and time sheets. They expect employees to adhere to the designated or official office hours. The Board will start doing random reviews of time sheets and time cards.

At 11:06 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discussion non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:16 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to sign Resolution Number 2011-34, a resolution of intent to participate in natural hazard mitigation and to work towards becoming a safer community. Whereas, the County of Republic recognizes that no community is immune from natural hazards whether it be tornado/severe thunderstorm, flood, severe winter weather, drought, heat wave, earthquake, dam failure or wildfire and recognizes the importance of enhancing its ability to withstand natural hazards as well as the importance of reducing the human suffering, property damage, interruption of public services and economic losses caused by those hazards. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2011-35 to establish a new Republic County 911 Fund for the collection and distribution of fees relating to 911 Funds for 2012. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting for lunch. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 1:00 p.m. the Commissioners and Clerk Hall went to the Road and Bridge Department to view the remodeled office building. Highway Administrator Scott Finkbinder introduced Tracy Hannaman, recently hired to work as a part time secretary for the road department.

The Board returned to the Courthouse. At 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into an executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. County Clerk Hall was in attendance. Regular session resumed at 2:30 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

At 2:30 p.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to continue the executive session for another 45 minutes. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 3:15 p.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

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

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Roger Walls offered the morning prayer.

Secretary Kathy Calkins gave the Board a progress report on the grant for the Courthouse windows. It seems like the “no progress report” but if Campbell and Johnson Engineers complete the required report as promised, by November 30, 2011, things could get moving again on the project. Kathy is doing a good job monitoring and encouraging people, trying to keep the project in the forefront. The county has already received one extension on this project.

The Board received a letter from John R. Murray, Mankato, Kansas. The title is “Notice of Claim” and is a copy of a letter addressed to additional elected officials. The Board will refer it to the Republic County Attorney.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker reminded the Board that the December meeting is tentative as applications have not been returned to the committee. However, the annual meeting has been scheduled for January 11, 2012.

The Board signed the lease agreement between Republic County and the Belleville United Methodist Church allowing for construction of the new Methodist Food Stand on the NCK Free Fair grounds owned by the County. It will now go to the church for a signature from the chairman of the board.

The Board continues to study proposed pay increases for County employees.

Jack Smith visited with the Board and made a request for gravel on a four mile stretch of roads in Washington Township.

At 9:29 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 25-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Clerk Hall in attendance. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:54 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Republic County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and County Sanitarian Sherry Koster visited with the Board. Morgan Powell of Manhattan, Kansas made a request to change the Republic County Sanitary Code. The Board felt that they should not change current codes as a minimum 2 acre tract is needed to build a home and safely allow for a wastewater system on the property. Mr. Powell owns land in Republic County.

Permission to travel was approved for RN Kathy Zach and Regina Belden to attend the meeting November 29 in Salina, Kansas to discuss new requirements for home health services.

Mrs. Hansen and the Board discussed the Health Department’s budget. The revenue is lower than projected which will affect the 2012 budget.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. Mechanic Tom Thompson has indicated he would like to assume an operator’s position at Road and Bridge.

Mr. Finkbinder and the Board have agreed to advertise for a “certified” mechanic. A mechanic, who has a certificate, indicating they have completed training in that field, will be offered \$18.00 per hour to start. A certificate and prior experience is preferred. Thompson agreed to help out during the transition and share his expertise with a new hire upon Finkbinder’s request.

Kasey Fraser, Foley Tractor representative, stopped with 2012 Calendar’s for the Board.

A Utility Agreement was signed between Republic County and Rural Water District Number 2 to install an underground waterline commencing 800’ west of ½ mile line, crossing from Section 19-2-2 into section 30-2-2.

Finkbinder noted that employees within the transportation department will have mandatory meetings starting in January 2012.

Arden Krohn will receive a letter, from County Attorney Marlea James, ordering him to remove an obstruction on his property that re-directs water runoff. Pictures are on file and the Board and Mr. Finkbinder thoroughly discussed this matter.

Mr. Finkbinder noted that he will miss a couple of days work due to the death and funeral of his mother-in-law.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion, to become effective January 1, 2012, to stop paying for routine tire damage and claims of pitted windows being turned in against Republic County highway department. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Those things are regular road hazards one expects to occasionally experience if you own and operate a vehicle. It is not a matter of negligence on the part of Republic County.

The Board and Clerk Hall wished Commissioner Rytych well on his trip to Virginia to pick up the two Mack dump trucks purchased by the County. Driving a vehicle one has never driven, along with complicated road systems will be a new challenge for Rytych and Nathan Craig as they drive the vehicles back to Republic County.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 05, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello and Pastor Roger Walls stopped to visit. Pastor Aiello offered the morning prayer.

At 8:40 a.m., Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. At 8:55 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 28th meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl asked Register of Deeds Peggy Frint to have Erna Kirk, her part-time employee, to answer the telephone for the County Attorney's Office this morning. Deb Eitzmann from the Appraiser's Office and Beth Ball from the County Clerk's Office will cover the afternoon schedule.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about activities in his department.

The Board agreed to close all County offices at noon on Friday, December 23, 2011 and Monday, December 26, for the Christmas holiday. In the past it worked best to close at 11:30 a.m. so employees worked 4 hours and had a 4 hours holiday. The health department closed to the public at 11:30 but worked until 12:00 noon due to opening a half hour later than other offices.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to give \$2,000.00 from the Economic Development Fund to the Republic County Tourism Committee and send it in care of Paul Kallman. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that Julie Katz-Lambert has paid off her RCD Loan for Lifetime Kennel Buildings. The Board sent a letter thanking her for honoring her obligation by repaying the Republic County Revolving Loan Fund.

At 9:40 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session with County Treasurer Cindy Coons to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall stayed for this session. Regular session resumed at 9:45 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to allow Deputy County Treasurer Kay Shoemaker to carry a few vacation days into January 2012 due to the current work load in that office. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. She needs to use them up by the end of that month.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He told the Board his men are trying out a used backhoe for the department before they make a decision to purchase.

Finkbiner also noted that they want to change the existing heating unit from LP Gas to natural gas. He submitted a bid of \$1,371.00 from Hood Heating and Electric to replace the unit heater with a new 150,000 BTU natural gas unit. Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the bid from Hood Heating and change to natural gas. Second by Bergstrom, the motion passed 3-0.

The Republic County Highway Department issued a joint road-waterway use permit to Collin Tipton, Republic, Kansas granting permission to use public road ditch as part of waterway in the development of an accepted drainage plan as proposed by a licensed engineer. The waterway is located along the south side of the north road of Section 24-1-2.

Mr. Finkbinder asked the Board to set a starting wage for the position of supervisor. Knowing this wage would encourage employees and possibly give them incentive to learn other jobs.

Finkbinder noted that the office staff would be moving into the new offices on Thursday, December 8, 2011.

Mr. Finkbinder asked the Board to discuss the possibility of offering a clothing allowance for Road and Bridge employees in 2012. Steel toe boots and durable gloves would be a good investment in the safety of county employees. Paid receipts and documentation would be required before reimbursement. The Board said they would consider his recommendation.

Permission to travel was granted for Scott Finkbinder and Secretary Tracy Hannaman to attend the Regional Transportation meeting December 7 and 8 in Salina, Kansas.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about her budget and activities in that department. She reported collecting \$14,000.00 in revenues this past week.

New Years Day is on Sunday and be observed by closing the county offices on Monday, January 2, 2012.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adopt the raises as discussed and printed for 2012. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytch present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Mark Imel offered the morning prayer.

Appraiser Barry Porter asked the Board for a new computer Workstation HP210 Minitower for the map room from Computer Solutions. The estimated cost is \$2,794.94 and would include set up, program installation, setup with the network and various shared printers.

Porter is also negotiating with “GIS Workshop” out of Lincoln, NE for a 5 day per week telephone support assistance. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to purchase the HP210 workstation for the map room and to approve the purchase GIS Workshop telephone support if they will honor their quote of \$2500.00 for 2012. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

At 8:38 Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Appraiser Barry Porter. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. At 9:43 a.m. regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Director of the Cloud County Transfer Station, Justin Murdock and Sherry Nelson visited with the Board and presented their proposal for a 2012 contract. Solid Waste Director Scott Finkbiner joined in the discussion. Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the 2012 contract, which includes a 3 percent cost of living charge from HAMM’s Inc., which will increase the cost to \$60.00 per ton for disposal of trash generated from Republic County. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Republic County generates 1/3 of the total trash that Cloud County Transfer Station hauls out. The balance is from Cloud.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons told the Board that she would like to protest her wage increase for the 2012 county treasurer’s salary. The Board will study her information and report back to her at the next meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about his department. He is proposing a meeting with Republic County land owner Arden Krohn, NRCS representatives, county commissioners and himself, Scott Finkbiner, in the near future to discuss drainage and arrive at a solution.

He noted he has applied for five new permits to build bridges, one being for the 30 foot Cherney bridge damaged by the storm.

Finkbiner also told the Board he is negotiating the purchase price on a larger back hoe for his department. This will have a “claw” on the front which is an important safety feature for the employees.

K-Camp Insurance Representative Larry Sharp reviewed the Property Appraisal Report for Republic County. The sole purpose was to do onsite inspections of all properties owned by Republic County. The detailed appraisal on all locations was to verify that all property has been listed with a current value and that a replacement value is listed as well as contents. This was done at no cost to the County.

It was noted that the dollar value of county owned real property is 9.9 million and listed \$894,000 for the contents giving a grand total value of 10.9 million dollars. These building and contents are insured by K-Camp.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about her 2012 health department budget. Hansen noted that she requested that Beverly Lapo go to full time in November 2009 with her salary to be paid from the H1N1 Grant funding. Mrs. Hansen told the Board that the H1N1 crisis is over and the grant monies ran out. That was a one time grant.

Mrs. Hansen also noted that the \$6,000.00 Maternal Child Health Grant is not a guaranteed grant and is only good through June 30, 2012. If Governor Brownback's proposal goes through the SRS may administer that in the future. Mrs. Hansen shared that Medicare reimbursement rates were cut and they are simply serving less people. Mrs. Hansen will return next week for more discussion.

At 11:45 a.m., Commissioner Holl left the meeting due to another commitment.

Commissioner Rytch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 19th at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 19, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board. Chairman Bergstrom told Ms. Coons that the 2012 salaries set for the county officials stands.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-36 which lists 2012 Salaries for Republic County Elected Officials. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve commissioner's minutes from the December 5 and December 12 meetings. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint visited with the Board about records retention and preservation. A Mid-Continent Micrographics, Inc. representative has been in her office to continue the security archival microfilming. This includes digital images of records and putting them into a digital DVD format for future use in the Register of Deeds Office.

The micro film reader, currently in the Register of Deeds Office, is seldom used since the new DVD technology has made it easier to access old records. The group discussed contacting historical societies, libraries and museums to see if they were interested in the micro-film reader.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board about that department. She noted that income is dwindling from the numerous programs and grants that in years past, generated considerable cash flow.

Mrs. Hansen submitted a payroll change notice for Beverly Lapo who is going to work as a half time employee as of January 1, 2012. Full time is no longer needed due to the expiration of the H1N1 grant.

Hansen informed the Board that she also moved Juanita Ashby to half time status as she is no longer needed to work full time hours.

At 9:39 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session to visit with Marcia Hansen about non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 9:54 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner reviewed his department with the Board. The Board accepted the resignation of Duane Swanson with regret.

The Board held the official bid opening for culverts. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$46,093.32 from KAHN Culvert, Inc., Paola, Kansas. Second by

Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Other bids were \$62,247.28 from J & J Drainage, \$48,015.30 from Welborn Sales and \$52,798.40 from DC Wholesale. Bob Dameron, KAHN Culverts and Gary Montre, Welborn Sales were in attendance for the bid opening.

Permission to travel was approved for Transportation Director Scott Finkbiner, Secretary Darlene Havel and part-time Secretary Tracy Hannaman to attend the Rural Regional Transit Summit January 12, 2012 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board they had pretty much decided on the 410 Rubber Tire John Deere Backhoe from Murphy Tractor. They are negotiating the price with a 3 year warranty so the dollar amount has not been finalized.

The Republic County Transportation system received a \$200.00 donation in memory of Leona Joy, who has regularly used the service. Her children, Charlie Joy and Lorene Holloway, sent a nice thank you with the donation. The money was given to Mr. Finkbiner.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney asked the Board about buying a camera to compliment the credentialing system and a new lap top computer with the balance of the reimbursement money. No action or motion followed the discussion.

The Board signed the 2012 Pawnee Mental Health Contract that will provide \$23,307.00 in support for 2012.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting to attend the Republic County Hospital Board Meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The county offices will be closed on Monday December 26 moving the next commissioner's meeting to **Tuesday**, December 27, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, December 27, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Deputy County Treasurer Kay Shoemaker received signatures from the Board and noted that the department will be extremely busy selling new tags to residents.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the grant for the courthouse windows. Eric Johnson will visit with the Board next Tuesday.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner introduced Richard Bergstrom, a current bridge crew employee. Bergstrom visited with the Board about his commitment to both the County and other employees on the bridge crew, his length of service and rate of pay.

County Attorney Marlea James and Gary Nutter joined the Board to discuss water drainage. Charlie Thompson put a dike on his property and excavated a county ditch near his property which creates some water drainage issues on the Nutter property. Mr. Finkbiner will attempt to visit with all parties involved to find a workable solution.

Finkbiner offered a budget review for his department. He also noted that all the old survey books have been deposited in the Republic County Register of Deeds Office. Campbell and Johnson have volunteered to organize these records as it will be most helpful to have those records in one place.

Chairman Bergstrom made a motion to approve the Gravel Surfacing Policy for the Republic County Highway Department as revised. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Finkbiner also noted he has two applicants for the mechanics job and that the overhead heater installation has been completed in the shop area.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to purchase of a code reader-diagnostic system at a cost of \$2,399.00 from O'Reilly Auto Parts for the road and bridge shop. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. There is no charge for the code reader when purchased before the end of this year.

County Attorney Marlea James stepped back into the room and asked if she could start using the old driver's license room near her office. The Board indicated that would be fine.

The Board reviewed the current wages of employees at the county health department. A motion was made by Commissioner Rytych to approve the wage increases as listed by the Board. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons informed the Board that 62% of the current taxes have been collected by her office staff to date. Thus far \$6,292,764.20 has been collected.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.