

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 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 Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

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

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the monthly meeting in Salina, Kansas. Jeff Vogel will speak about the upcoming changes for 2012.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about incidents that have occurred in the County in the past few weeks.

Doug McKinney, North Central Regional Planning, visited with the Board about wind energy and upcoming events.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker told the Board there would be an RCD meeting on January 11, 2012.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about his department. He presented a Utility Agreement granting permission for Mylan Gehle to construct and operate an underground electric line on public road right-of-way three quarters of a mile north of Fir Road on 110 Road.

Finkbiner noted that he had attended the Belleville City Council meeting to ask if they would consider a joint City/County project to install and jointly maintain asphalt in the alley behind the North Central Kansas Medical Arts Building. The city decided not to cost share on any of the project but offered to do snow removal in the alley as needed.

The estimated cost of this proposed project is \$5,000.00 for the materials and man hours required to lay a 14 foot wide by 270 foot long strip of asphalt in the alley behind the Medical Arts Building. A 19x25 foot pad is also proposed for the trash containers. The Board will discuss this further next week.

Finkbinder continued to explore the purchase of a diesel hammer for the bridge crew. It would take the place of work being done with the crane. Rebuilt hammers start at \$15,000.00 and go on up from there. He suggested a 2,300 pound hammer is needed to build bridges.

Mr. Finkbinder also noted that the county owned low boy trailer is in need of attention. The trailer will be taken to a certified welder for major maintenance and repairs. While that trailer is out of service, Murphy Tractor will loan them a 2005 low boy trailer to haul equipment. The cost of this low boy is listed at \$59,000.00 and they of course hope the County will purchase it in the future.

Finkbinder noted that he spoke with Charlie Thompson and later with Gary Nutter. Mr. Thompson has agreed to remove the dike that has caused some drainage issues. Finkbinder told the Board that they have reached a solution to the problem.

Finkbinder noted that he had two qualified applicants for the head mechanics job. He offered each applicant the job but both turned the job down. He will continue to advertise for the position.

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 9, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 09, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Marvin Bergstrom, Frank Rytych and Linda Holl present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the annual conference, March 6-8, 2012 in Great Bend, Kansas to complete his re-certification.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with one correction. Change the diesel hammer to 2,300 pounds instead of 23,000 pounds at the top of page two. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl did not vote due to being absent at that January 3rd meeting.

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

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint gave the Board a yearly comparisons report for 2011. The total number of mortgage documents has increased over 2010 but the total indebtedness on total mortgages filed went down from \$213,875,417.92 in 2010 to \$20,234,222.24 for the year 2011. That is a dramatic drop which may indicate 2011 was a decent year for Republic County residents.

The Board held the reorganization proceedings by signing the annual appointments to offices and committees. Commissioner Holl made a motion to appoint Commissioner Frank Rytych Chairman of the Board for 2012. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0 with Rytych abstaining from the vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Holl to approve Resolution No. 2012-01 through 2012-16 making 2012 appointments to departments within Republic County. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The appointments are as follows:

Raymond L. Raney; as half-time Emergency Preparedness Manager, half-time Director of the Communications Department, Hazardous Materials Advisor, County Flood Plain Manager, County Safety Officer, Radiological Officer and Republic County 9-1-1 Coordinator
Scott Finkbiner as Director of Solid Waste, Transportation and Highway Administrator
Don Lieb as Director of Republic County Emergency Medical Services
Randy Ainsworth as Assistant Director of Republic County Emergency Medical Services
Steven Zukowske as Volunteer Assistant Radiological Officer for Republic County
Paul Haase as Volunteer Assistant to Republic County Emergency Management
Marcia Hansen as the Director of Republic County Health Department
Mike Nondorf as Director of the Republic County Weed Department

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

Chairman Rytych volunteered to serve on the LEPC Committee as the elected official representative. He will replace Commissioner Bergstrom.

County Attorney Marlea James, Probate Judge John Eyer and District Court Clerk Kris Kling visited with the Board to discern how the old driver's license room would be used in the future. The district court will remain as custodians of that space.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board and was joined by employee Lonnie Craig to discuss leave time. Craig has now been off work four months and goes for surgery on Tuesday.

Employee Richard Bergstrom has been approved for a job transfer within the County. He will now work as the Republic County landfill operator. Republic County Solid Waste Director Scott Finkbiner and Mr. Bergstrom received permission to travel to the KDHE meeting in Salina.

Mr. Finkbiner presented a utility agreement between Republic County and Scott Eitzmann to bury an electric cable on county road right-of-way at NE ¼ Section 2-1-5 into SW ¼ of 36-1-5.

Finkbiner noted that the County finally received a check in the amount of \$405,000.00 from the Federal Fund Exchange for road projects that was expected to arrive in 2011.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to offer a yearly boot allowance to each road and bridge employee for the purchase of one pair of steel toed boots. The county will pay up to \$150.00 a pair and they must be purchased locally at House of Shoes. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that he is exploring the idea of expanding the shop area to store spare oil and make a bay to change oil in vehicles.

Eric Johnson, Campbell & Johnson Engineers, Concordia met with the Board. He was joined by grant secretary Kathy Calkins and custodian Kevin Calkins to visit about the restoration of the Courthouse windows. The original grant application was in 2008 to do replacement windows. In 2009 the grant managers in Topeka changed the requirement of the grant to "restoration" of the windows. This increased the cost considerably and there are a limited number of contractors in the Midwest who do this type of restoration work. However, we are happy to finally be entering the bidding stage of the grant process. The bid opening will be scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on February 13, 2012.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker and Michael Hadachek were joined by Shannon and Kindra Short to complete their RCD Loan in the amount of \$85,000.00 for B-Defined Fitness, LLC.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 16, 2012 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.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen told the Board that Ragna Belden resigned as the health department's office manager. Her last day will be January 25. Hansen noted that she will move Debra Sells to the head secretary position. She then will offer part-time home health aide, Linda Wendt, full time hours, dividing her time as half time secretary/bookkeeper and half time home health aide. Ms. Wendt would have a starting salary of \$9.25 per hour and begin work January 30 assuming she accepts the position.

The Board decided to call a department head meeting on Monday, January 23, at 1:30 p.m. following their hospital board meeting. Family Medical Leave, updates in the personnel manual and other subjects will be addressed at this meeting.

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

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited with the Board about various matters. It was a consensus of the Board to take bids on chemicals to decide the base rate, giving all vendors the same percentage from the County regardless what the vendor charges for chemicals. Any cost difference would be paid by the farmer.

The Board also agreed to shorten the office hours at the county weed department when summer spraying begins so Mr. Nondorf can spend more time out in the county spraying weeds. Regular office hours during the summer months will be 3-5:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Twin Valley Communications to install underground fiber optic cable on certain public road right-of-way going south from Hwy 148, three miles south on 290 Road, in Elk Creek Township. The cable will be buried not less than 3 foot below the bottom of the borrow ditch and enclosed in steel casing throughout the right-of-way. The cable shall be maintained and kept in good repair by Twin Valley Communications, Inc.

Finkbiner reported that Charlie Thompson has removed the dike on his property and a dirt entry drive way has been installed at the top of the hill into Gary Nutter's field. The water will now flow back to the east toward the Thompson property following its natural flow. Mr. Thompson suggested this solution which will solve the drainage issue.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to direct Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner to order coveralls and gloves for the county bridge crew employees and the shop employees. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The County will provide them but it

shall be the responsibility of each employee to maintain them. The employee will check them out and must check them back in for a replacement pair as needed.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to set the starting wage at the Road and Bridge Department at \$10.00 per hour. Part-time summer help will also start at \$10.00 per hour as they do not get any benefits. A starting wage was also set at \$14.75 per hour for a current employee who is promoted to supervisor within the department. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The Board visited about burning old planks and wood that can no longer be used to build or repair bridges.

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

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

Landfill Operator Richard Bergstrom and Solid Waste Director Scott Finkbiner received permission to change the Saturday morning landfill hours to 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon with the exception of holidays. Finkbiner will notify the public of this change.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board a year end Treasurer's Accounting of Funds for 2011.

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, January 23, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 23, 2012 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.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the historical grant to replace the windows in the Republic County Courthouse. They are now suggesting interior or exterior storm windows be considered so they will postpone seeking bids until they have thoroughly studied these options.

A permission to travel was approved for County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and Sister Mary Savoie to attend the Chronic Risk Reduction Summit (CDRR) Grant workshop February 2-3, 2012 in Wichita, Kansas. All expenses will be paid by the grant.

The Board approved and signed the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report 2011 for Weed Director Mike Nondorf.

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

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner told the Board that a \$10,000.00 check was received from the disposal of old scrap culverts in the west yard.

Mr. Finkbiner reviewed the "Notice of Public Hearing" to close a road in Grant Township and the date was set for Tuesday, February 21, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's room. The legal will be published in the February 2, 2012 paper and landowner notifications will be sent to William Borchardt and Stanley and Joan Krohn.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board if a few of his employees could accept an invitation to tour the John Deere factory in Iowa, February 8-10, 2012. A bus would pick guests up in Salina for the trip. It was a consensus of the Board to keep the employees working and denied the request.

Discussion continued about the steel toed boots that the County will furnish for some of the road and bridge employees. It was decided that the County will not furnish boots for summer or part-time help.

Mr. Finkbiner also had bids from Belleville Farm and Home for coveralls. Sizes small to 2XL would be \$65.99 for winter and Size 3XL through 5XL would cost \$71.99. Summer with the same sizing would be \$35.99 and \$38.99 per pair. George W. Hays bid \$114.00 per pair winter coveralls and they have no summer coveralls.

Requiring CDL Licenses for all road and bridge employees was thoroughly discussed. It was a consensus of the Board to have a uniform rule requiring all new employees and their supervisors to become Commercial Driver's License (CDL) certified.

Finkbiner noted that he received a quote from International Construction Equipment, Inc. pricing a single-acting diesel pile hammer for the bridge crew. The cost will be \$40,500.00 plus shipping.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to grant an exception and allow Finkbiner to use 5 days of unused annual leave time by the end of February. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This being Finkbiner's first year he did not realize that salaried department heads do not carry-over unused hours into a new year.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting and attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting and luncheon. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

At 1:30 p.m. the Board reconvened for a County department head meeting. Those in attendance were: Register of Deeds Peggy Frint, County Attorney Marlea James, Custodian Kevin Calkins, County Treasurer Cindy Coons, Health Administrator Marcia Hansen, Sheriff Ron Blad, Appraiser Barry Porter, Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner, Weed Director Mike Nondorf and County Clerk Vickie Hall.

The Board agreed that they will meet regularly with the department heads from now on. The meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Room.

The group began by reviewing the County personnel manual. Department heads were instructed to read through the manual and present questions or proposed amendments to Clerk Hall in the near future. The session ended at 3:00 p.m. after the group agreed upon a date for the County recognition supper to be held on March 21, 2012.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, January 30, 2012 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.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker invited the Board to the next RCD meeting to be held on February 8, 2012 in the Commissioner's Room. Supper served at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting at 7:00 p.m. as usual.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-17. This is a resolution to establish the Republic County 9-1-1 Fund and spell out the use of funds. This resolution rescinds Resolution No. 2011-35 (adopted in November 2011) with a small change in wording. Second by Linda, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-18 which requires a registration and fee, as provided for under the provisions of House Bill 2312 (2011), that requires each place of business within Republic County, that purchases any regulated scrap metal to first register each place of business. The registration application fee was set at \$100.00 and will be required to accompany each application for each business location intending to purchase any regulated scrap metal. A renewal application is required every 10 years (must be in place by 01-01-22) and may be completed by paying a fee of \$25.00 for each registration for each business location intending to purchase any regulated scrap metal. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This resolution will take effect upon publication in the official county paper, The Belleville Telescope. Let it be noted that the Board set the fees at the minimum rate allowed by the law.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various Road and Bridge matters. Richard L Wolzen stopped in to visit about the 23rd Street Bridge near his home.

Road Supervisor Terry Cherney asked for clarification on Commercial Driver's License requirements for the Road and Bridge Department employees. The Board discussed the issue and will make a decision about CDL licenses at the next meeting.

Finkbiner noted that one of his employees had an accident with one of the newer trucks. The box was in the up position spreading gravel. The bed of the truck was taller than the employee was accustomed to therefore he took out a power line, two poles, a transformer and a service connector to the house. The bed lowers slower on the two newly purchased trucks. The Board was thankful that nobody was hurt and that the driver of the vehicle had the presence of mind to stay in the truck until help arrived and the power was shut off.

Memorandum of Agreements were signed between Republic County and the cities of Belleville and Munden concerning collection and payment of Solid Waste fees.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting after inserting the word "all new" employees shall become Commercial Driver's License (CDL) certified. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-19. This resolution approves the listing of \$56,062.69 in "write-offs" declaring them as uncollectible Republic County Ambulance accounts receivables. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen and County Sanitarian Sherry Koster reviewed the Bi-Annual Report with the Board.

At 11:37 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 06, 2012 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 Josh Knaub offered the morning prayer.

At 8:50 a.m., Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to go into a five-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.

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

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Permission to travel was approved for RN Kathy Zach and RN Karen Henke to attend the Kansas Home Care Association Conference, February 29-March 1, 2012, in Manhattan, Kansas to receive Medicare updates and instructions on Medicare coding.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board. One loan application was received and reviewed by the Board in preparation for the RCD meeting Wednesday evening.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. A Utility Agreement between Republic County and Rural Water District No. 2 was signed granting permission to construct and operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way commencing at Young & 160 Road intersection going west 1280 feet west, crossing from Section 33-4-3 into Section 28-4-3.

It was noted that the County's liability insurance will pay Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. \$2,856.89 to reimburse them for the power poles and man hours needed to repair the damages caused by an employee in a County dump truck. The accident was documented and report to K-Camp Insurance.

Mr. Finkbiner reported that he received a copy of a letter addressed to Arden N. Krohn, from the Kansas Division of Water Resources, regarding the trees and fill material located in a tributary to the East Creek in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 27, Township 4 South, Range 2 West, Republic County, Kansas. The letter indicates the problem will soon be resolved through the cooperation of Mr. Krohn and with the assistance of Mr. Dan Koch. Finkbiner was pleased to have assisted with the resolution to the "stream obstruction" in Section 27-4-2.

A permission to travel was approved for Mr. Finkbiner and Secretaries Darlene Havel and Tracy Hannaman to attend the KDOT Transportation Meeting February 27, 2012 in Salina, Kansas.

Finkbiner noted that he had interviewed five people for the equipment operator position. He will offer the job to one of those applicants this week. He also visited with an applicant for the head mechanics job.

Finkbiner voiced his concern that High Plains recently gave the County notice that they do not plan to mix asphalt for the County this year. Last year the County paid them \$8.49 per ton. Finkbiner is trying to find another company to mix asphalt. He received a price from Hall Brothers who indicated they would do it for \$13.25 per ton which is a huge increase over last year. With the proposed increase in the cost to mix, the County would have to scale back on projects to stay within budget.

Mr. Finkbiner offered some of the old used bridge planks with creosote to Cloud County Highway Department for \$40.00 per plank. He noted that there is quite a pile built up from dismantled bridges that have been rebuilt. The Board approved the sale of up to one third of the pile, keeping the rest for future projects in our County.

Finkbiner asked if the Board would consider allowing new employees the use of vacation and/or sick leave hours as they earn them during the first six months of employment. Currently a new employee accumulates hours each month but is not allowed to use any of those hours until the seventh month of employment. It was a consensus of the Board that the Republic County policy is very generous considering most employers do not offer any paid time off until the employee has worked one full year. The request to consider a change to the current policy was denied.

Finkbiner noted that County Attorney Marlea James had inquired about road signs on 90 Road north of Scandia City limits. Following some discussion, Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to officially adjourn the meeting and drive north of Scandia and view the signs in question on their way home. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbiner, Commissioners Bergstrom, Holl and Rytch and County Clerk Hall drove to Scandia, personally viewing the area in question. The Board will research and discuss the road signs at the next meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 13, 2012 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.

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

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about ordering a new vehicle for his department. The Board suggested he start the bidding process in the near future.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various road and bridge matters. He noted that he will be taking bids for another 20 ton floor jack to assist the mechanics.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that the coveralls had been purchased and distributed to specific employees. The employees took it upon themselves to exchange the full coveralls for "bib" coveralls without consulting him. Finkbiner noted he was disappointed that they did not visit with him about their preferences when the coveralls were handed out.

The Board has proposed a resolution allowing them to set speed limits in all Republic County communities, incorporated and unincorporated, to set the speed limits up to one mile out from the city limits when deemed necessary for the safety and welfare of the driving public in Republic County. The Board asked County Attorney Marlea James to review their proposed resolution.

Mr. Finkbiner also received a bid from High Plains, \$9.50 per ton to mix asphalt. Finkbiner said he did accept that bid so Republic County can get on their schedule for mixing.

Finkbiner noted that Brad Swanson got the bid for the big pile of old bridge planks. His bid of \$1.00 was accepted by the Board.

A permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the monthly district meeting, February 16, 2012 in Concordia, Kansas.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-19. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. The resolution is a provision of the Secure and Fair Elections (SAFE) Act and amends K.S.A. 65-2418 (a)(3) to allow a person wishing to register to vote, but who does not possess any of the valid documents needed to prove his or her United States citizenship, to obtain a free certified copy of his or her birth certificate from the Kansas Department of Health and

Environment/Office of Vital Statistics, for the purpose of registering to vote. The County Commissioners designate the Republic County Clerk's office as the office in Republic County to provide assistance to persons wishing to register to vote.

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

A petition to attach adjoining and additional lands to the Rural Water District No. 2, Republic County, Kansas was presented to the Board. The hearing was set for Monday, February 27, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the office of the Board of County Commissioners, Courthouse in Belleville. County Clerk Vickie Hall will notify all landowners, petitioners, rural water board members and the State Water Resource Department in Topeka, Kansas.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker and Mike Hadachek visited with the Board. Upon recommendations of the RCD Committee, Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the RCD Loan request, in the amount of \$19,000.00 to Chris and Christi Janssen, second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This will be a 6 year loan, the first year interest only at 4% and five years of payments and interest.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, February 21, at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 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 Wall, Republic, Kansas offered the morning prayer.

Kathy Calkins gave the Board an update on the courthouse window restoration project. The Board signed the reimbursement request form to be submitted to the Kansas Historical Society's Heritage Trust Fund 2010 Grant Program. Reimbursement will cover the data collection and preparation of construction documents in the amount of \$5,580.00 to be paid to Campbell and Johnson, Concordia, Kansas.

Extension Nutritionist Gina Aurand gave the Board a quarterly impact report on the activities and/or programs they coordinated in the last quarter of 2011.

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

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

The Board signed letters of support to accompany the annual claim for exemption applications for the Republic County Assisted Living, LLC, also know as Country Place Living, Belleville, C.T. Fabrication, LLC, Scandia and Nesika Energy, LLC, Scandia, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed to attend the Annual EMSAK Conference, March 28-30 in Russell, Kansas.

Beth Reed received the bids for the annual Storm Spotters Appreciation Supper. The bids were read and the Board accepted the low bid of \$8.25 per meal from TAGS in Scandia, Kansas. The Treasure Tree bid \$10.50 per plate and Cuba Cash Store bid \$8.75 for the baked steak supper.

Road Supervisor Terry Cherney visited with the Board in the absence of Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner. He noted that five foot long floor mats were purchased for the mechanics to stand on.

He also reported that Jewell County is willing to share the cost of a diesel hammer and split the repairs on a 50/50 basis no matter which county was using it when it requires maintenance.

At 10:00 a.m., the Road Vacation Hearing was held pursuant to KSA 68-102a to consider vacation of a half mile section of road in Grant township.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-20 to officially close a portion of the County road proceeding from the Republic County intersection of Willow Road and Wayne Lane, going south for one half mile to the William Borchardt property line in Section 21, Township 4 South, Range 2 West. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker and Mike Hadachek visited with the Board about RCD Loan Agreements. The group signed the loan papers for C & C High Tunnels, Chris and Christy Janssen, Scandia, Kansas. Their revolving loan was approved in the amount of \$19,000.00 allowing them to put up a third tunnel greenhouse and expand their current business of growing a variety of vegetables.

Deb Filippi Weber and husband Robert Weber, doing business as Crossroads Floral visited with the Board. Deb Weber requested that her RCD Loan Agreement be restructured to bring it up to date. The Board approved her request and the papers were signed.

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, February 27, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, February 27, 2012 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.

Wayne Gardner visited with the Board about the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. He noted that more housing is needed in Republic County. He would like to see additional tax rebates for builders or contractors willing to construct spec-houses and/or apartments. Gardner would like to see 100% tax free for five years for builders.

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

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

Phillip Poppe, USD 109 school board member, asked if one of the commissioners would consider being on the “planning group” for USD 109. Commissioner Linda Holl agreed to represent the County.

At 9:30 a.m., the Board held a hearing for Republic County Rural Water District #2 to consider adding adjoining landowners to this district. Those in attendance were Attorney William L. Navis, Kent Larson and Melvern Cornett. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve adjoining the additional land, as described in the petition, to the Rural Water District #2. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 10:00 a.m., Eric Johnson of Campbell and Johnson Engineers, Concordia, and Kathy and Kevin Calkins were in attendance for the official bid opening on the Republic County Courthouse North Window Restoration Project. Fourteen companies were asked to bid and Chairman Rytych had to declare no bids were received.

After considerable discussion the Board decided to write a letter to the Kansas State Historical Society and ask that they review the entire application and consider letting Republic County install energy efficient double paned windows that look just like the current windows. The Board questions why the historical society insists on trying to replicate the existing windows when contractors have indicated that this task would be extremely expensive if not impossible. The Board will sign the letter next Monday.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Brad Hobelmann to construct and operate an underground line. The line commences at 110 Road going 1980 feet east thence crossing from section 11-1-4 into Section 14-1-4. The Board approved Hobelmann’s request in Washington Township.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that the new diesel hammer was delivered to his department this morning. He is still getting prices on a 20-ton jack for his department.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to purchase 10,000 feet of used steel pipe @ \$13.50 per foot at a total of \$136,000.00 from Alpha Pipe Company, St. Louis, Missouri. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This pipe will probably keep the County supplied for two years. It was decided to make the purchase while we have the money as the availability and cost of steel constantly fluctuates. This cost does include delivery.

Permission to travel was approved for Mr. Finkbiner to attend the KCHA Conference May 9-11 in Newton, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for Richard Bergstrom to attend the 2012 workshop on recycling and waste issues March 27-29, 2012 in Dodge City, Kansas. This is a hand's on workshop.

Permission to travel also approved for Road Supervisors Brad Swanson and Terry Cherney along with Scott Finkbiner to attend a meeting March 8th on culverts and drainage in Manhattan, Kansas.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to stay in the NCKLEPG, North Central Kansas Local Environmental Planning Group for 2013. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0 and the interlocal service contract was then signed by Chairman Rytych. The NCKLEPG is an advisory board made up of one person per county and one vote per county. Participants agree to pay \$1,200.00 match per year, with any changes in the match to be negotiated annually. Their fiscal year goes from July 1 through June 30.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen asked the Board to sign the State Health District Grant Application. Chairman Rytych signed the grant application request in the amount of \$30,944.00 and returned it to Mrs. Hansen.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting and attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting and return at 1:00 p.m. for a routine department head meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

At 1:00 p.m., Chairman Rytych called the meeting to order. Those in attendance for the department head meeting were: Health Administrator Marcia Hansen, EMS Director Don Lieb, Weed Director Mike Nondorf, Custodian, Kevin Calkins, Treasurer Cindy Coons, Register of Deeds Peggy Frint, County Attorney Marlea James, Sheriff Ron Blad, Communications Director Raymond Raney, Appraiser Barry Porter and County Clerk Vickie Hall.

The group completed the review of the County Personnel Manual. Final plans were made for the County recognition supper, changing the date to Monday, March 26, 2012 at 6:30 p.m, to be held at the 4-H Building in Belleville. Requests for bids to serve the meal will be sent out this week. Invitations will be put in March paychecks.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 05, 2012 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.

Sheriff Ron Blad told the Board that he had hired Lydia Jones as a part time jailer.

Pastor Lennie Maxwell offered the morning prayer.

At 9:30 a.m., Register of Deeds Peggy Frint met with the Board to open the sealed bids sought by her department to sell the used Konica Minolta microfilm reader printer. Commissioner Holl made a motion to sell the microfilm reader for \$3,505.00 to Cloud County Genealogical Society of Concordia, Kansas. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Other bids were \$800.00 from Belleville City Library, \$3,000.00 from Port Library in Beloit, Kansas and \$2,000.00 cash from Mid-Continent Micrographics or \$2,500.00 in scanning and micro-filming services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Holl to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Dennis Florea, Billy Hansen and E. Charles Thompson visited with the Board about road maintenance. The Board, Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner and Mr. Florea drove out to see the ditches in question. The County will clean the ditches out and trim the trees hanging over the road as a shaded road does not dry out quickly and the trees are on the County right-of-way. When the tree limbs scrape the road grader and other large farm equipment must deviate to miss the tree limbs, it becomes an "unsafe road". Mr. Finkbiner indicated that he wants to clear the ditches one time and do it right the first time.

A delegation from the Norway/Scandia area visited with the Board about roads. Those in attendance were Richard Larson, Kevin Larson, Doyle Robison, Loren Hammer, Warren Sutton, Don Hammer and Annette Hammer. Now that the Norway river bridge on K148 Hwy is one lane for highway maintenance, moving farm equipment from place to place is a big concern. Large grain trucks previously took the gravel "bottom road" but due to a weight restriction on one of the small bridges more of the trucks are using the County blacktop to the east. Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner assured the group that the current 3 ton box culvert at 90 Rd and Union Road will be rebuilt in the near future. It will be replaced with a 24 foot steel structure and will not have a weight limit. Work will begin in about 6 weeks.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board to hold a County Surplus Sale in the near future to help clean up the County yards. Department heads will be asked to present a detailed listing of items that would be sold and Clerk Hall will get that information to Roger Novak. Finkbiner said he had previously inquired about the availability of 4-H Building and April 7, 2012 was open. He checked and that date worked for the auctioneer as well. It was a consensus of the Board to confirm the date and proceed with a clean-up or surplus sale.

A motion was made by Commissioner Holl to accept the \$40,000.00 settlement offer from Farm Bureau Insurance Company for the damage to County Bridge #E-17.3. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The bridge was damaged March 18, 2011 and the insured party is Raymond Kuhlman. Campbell and Johnson Engineers suggested a steel replacement bridge due to the length and the number of acres that drain and create a larger water flow.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergstrom to have the County purchase two seven feet by thirty-two foot long tanks that are three quarter inch thick. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The tanks will cost approximately \$29,000.00 and will be welded together side by side to allow for adequate water flow from the creek. The tubes will be installed and replace County Bridge #E-17.3.

Mr. Finkbinder noted that the "23rd Street Bridge", also known as County Bridge N.5-16.4 over Riley Creek, is going to prove more expensive than previously projected. Finkbinder received an estimate of \$40,000.00 for preliminary engineer survey and design; right of way and utilities of \$3,000.00 and geotechnical costs of \$15,000.00 from Kirkham Michael and Associates, Ellsworth, Kansas. These estimated costs for survey, design and perhaps the geotechnical costs will be paid out of the 2012 budget. The balance will be needed in 2013. Estimated cost of \$219,000.00 will be the County's share of replacing the 23rd Street Bridge.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the County surplus sale. He also asked the Board for permission to purchase a sonic wall, estimated at \$800.00 with installation, giving him a separate internet connection for the communications department. The Board will consider his request. Mr. Finkbinder also asked Raney about radio service for the Road and Bridge Department.

Mr. Finkbinder presented the bids for MC800 Oil. The Board accepted the bid from Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Inc. Ergon submitted the low bid of \$3.40 per gallon, delivered. Other bidders were Carter-Waters @ \$4.64 per gallon and Vance Brothers @ \$3.60 delivered.

Dan Wilber, Prairie Knoll Farm, stopped to visit with the Board. He had received the contract to bale hay at the County Landfill. The County received 20% share or three bales of hay from the 15 that Mr. Wilber baled at the County landfill. Wilber asked to purchase the County share. It was a consensus of the Board to accept his check in the amount of \$136.00 for the County's share of the hay.

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, March 12, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 12, 2012 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.

The day began with the signing of accounts payable vouchers.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board regarding the RCD HUD loan pool. Commissioner Holl made a motion to remove the HUD "identity/title" from the present HUD money, defederalize these dollars and use the loan pool at the RCD committee's sole discretion. For clarification, change the fund name to "RCD Original Fund" keeping it separate from KDOC dollars available in the RCD funds. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Current balances: HUD funds \$184,485.27 (to be known as RCD Original Fund) and KDOC (Kansas Department of Commerce) funds \$194,103.00 for total available funds \$378,588.27.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting. Election Deputy Beth Ball reported that 144 voted in the Republic County Republican Caucus held on Saturday. She pointed out that everyone had their "photo identification" ready and the election process went smoothly. The County Clerk's Office had very little to do with the caucus but did field numerous questions about the process. It was good to see the patrons were all aware of the new Photo ID requirement.

Leah Krotz, Director of the Belleville Public Library, shared her 2011 Annual Report with the Board. She noted that Judy Kisby is retiring.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner presented a Utility Agreement for approval. The agreement is between Republic County and Every Angle Covered to bury a drainage tile on public road right-of-way at the intersection of 40 Road and Jade Road in the southwest corner of Section 10 of White Rock Township.

Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) waste management personnel inspected the County C&D Landfill on March 6, 2012. There were no violations.

With the nice weather Mr. Finkbiner said his employees will start cleaning out the ditches near Dennis Florea's residence.

Finkbiner noted that he will purchase the 1984 Dodge pick-up truck from the Weed Department. A price of \$300.00 was agreed upon as it is not currently being used by Mr. Nondorf in his department.

Finkbiner is currently pricing a diagnostic machine for the mechanics and recently purchased a \$2,580.95 hydraulic jack for the shop.

Melinda Pierson representing Belleville Chamber and Main Street received permission to hold the Easter Egg Hunt on the Courthouse lawn April 7. She noted that the Farmers Market will begin on May 26 and be held each Saturday morning from 8-11 a.m. through September 29. She received permission to block the west side of the square for these events.

At 11:15 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Sergeant Jimmy Shepek. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:25 a.m., with no action taken by the Board. Clerk Hall was in attendance for this session.

County Attorney Secretary Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the Delinquent Tax Sale. Chairman Rytych made a motion to hold the 2010 Tax Sale on May 1, 2012 in the Courtroom at 10:00 a.m. and pay Roger Novak \$100.00 to serve as the auctioneer. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Mrs. Calkins told the Board that she had started with 37 properties but now has 6 properties remaining on the delinquent tax sale bill. The total taxes due are \$3,984.84 on the following properties.

There are six properties for the 2010 Tax Sale.

Certificate number/location (# of interested parties)	Taxes Due
01: Mineral rights only on property in Elk Creek Township (Genereux) (2)	\$ 114.29
02: 1216 O Street; Belleville, KS 66935 (Herring) (7)	501.61
03: 2270 280 Road; Narka, KS 66960 (Hinz) (1)	1,721.55
04: 202 E. North Street; Munden, KS 66959 (Snapp) (6)	913.64
05: Mineral rights only on property in Richland Township (Trecek) (2)	430.70
06: 1111 N. Street; Belleville, KS 66935 (Wenda) (27)	<u>303.05</u>
Total	\$ 3,984.84

At 11:41 Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session with Sergeant Jimmy Shepek, Under-Sheriff Eric Brunner and Communications Director Raymond Raney to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall was included in this session. The session was continued for 10 additional minutes. Regular session resumed at 11:51 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:56 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session with Communications Director Raymond Raney to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall was in attendance for this session. Regular session resumed at 12:01 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Mr. Raney noted that he has 4 full time dispatchers and one regular part-time employee. He invited the Board to the 911 Center to visit his department and personally listen to some of the recorded radio traffic.

At 1:00 p.m., Commissioner Rytych made a motion to adjourn. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 19, 2012 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.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board about RCD matters.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons and Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to attend the NCK Register of Deeds and Treasurer's Spring District meeting April 4, 2012 in Osborne, Kansas.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board an updated Sales Tax Collection Report.

The Republic County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen told the Board that an employee reported that a vehicle from the County Health Department, a 2009 Chevrolet Impala, was backed into while legally parked in Cuba, Kansas. K-Camp Insurance representatives were notified of the loss.

Mrs. Hansen brought the bids in for the repairs on the health department car. Bids were \$776.60 Mike's Body Shop; \$920.97 Melton Motor Company; \$971.45 Stephens Collision. Chairman Rytych made a motion to accept the low bid from Mike's Body Shop. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received approval for herself and Healthy Start Home Visitor Beverly Lapo to attend the Annual Spring Public Health Conference, April 23-25, in Wichita.

Permission to travel was also approved for Debbie Sells to attend the Kansas WIC Conference April 19, 2012 in Topeka, Kansas.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner informed the Board that he had revised the Road and Bridge, Transportation and Solid Waste/Landfill procedures for storm safety during tornado awareness week. Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney agreed to add this to the back of his emergency management procedures manual.

Mr. Finkbiner is going to investigate how a storm shelter could be built at the County shop to protect the County employees.

Finkbiner asked if an employee could bid on a job if the job or contracted labor took place after regular working hours. The Board reminded Finkbiner that the employee would need the same proof of liability and workman's compensation insurance as other vendors to do contract labor for the County.

The Board approved a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Gary Housholder to construct and operate an underground water line and electric line on public road right-

of-way. Commencing at 750' west of 60 Road and Oak Road thence crossing from Section 2; T3; R5 into Section 11; T3; R5 in Courtland Township.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to hire David Johnson of Lochner Engineering in Salina to create a plan and advise the Board on how to update, expand and maximize the total solid waste capacity for the entire 39.47 acre Construction Demolition Landfill. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The cost will run around \$10,000.00 for engineering but will assure Republic County is in compliance.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the agreement for engineering services between Republic County and Kirkham, Michael and Associates, Inc., Ellsworth, Kansas for the construction project known as the 23rd Street Bridge, Belleville, Kansas. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. It is also known as the local bridge N.5-16.4 that is 0.5 miles west of Belleville. The bridge is over Riley Creek. Bridge No. 000790787503245.

The County's expects to pay about \$219,500.00 from Federal Exchange money minus 10% in 2013.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the Board to consider hiring another mechanic. The Board denied his request.

The Board signed a letter to Fortune Wireless, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana stating that Republic County does not have zoning. Verizon Wireless requires a letter stating that there is no zoning or building permits required for wireless telecommunication towers at 2450 KS-148, Agenda, Kansas or 1716 Marble Road, Belleville, Kansas.

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, March 26, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, March 26, 2012 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 Wall, United Methodist Church in Republic, offered the morning prayer.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall and Election Deputy Beth Ball to attend the annual Kansas County Clerks' and Election Officials' Association Conference May 2-4, 2012 in Dodge City, Kansas.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2012 meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the March 12, 2012 minutes. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the March 19, 2012 minutes. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. It was a consensus of the Board that an engineer study is needed to indicate or designate the safety of several County bridges in terms relating to single axle, double or triple axel traffic.

Finkbiner noted that David Lochner of Lochner Engineering, Salina, Kansas is working at the County landfill today. The County hired him to update, expand and maximize the total solid waste capacity of the landfill.

After considerable discussion it was a consensus of the Board to ask Mr. Finkbiner add rebar and cement to the pilings on the proposed bridge on 90 Road 4.5 miles south of Scandia. Chairman Rytych emphasized that not only will it add strength but it will increase the longevity of the bridge. Finkbiner was in agreement.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he received a letter from Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources, stating they have received adverse comments about the proposed bridge project on 90 Road about 4.5 miles south of Scandia. The adverse comments came in the form of a letter from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. This will require the County to request an Action Permit from Kansas Wildlife and Parks, due to the potential impact on crucial wildlife habitats, endangered species and species in need of conservation. The project plans

indicated that there will be construction activity within the active channel of the Republican River. As such, an Action Permit will be required as the Republican River is Designated Critical Habitat for one fish species; the Shoal chub. Progress on this project cannot commence until this additional permit can be obtained from the Kansas Wildlife and Parks.

The Board discussed the problem of farmers installing electric fences in the County ditches. The Board asked Mr. Finkbiner to personally contact patrons who do not comply with a verbal request from a grader operator. It is difficult if not impossible for the road maintainers to do their job if the temporary fence is in the ditch.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell and assistant Luke Mahan gave the Board a progress report. Mrs. Russell asked Clerk Hall if the Neighborhood Revitalization could have its own link on the Republic County web page. Currently interested persons must go through three steps to seek it out. Clerk Hall agreed that could be improved upon in the near future.

Kathy Calkins and the Board participated in a telephone conference with Engineer Eric Johnson, Concordia and Katrina Ringler from the Heritage Trust Fund Grant Program, Kansas Historical Society in Topeka, Kansas. Custodian Kevin Calkins, Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and Clerk Hall were also in attendance. Ms. Ringler has now asked for each window (eighteen windows) to be taken apart and discern exactly what parts are broken or worn out and report back to the historical society. The Historical Society wants the County to hire a contractor to come in and do this assessment. The County has been negotiating with State Heritage Trust Fund Grant representatives since 2008 about the process for replacing the windows in the courthouse. No progress has been made on the window project.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons received permission to close her office from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 5 to conduct a State wide test of the new Department of Motor Vehicles System before they officially start using it.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting to attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting and luncheon. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 2, 2012 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.

Appraiser Barry Porter visited with the Board about the computer network in the Courthouse. Several of the switches need replaced. The Board instructed him to go ahead and make the necessary repairs. He noted that the new server will be installed on Wednesday, April 16th.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited about the new state wide motor vehicle program that will be tested Thursday morning, April 5th. The new program cost approximately forty million dollars and will be funded by a \$4.00 additional charge per tag sold in Kansas.

Mrs. Coons also asked the Board for permission to replace the mini-blind in the driver's license room in the basement. The bid of \$227.00 was from the Feathered Nest which was approved by the Board.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the March 26, 2012 minutes. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner told the Board that he has filed for the additional permit from the Kansas Fish and Game Office. Work cannot proceed on the bridge south of Scandia until they receive the permit.

The Board approved a Utility Agreement between the Republican Valley Cattle Feeders to bury underground pipe casing for a Rolling Hills Electric line commencing 2640 feet south of Queen Road then crossing from Section 20-3-4 into Section 19-4-3.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that the new excavator is in for major repairs. It is a good thing the County purchased an extended warranty on it.

He also noted that Agenda Oil indicated they would like to start bidding to supply fuel to the County.

Timothy Degginger, Deggingers' Foundry, Topeka, Kansas visited with Kathy Calkins, Custodian Kevin Calkins and the Board about the north Courthouse windows. Trying again, to meet the specifications for historical compliance with the Kansas State Historical Society, Mr. Degginger was willing to submit a bid of \$91,520.00 to block, remove and dis-assemble all the tension counter balances to clean and repair the windows. If needed glass panes would be taken

out and re-glazed and the metal would be cleaned to the mill finish of the aluminum, holes or damage repaired to the metal. An allied exterior storm window would then be installed with a clean aluminum mill finish. All of these items have been recommended by the historical grant. Deggingers' Foundry proposal will be forwarded to Kansas Historical Society Grant Committee for their consideration and possible approval. And we continue to wait, since 2008.

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, April 9, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 9, 2012 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.

The Board held the official canvas of ballots to certify the results of the Belleville City General Election held April 3, 2012. The winner of Belleville City First Ward was Incumbent Randy Hansen; Second Ward ended with a tie vote between Incumbent Steve Scofield and Melissa Van Meter. Due to this tie vote the Commissioners will follow the Kansas State Statutes and conduct the official coin toss on Monday, April 16th at 8:30 a.m., to break the tie and certify an official winner. The winner in Third Ward was Incumbent Blaine Miller.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers.

Mike Hadachek visited with the Board authorizing a supplemental agreement for the Republic County Assisted Living, LLC Project also known as the Country Place Assisted Living, Belleville, Kansas. Chairman Holl made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-22, Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This resolution authorizes the bond rate to be lowered to five percent.

Chairman 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 Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the district meeting, April 12, 2012 in Ellsworth, Kansas.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall to attend a KCC&EOA meeting April 13, 2012 in Salina, Kansas.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner noted that he will participate in an LEPC Exercise on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

The Board went to the County Road and Bridge Shop to view the progress on expanding or installing another service bay for small vehicles.

Kathy Calkins and Custodian Kevin Calkins gave the Board a report on the courthouse windows. The Board decided to check out references and get more information about the proposed project before moving forward with signing a contract with any contractor.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-23 to appoint Frank Spurney, Attorney At Law, to be appointed as Acting County Attorney from April 21, 2012 to April 29, 2012 in the absence of Republic County Attorney Marlea James. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

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, April 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 16, 2012 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.

Chairman Frank Rytych called the meeting to order and welcomed Steve Scofield and Melissa Van Meter.

The first order of business was to declare a winner in the Belleville City Council 2nd Ward Election held April 3rd. Due to a tie vote between Incumbent Steve Scofield and Melissa Van Meter, Chairman Rytych flipped the coin to decide the winner. Melissa Van Meter won the right to represent the Second Ward on the Belleville City Council.

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

Permission to travel was approved for EMS Director Don Lieb to attend the Marysville Emergency Medical Educational Evening Forum to be held in May 22, 2012 in Marysville, Kansas.

Lieb will also attend the North Central Regional Trauma Council General Membership Meeting, May 22, 2012, in Salina, Kansas.

Sheriff Ron Blad brought in bids for two new Sheriff's vehicles. Specifications will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to attend a Telenet Conference for Register of Deeds Continuing Education Certification April 27th in Salina, Kansas.

Kathy Calkins and Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about the grant process to replace the north windows of the Courthouse. They are still checking references and discussing the matter.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He noted that the one lane Republican River Bridge No. 370 between 50 Road and Granite Road on Pawnee Trail south west of Republic, Kansas has been closed. It was closed to all traffic to insure the public's safety. The bridge is permanently closed to all traffic until further notice. Engineer Don Dean noted that the 300 foot steel structure was built in 1921. He reported that the northwest corner of the bridge had dropped 7 inches since the last inspection and is absolutely unsafe for all forms of traffic. A Contractor will be called to determine whether the approaches can be fixed and the bridge reopened.

Finkbiner told the Board he had received verbal confirmation that the permit from Kansas Fish & Game has been approved and is "in the mail". This will allow the bridge crew to replace the large box culvert 9-T.9 south of Scandia. Work on a new bridge should begin in 3-4 weeks.

The Board accepted the resignation of Wallace Minkler at the Road and Bridge Department with regret.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that he has finalized plans for the County wide clean-up to be held April 30 through May 6, 2012. A listing of material being accepted into the C/D Landfill will be printed in the newspapers as well as the unacceptable materials that cannot be accepted at the landfill. A listing of drop off locations in the smaller communities also appears in this notice.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he plans to purchase a transmission lift or jack for the shop. The cost will be around \$2300.00 but is essential for the safety of our employees.

Permission to travel was approved for Tracy Hannaman, Darlene Havel and Scott Finkbiner to attend the Transportation meeting April 24th in Minneapolis, Kansas.

County Attorney Marlea James received permission to dismantle her current desk, with the assistance of her father, and reconstruct it to better suit her needs. It will offer a better position for the computer screen and more work surface.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board a "County Treasurer's accounting of Revenue" on hand and funds invested as of April 1, 2012.

Permission to travel was approved for Raymond Raney to attend the Technical Operation Level Training for Emergency Personnel in Response to WMD Incidents to be held April 22-28 in Dening, New Mexico.

Jimmie Blecha invited the Board to the City of Munden on Saturday, June 9th for the 125th Celebration. He received permission to block the city street, a portion of the County road, off with barricades for the parade and celebration.

Extension Agent Gina Aurand and District Extension Director John Forshee gave the Board a quarterly review of activities held within the River Valley Extension District. It was noted that Republic County has about 170 youth involved in 4-H at this time and they are looking at ways to encourage more participation.

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, April 23 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 23, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl and Marvin Bergstrom. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about vehicles. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about waxing the floors in the Courthouse.

Ellen Anderson, Director of the 12th Judicial District Community Corrections, received grant approval from the Board on the 2013 Community Correction Comprehensive Plan.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

District Court Clerk Kris Kling visited with the Board about Courthouse maintenance. The floor in the old probate office has been sealed.

County Auditor Randy Hofmeier greeted the Board. He and his associates will be working in the commissioner's room to complete the 2011 Republic County audit.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He introduced Kenneth Havel, a mower operator, hired as seasonal help for the Road and Bridge Department. Havel inquired about the rate of pay for seasonal employees. The wages were established at the first of the year.

Mr. Finkbiner received quotes for road signs. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid of \$7,848.25 from Welborn Sales, Salina, Kansas which includes delivery. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

Other sign bids were: \$8,690.00 from National Sign Sales in Ottawa, Kansas and \$7,719.00 from Newman Traffic Signs in Jamestown, North Dakota.

Mr. Finkbiner shared photos of County Bridge 370 near Republic, Kansas. The photos were taken by Campbell and Johnson Engineers and can visually alarm the viewer. The pictures confirm that totally closing this bridge was the appropriate action as it is in desperate need of repair. They plan to take bids for the repair.

Permission to travel was approved for County Clerk Vickie Hall and Election Deputy Beth Ball to attend the KCCEOA Conference, May 1-4, in Dodge City, Kansas. This includes mandatory election training from the Kansas Secretary of State's Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergstrom to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-24. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0. This is relevant to the requirements of the cash basis and budget laws of Kansas which require financial statements and financial reports to be prepared in conformity with K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) for the year ending 2011.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. The Commissioners will not attend today's Republic County Hospital board meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held on April 30, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, April 30, 2012 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 Wall offered the morning prayer.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about personnel. He noted that 911 Dispatcher Shelbi Hamel will be resigning from her job. Raney received permission to start a new dispatcher at \$10.50 per hour.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergstrom to approve the minutes from the April 23rd commissioner's meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0 as Rytych abstained from the vote since he did not attend this meeting.

Leanne DeJoia, representing Pawnee Mental Health, asked the Board to declare the month of May as Mental Health Month. The proclamation was then signed by the Board.

Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed to attend the KEMA Board meeting May 1st in Newton, Kansas.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to purchase a 2012 Chevrolet Caprice car for the Sheriff's Department. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. The low bid of \$26,287.05 was accepted from Melton Motor Company and will include the police patrol package. A bid of \$28,436.55 was submitted from the Partners Program.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons visited with the Board about the upcoming Delinquent Property Tax Sale to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 1st in the Courtroom of the Republic County Courthouse.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited about the weight limits on the old steel bridges in our County. There is a possibility that height restrictions could help to save these old bridges from abuse. If the clearance was limited to 8 foot or 8 foot 6 inches on those 8 bridges it would stop some of the tall tractors and pick-up trucks pulling trailers loaded with big round hay bales from crossing the bridge. This would help extend the life of those bridges. The Board asked Finkbiner to be sure changing the height restriction on those bridges is allowed.

The Board discussed that if restricting the height of vehicles is allowed they want to be sure there is adequate signage, reflective tape and published notices before the change is made.

Mr. Finkbinder noted that Leon Ball, Ball & Son Movers, has submitted a bid of \$1,850.00 to move the culvert made from two 7 foot diameter tanks. This will be moved from Clifton, Kansas on up north of Belleville to replace County Bridge #E-17.3 near the Raymond Kuhlman property. The bridge was damaged in March 2011. It was a consensus of the Board to accept his bid.

Mr. Finkbinder told the Board that USD #109 had accepted his bid of \$12,641.60 to resurface the parking lot. The question, is it appropriate for the County to contract with the school and provide this service?

Finkbinder noted that county employees had gathered up 52.62 ton of metal at the landfill and sold it for \$6,434.00 last week. This unexpected revenue will be added to the Landfill or Solid Waste Fund.

They also discussed repairing the employee parking lot on the east side of the Courthouse and the condition of the pavement "inside the square". Finkbinder has estimated \$13,500.00 of the cost for asphalt, \$3,897.00 just for the oil, \$7,050.00 for the equipment charge and \$1,680.00 for the man hours to resurface this area. This brings the estimated cost to \$26,137.00 to resurface the employee parking lot and the courthouse square with a one inch overlay. The Board directed Finkbinder to proceed with this improvement.

Finkbinder also noted that he plans to use sheet piling on the bridge south of Scandia. A bid of \$17,000.00 was received from Welborn sales while Husker Steel bid \$10,000.00 for 78 sheets. Husker Steel received the bid.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-25. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This determines that the financial statements and financial reports for the year ending 2012 will follow K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) for the requirements of the cash basis and budget laws of this state.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on May 7, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 7, 2012 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.

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

Emergency Management Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about various matters. Commissioner Holl made a motion to spend \$3,305.69 to update the security cameras on the Courthouse. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The camera's will record activity near the courthouse and store it for several months.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that two of the RCD Loans have been paid in full. They are Dale Kuhn/Nutri Shield and Brad Chatfield/Belleville Mini Golf. Letters will be sent to thank them for honoring their commitment to the County.

County Attorney Secretary Kathy Calkins gave the Board a summary of the Republic County 2010 Delinquent Tax Sale held on May 1, 2012. A total of \$6,982.00 was deposited from winning bids at the sale. The sale proceeds were less than what the county was owed for taxes and the costs associated with the sale but it does get the properties back on the tax roll.

Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller stopped to visit during public forum.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. The High Plains mix plant is currently shut down. They have only about half of our order mixed. The plant, located west of US Highway 81 west of the county yards caught fire on Thursday.

Finkbiner asked the Board to consider the purchase of the asphalt mixing plant for Republic and adjoining counties. High Plains is from Salina and offered the plant to the county for \$685,000.00 and he thought the plant has 10 years of life remaining. He suggested co-owning the plant with at least one other municipality to share the cost of the plant. The County currently pays approximately \$80,000.00 per year to have asphalt mixed by High Plains.

Finkbiner noted that Raymond Raney, fair amusement board member, inquired about having the north entrance to the race track surfaced with asphalt. Mr. Finkbiner said he estimated it would require \$7,000.00 in material and \$10,250.00 in equipment or man hours. The Board noted that the south board was slated to have walk-way improvements a year or so ago and due to uncooperative weather it did not get done. Clerk Hall will call the South Agriculture Board and invite them in to hear their proposal for future fairground improvements.

Mark VanNortwick, Kevin Milner, Layne Holmes and Superintendent Brian Harris visited with Mr. Finkbiner and the Board about resurfacing the USD #109 parking lot. The Board will seek out legal advice make a determination in the near future.

Finkbiner noted that they are working on the first mile of OLD 81 Highway. This road goes south from the Belleville Dollar Store. This road will be closed from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and open to the public in the evenings.

EMS Director Don Lieb, Randy Ainsworth and Paramedic Angela Sjogren visited with the Board about EMS matters. This past pay period Sjogren did not work full time hours. Only employees who work full time are eligible to receive County benefits. Sjogren assured the Board that from now on her status will be full time.

Permission to travel was approved for EMS Director Don Lieb to attend the 2012 Kansas Trauma Conference at WSU from May 31 to June 1, 2012 in Wichita, Kansas.

At 11:36 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with EMS Director Don Lieb and Assistant Director Randy Ainsworth. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall was also in attendance. At 11:51 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 14, 2012 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.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about various matters.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Brad Shrader visited with the Board and discussed Section 202 of the Republic County Personnel Manual. Shrader will schedule an exit interview in the near future.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He noted that the County received a little over \$1,000.00 from junk and scrap iron picked up during the County-wide clean up. It helped cover the cost of gas.

The Board held the official bid opening for tires. They sent out five specifications and only one bid was received. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid of \$15,741.48 from Crouse Tire and Wheel, Belleville. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The Board accepted Todd Huncovsky's resignation with regret. Todd works at the Road and Bridge Department.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that the Road and Bridge employees will start to reseal the employee parking lot east of the Courthouse on Wednesday.

He also visited about purchasing another tractor and mower with a 12-16 foot wing span that hugs the terrain. He is going to get some prices.

Executive Director Robin Cole, reviewed the Pawnee Mental Health Services Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report with the Board and submitted a request of \$24,500.00 for the 2013 budget. Two hundred three Republic County residents received services in 2011.

Finkbiner asked the Board to increase his department credit card to \$10,000.00 because a lot of the parts and repairs they order must be prepaid before they will ship them. Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the increase. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 7th meeting. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to spend \$5,000.00 from the Special Parks & Recreation Fund to add more paved walkways at the NCK Fairgrounds. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

The Board denied a request for funding from the Big Brothers Big Sisters Organization. A good share of their funding comes from the Juvenile Justice Authority Title II grant.

The Board drafted a letter to Senator Jerry Moran in support of the Economic Development Administration, EDA.

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, May 21st at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, May 21, 2012 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.

Wayne Gardner, Scandia, asked the Board if they would consider offering additional tax abatements to contractors willing to build multi-family dwellings. The current Neighborhood Revitalization Plan is written for five years but the Board will consider his request.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to travel to the annual Register of Deeds Conference, June 5-8, in Kansas City, Kansas.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received permission to travel to the Annual Family Planning Conference, June 6-7, 2012 in Wichita. All expenses are covered by a grant.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner told the Board his men would finish resurfacing the parking lot and around the inside of the courthouse square today.

It is a decision of the Board to decline the request to resurface the USD 109 parking lot. The Road and Bridge Department does not really have the time to resurface it and the County has been advised against doing it. Mark VanNortwick presented a letter from USD 109 Superintendent Brian Harris asking for consideration of their request but the letter also states that he understands that the Board of County Commissioners have policies and regulations they must follow to stay within the law. VanNortwick said he was disappointed in their decision but understood that there is a fine line to walk as a governmental entity. (Referring to Attorney General Opinion No. 93-1)

Next week the Board will continue to discuss the County's current working relationship with the small towns in Republic County. No changes have been made to date.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he is shopping for a larger mower. He would also like to purchase a larger tractor to pull a bigger mower. C&W Farm Supply told Road Supervisor Brad Swanson the County could use the Great Plains mower for one season free.

Mr. Finkbiner told the Board that Vince Armstrong has made a formal request asking the Board for permission to deviate from the standard sick leave policy. He has asked permission to use his personal sick leave on an "as needed basis" to be with his wife who has a serious health

condition. Each request or situation is thoroughly studied by the Commissioners to be approved or denied.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve Armstrong's request to use personal sick leave to take his wife to medical appointments and use FMLA on an intermittent basis. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Time off and FMLA will run concurrently.

At Mr. Finkbiner's suggestion, the Board agreed to put a Notice in the paper regarding the cost of replacing all signage throughout the County to comply with the new regulations. It is a big problem when people are shooting signs, pushing signs over with vehicles and taking signs off the posts. When people are shooting signs at intersections or from any distance, the oncoming or crossing traffic as well as livestock can be hit by the bullets. This damage is costing taxpayers several thousand dollars each year and needs to be reported to law enforcement.

Finkbiner received approval on a utility agreement between JBN Telephone, Inc. and Republic County to construct and operate an underground telephone cable on certain public road right-of-way described as starting one half mile north of 260 Road and Zeal Road and going south to Zeal Road then one half mile to a residence.

NCK Fair Board President Kelvin Blecha joined the group to discuss fairground improvements. He will meet with Mr. Finkbiner at the fairgrounds to finalize plans. The \$10,000.00 from the fairground improvement fund will be added to the \$5,000.00 from the special parks and recreation fund to improve the walkways and a gate entrance at the fairgrounds.

The Board read a letter of resignation from EMT Melva Nondorf. The Board accepted this with regret as Nondorf has worked for the ambulance department for the past 12 years. The letter was dated May 1, 2012.

Permission to travel was approved for County Treasurer Cindy Coons to attend the Kansas County Treasurer's Association certification class June 13-15 in Wichita, Kansas.

Mrs. Coons also received permission to close her office to the public at 4:00 p.m. each day until further notice. There are continual challenges with the new State motor vehicle programs and it will allow them to complete the "end of day" procedures before the Courthouse closes.

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday the next meeting will be held on TUESDAY, May 29, 2012 beginning at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 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.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about upkeep on the county's communication tower. Replacement lights will be installed on the tower.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to hire Chad Carter, Carl-Tel Enterprises, Cawker City, Kansas to climb the tower and replace the lights. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Mr. Carter has presented proof of commercial liability insurance.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

At 8:55 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 9:05 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Fair Board President Kelvin Blecha and James Popelka visited with the Board about the fire in the commercial building at the NCK fairgrounds. A fire was discovered in the building on May 25, 2012 causing extensive smoke damage. K-Camp insurance will send an adjuster up to survey the damage.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters such as personnel, equipment purchases and equipment warranties. It was noted that Bobby Lawson's road grader is over heating and Andy Evert's grader is going in for service. The Board will schedule time to view roads next Monday.

At 11:00 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Scott Finkbiner. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:10 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board gave Finkbiner permission to try and negotiate a lower price on the 4455 John Deere Tractor. They want a minimum of 100 horse power. They have a tractor in mind but the asking price is \$31,000.00 and the Board wanted to stay around \$25,000.00 if possible.

Finkbiner noted that bids for the Cherney Bridge will be accepted from now until the official bid opening is held at 10:00 a.m. on June 18, 2012. Bid packets may be picked up at the Road and Bridge office and bids sent to County Clerk's office.

Bids were opened for emulsified oil to be delivered to Republic County. Bids were priced per gallon of oil. Bids were received from Vance Brothers \$2.35 plus \$.20 a gallon for freight; Wright Asphalt Products Company \$2.70 per gallon; Ergon Asphalt Emulsions, Inc., Salina, Kansas \$2.39 per gallon. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$2.39 per gallon of oil from Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Incorporated. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Finkbiner asked for direction in regards to working with other entities. The Board agreed that the County and Belleville City Street Maintenance Director Larry Ray should continue to trade work.

The Methodist Food Stand Committee was assured that the County will assist with the demolition of the food stand as previously agreed. It is on County property.

Don Lieb shared a short DVD with the Board. Don represents Republic County on the trauma council. He also gave a review of his department.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2012 meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed, 3-0.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2012 meeting. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Holl abstained from the vote due to absence at that meeting.

Permission to travel was approved for Weed Director Mike Nondorf to attend the CWDAK Summer Training, July 17-19, 2012 in Colby, Kansas.

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

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

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 04, 2012 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 Wall offered the morning prayer.

Roger McCartney visited with the Board about Economic Development in Republic County. He would like to see a convenience store built in Belleville along Hwy 81 that would spur growth and increase the sales tax collections.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about roads. At 9:45 a.m., the Board and Clerk Hall joined Finkbiner on a road trip to view Old 81 Hwy south of K148 Hwy and the first mile south of the Dollar General Store. At 11:00 a.m., the Board resumed their meeting in the commissioner's room.

Mr. Finkbiner is seeking direction on maintaining this road. The Board will decide next week if they want to use cold patch for a quick repair, reseal it for a more permanent solution or tear it up and rebuild the road bed creating a good quality gravel road. More discussion will follow.

President and CEO of OCCK, Sheila Nelson-Stout and Patrick Wallerius visited with the Board. They submitted their request of \$23,307.00 for 2013 appropriations.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker informed the Board that there will be no RCD Meeting this month. The next meeting will be scheduled for July 11th at Two Doors Down in Cuba, Kansas.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about personnel. He noted that he has hired Sarah Hoselton as his new part-time jailer.

The Board is in the process of reviewing the proposed changes to the Republic County Employees Manual.

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

Chairman Rytych made a motion to pass Resolution 2012-26 to transfer \$30,000.00 from the Republic County Ambulance Fund for the year ending 2011, over and above those that were obligated for 2011, to the Special Ambulance and Medical Equipment Fund as provided by K.S.A. 12-110d. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to pass Resolution 2012-27 to transfer funds from the Republic County General Fund for the year ending 2011, over and above those that were obligated for the year 2011, to the Equipment Reserve Fund as provided by K.S.A. 19-119. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

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 11, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 11, 2012 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.

County bridge crew employees Nathan Craig and Allen Carlson visited with the Board about safety concerns using the diesel hammer. Chairman Rytych told fellow commissioners that he should have voiced his personal concerns about the diesel hammer while watching the on site demonstration. The Board directed the two men to discontinue using the diesel hammer immediately.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about a bad air conditioning unit in the Extension Office. The Board asked Calkins to get a minimum of two bids for the repair.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received permission to attend the meeting for Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, June 19-20, in Wichita, Kansas.

It was a consensus of the Board to appoint Dr. Sharon Segerhammar of Courtland, Kansas to represent Republic County on the Pawnee Mental Health Board.

Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom visited by telephone with Commissioners Rytych and Holl. He wanted to share his thoughts on Old Hwy 81. He stated that he was very opposed to tearing up any asphalt. The road is in Commissioner Holl's district and she agreed with Bergstrom that for approximately \$10,000.00 they could use Roscoe patch for a temporary repair on that road.

Undersheriff Eric Brunner reported that the Sheriff's Office received a check in the amount of \$3,600.00 from the US Marshall's Service and expects to receive more. A portion of the seized cash and other assets goes back to the agencies that assist in the investigation that solved a large prescription drug case. Republic County Sheriff's Department stands to receive \$161,000.00 or 10 percent of the value of the seized assets.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. The Board directed Finkbiner to stop using the new diesel hammer for the time being due to concerns about employee safety. They will go back to using the "drop hammer" for bridge work. It was also noted that the crane, used by the bridge crew, needs to be checked and a diagnostic study done to insure proper maintenance on the crane.

Finkbiner and the Board held the official bid opening for the bi-annual bridge inspections. Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid from Cook Flatt and Strobel (CFS).

Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. The low bid was for \$58.00 per bridge. A second bid came from Campbell and Johnson with a bid of \$65.15 per bridge.

Considerable discussion followed about Old Hwy 81 between K148 and the Cloud County line. The Board informed Finkbiner of their desire to repair the road versus tearing up the blacktop. Finkbiner felt it not a good use of the tax dollars to continue to repair this road. Commissioner Holl made a motion to repair the road and not tear the blacktop up. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Finkbiner told the Board he would repair Old 81 Hwy after harvest, as directed.

Finkbiner told the Board that one of the graders will be stationed in the Kackley area as soon as they find a 500 gallon storage tank for fuel.

At 10:44 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Finkbiner to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. Regular session resumed at 10:54 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

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

Permission to travel was approved for Courtney VanNortwick and Chrystal James, both 911 dispatchers, to attend communication training, June 12-14, in Hutchinson, Kansas.

At 11:22 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Clerk Hall. Second by Rytych, motion passed 2-0. At 11:32 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Nancy Holt gave the Board a review of the Republic County Historical Society's activities. The 2013 budget request remained the same as last year.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 18, 2012 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.

The Republic County Soil Conservation District Representatives Lori Siemsen and Wayne Pachta, visited with the Board and presented their request of \$35,000.00 for the 2013 budget appropriations. That is a \$2,000.00 increase over last year.

Custodian Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about the need for an air conditioner repair in the extension office. Rizek Plumbing estimated the repairs at \$1,692.00 and they were the only ones to submit an estimate to repair it.

At 8:46 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Clerk Hall attended this session. Regular session resumed at 8:56 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Nathan Svoboda, Roger Stephens and Kenny Svoboda, representing Munden-Narka Rural Fire District 3, along with North Central Regional Planning Commission Representative Mandy Fincham visited with the Board about the KAN-STEP Grant program. They are in the preliminary stages of a grant application to build a fire station in Narka.

If the County applies for the KAN-STEP grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce on behalf of Narka, the city can receive up to \$300,000 to purchase the materials for a planned new fire house. The city and fire department must provide volunteer labor to actually build the new structure. No money will come from the county for the project as the County would just serve as a pass-through and sign off on some of the paperwork. Narka City would only be eligible to apply for \$160,000.00 and that would not cover the cost of a good sized building.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to allow them to apply for the KAN-STEP Grant through Republic County. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Signatures will not be needed until this fall.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received signatures on the School Health Nursing Services Contract with USD #109 Schools at \$8.00 per student.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. Richard Wolzen, Belleville, visited with the Board about the 23rd Street Bridge. The Board told him once again that construction of this bridge would not begin until the fall of 2013.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to purchase a used 4455 John Deere tractor for mowing the roadsides. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The county will pay \$25,000.00 out of the Landfill (Solid Waste) Fund for the tractor.

Finkbiner asked once again about increasing the pay for 3 of his employees who have "made improvement" since they were last evaluated. The Board told him that if the employees keep up the good work until the end of the year, they will receive an increase starting January 1, 2013.

Finkbiner received approval from the Board to offer \$13.00 as a starting wage to a new employee who is a "certified" mechanic with experience in heavy equipment.

The Board told Finkbiner to build in a three percent increase into the wages on his proposed 2013 budget. All department heads will receive budget worksheets in the near future and be directed to use a three percent increase for employee wages.

It was noted that the opening for the bridge bids has been moved to June 25. Bidders have been notified of this change.

At 11:26 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session with Scott Finkbiner to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:31 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:35 a.m., Commissioner Holl excused herself to go home due to a headache.

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, June 25, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, June 25, 2012 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.

Republic County Hospital Administrator Blaine Miller was given a letter of support from the Board to accompany the tax credit application needed to purchase a digital mammography machine.

NCK Regional Planning Director Doug McKinney stopped by and visited with the Board.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Kathy Calkins reported that there was nothing to report on the Courthouse window project. She will go back to the Kansas State Historical Preservationists and try to get some direction.

County Attorney Marlea James met with the Board to voice her concerns about the number of Belleville City cases that are initiated by a Belleville City Police call followed by a courtesy back-up officer from the Republic County Sheriff's deputies for the safety of all officers involved. She noted that the City officers who were first on the scene could complete the paperwork and involve the city attorney rather than the county attorney in many instances. The Board suggested she contact previous county attorneys for direction and/or speak with Sheriff Ron Blad.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbinder and the Board held the official bid opening for the construction of the Wayne East Bridge Replacement (Cherney Bridge). County Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the bid of \$88,400.00 from Reece Construction, Scandia, KS. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Other bids were \$87,500.00 from King Construction, Hesston, KS, L & M Contractors of Great Bend, KS bid \$97,944.00 and a bid of \$86,830.00 from Norfolk Contracting, Norfolk, NE. The Board was pleased to be able to award the bid to a local contractor.

Jay Trost asked the Board if they would consider selling an old iron bridge. The bridge sits on a road that was closed several years ago. The Board will consider his offer but noted that the usual bidding process must be used when selling County property.

Finkbiner also reported that he had received two quotes for iron to be used in the building of bridges. Salina Steel bid \$4,145.20 and the low bid of \$3,650.74 came from Welborn Sales. The Board approved the low bid.

Finkbiner reported that one of the backhoe's had a serious breakdown. He will get bids for repairing it and quotes for possibly trading it in on a newer machine. The mechanics guesstimate the repairs could range from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 and still have an old machine. Trading it off could be around \$85,000.00 and was not a planned expenditure.

Justin Sole was hired as an equipment operator for the highway department.

The Board, Clerk Hall and Mr. Finkbiner reviewed the updates to the county employee personnel manual.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 11th commissioner's meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0. Bergstrom abstained from the vote as he was absent from that meeting.

The Board visited about naming the entertainment center at the NCK Free Fairgrounds. Clerk Hall will invite President Kelvin Blecha to stop by and visit with the Board.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting and attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 02, 2012 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.

Mathias Hohn, Rocky Mountain Emergency Vehicles, EMS Director Don Lieb and Assistant Director Randy Ainsworth visited with the Board. Mr. Hohn was in the process of delivering a new ambulance and stopped to show it to the Board. Mr. Lieb wanted the Board to see what is currently available. The average cost of an ambulance is \$145,000 and they are built to order, to meet the specific needs of each department. They have offices in Red Cloud, Nebraska and Hoxie, Kansas. Republic County is currently putting money aside to purchase a new ambulance. The county's newest ambulance is a 2000 model or 12 years old.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Health Administrator Marcia Hansen presented her budget proposal for 2013. She noted that income for services they provide has dropped due to serving fewer clients. Residents have more options now with long term care and assisted living facilities. She said Medicare reimbursements are also down.

Hansen also received a signature from Chairman Rytych on the contract with USD 426 to provide school nursing services at \$8.00 per student.

Sheriff Ron Blad stopped to ask the Board if they were going to follow the lead of neighboring counties and issue a burn ban for Republic County. Cloud, Mitchell and Jewell County are currently under burn bans. After considerable discussion the Board decided not to put a burn ban in place for Republic County but will continue to monitor the dry conditions. The Board will hold a special meeting to implement a burn ban if they feel conditions warrant it in the future. In the mean time they hope people will use common sense with their July 4th celebrations and fireworks.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell and Luke Mahin gave a progress report from that department. They reported that they set up a new account for Economic Development at republiccountykansas.com and encouraged the Board to check it out.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He told them that he applied for \$550,000.00 in federal fund exchange money but was notified by the State that Republic

County is only guaranteed to receive \$290,000.00 in 2012 due to a lack of federal funds. Kansas only received 34 million dollars from the federal government. They are dividing it up among the applicants. Mr. Finkbinder stated that he will have to make some changes in the planned road projects for the balance of 2012 and the upcoming 2013 budget for his department.

Finkbinder also asked the Board if they were interested in purchasing an asphalt plant. High Plains has offered it at \$685,000.00 but the Board decided a few weeks back not to buy it. They didn't think the asphalt plant was a good investment for the county. They would rather pay someone else to mix asphalt for the county and pay for that service. Let someone else buy the plant, bring in trained employees to run it, cover the expense of maintenance and insurance.

Repair of the JD Backhoe was discussed. Murphy Tractor would allow \$8,000-\$10,000.00 as a trade-in value. The Board opted to pay about \$1,300.00 to Knox Tank to make the needed welding repair on the bucket.

Finkbinder told the Board that they are taking bids on an air-compressor for the bridge crew. They will review the bids and make a decision next week.

Finkbinder presented a Utility Agreement for a waterline between Republic County and Rural Water District No. 2 to operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way commencing 100 feet north of Hwy 36 and 120 Rd thence crossing from Section 1; T3S; R4W into Section 2; T3S; R4W. The Board approved and signed the agreement.

Mr. Finkbinder presented a petition from fifteen of his employees who wish to continue to smoke in their assigned county work vehicle. Clerk Hall will call neighboring counties and see what their rules are and Finkbinder will ask the State for their rule on smoking in vehicles.

At 11:03 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with Finkbinder to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:18 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Sheriff Ron Blad and Deputy Shepek visited about vehicles for the Sheriff's department. Blad has ordered a 2011 car at a cost of \$26,900.00 from Melton Motor Company.

At 11:33 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session with Sheriff Blad and Shepek to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-

0. Clerk Hall was also included in this session. Regular session resumed at 11:53 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:54 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Communications Director Raymond Raney. Regular session resumed at 12:04 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to terminate a communications employee immediately. She abandoned her post for a short period of time while on duty as a 911 dispatcher. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Mr. Raney will notify the employee and schedule an exit interview.

Communications Director Raymond Raney received permission to purchase a computer for the ADT Alert System. He expects the cost to be between \$900.00 and \$1000.00 and will be paid from the Wireless 911 Fund.

At 12:20 p.m., Commissioner 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 12:25 p.m., with no action taken by the Board.

It was a consensus of the Board to ask Barry Porter to block Facebook from all Republic County computers.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 9, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 09, 2012 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 Wall offered the morning prayer.

County Appraiser Barry Porter presented his proposed 2013 budget. He also spoke about the maintenance agreement on his ICON copier. He noted that it works fine but the price of the maintenance keeps going up each year.

He also noted that the AS400 works fine but the server is about seven years old. The tags and vehicle renewals are all internet based now but the tax programs are still done through the server. The County may need to budget for a new server in 2014.

The Board signed the proposed 2013 District Court budget.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint presented the proposed 2013 budget for her department.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

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

Melinda Pierson, representing Belleville Chamber and Main Street, received permission to hold the Poker Walk registration on the Courthouse lawn August 3rd. Permission was also granted for the back to school Tailgate Party to be held on Friday evening, August 24, 2012.

Sharon Schwartz, candidate for State Representative 106th District, introduced herself to the Board and sat in on a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He noted that he recently hired Ryan Kraus as a mechanic/equipment operator and Justin Sole as an equipment operator.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to purchase an 8 horse power Honda Compressor for the Road and Bridge Department. It has an electric start and cost \$1,185.00 from National Central Air Supply, Downs, Kansas.

Finkbiner said that they have ordered \$6,000.00 in I-Beams from J & A. They have used up everything in the yard.

A utility agreement was approved for Rural Water District No. 2 to operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way commencing south of the intersection of Diamond Rd and 210 Road in Rose Creek Township.

The Board finished reviewing the personnel manual.

At 10:55 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 30-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Scott Finkbiner. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:25 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

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, July 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 16, 2012 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.

At 8:38 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 and Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The Board extended the session for an additional 10-minutes. Regular session resumed at 9:09 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Telescope reporter Cynthia Scheer monitored a portion of the meeting.

Economic Development Coordinator Jenny Russell, Assistant Luke Mahan, Jimmie Blecha, Mike Hadachek and Belleville City Manager Neal Lewis met with the Board. They visited about Reinke Manufacturing Company, Inc. expanding the manufacturing facility in Belleville, Kansas. The North Central Kansas Industrial Park is now full.

At 9:28 a.m., Commissioner Linda made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session, with the above mentioned people, to discuss land acquisition. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:49 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various matters. He noted that Farmway Co-op and Hoard Oil have proposed furnishing new diesel supply tanks with pumps to be placed at the road grader barrels if the County purchases the fuel from them. The Board will study the proposals.

Finkbiner also noted the EPA now requires America's farms and ranches to prepare oil-spill (SPCC) plans for fuel storage. Further study will be done to

determine if the new requirements have any impact on the county. Commissioner Bergstrom plans to attend the informational meeting to be held in Courtland, Kansas on July 17, 2012.

Finkbiner told the Board that the air compressor they ordered is here. They gave the County a "close out price" making it \$200.00 cheaper than the price they quoted.

Mr. Finkbiner said he had a conversation with a representative from the Kansas Department of Transportation. He told Finkbiner that the State is "running a little behind" on projects. He was referring to the time line for the 23rd Street Bridge.

At 11:00 a.m., Chairman Rytych called the Delinquent Solid Waste Hearing to order. No county residents were in attendance at this meeting. Regular session resumed at 11:30 a.m.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 9th meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker received signatures on the bi-annual reports for the Department of Commerce.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited with the Board about his 2013 budget proposal.

Clerk Hall reminded the Board that County Auditor Randall Hofmeier, CPA will be at the July 23rd meeting.

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, July 23, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 23, 2012 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 Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The Board worked with Auditor Randall Hofmeier to prepare the proposed 2013 budget for Republic County. The budget hearing was set for Monday, August 13 at 10:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

A motion was made by Commissioner Holl to approve Resolution 2012-28 to be printed with the proposed 2013 budget in the Telescope. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This is used to notify the public that the amount levied to finance the budget exceeds the amount of tax dollars raised in the previous budget year. I should note that the projected levy is actually a bit lower but since the valuation is up 3 million the County will actually be raising more tax dollars.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about his department. He noted that the transmission went bad in one of the John Deere road graders. Repairs are estimated at \$30,000.00 and the machine has a lot of hours on it. Discussion will continue on the condition of county graders.

Finkbiner presented a written resignation from part-time secretary Tracy Hannaman. The Board accepted the resignation with regret.

At 10:50 a.m., Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 25-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Scott Finkbiner. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. At 11:15 a.m., regular session resumed with no action was taken by the Board.

Mr. Finkbiner asked the board to clarify two items for the personnel manual. Chairman Rytych made a motion to require new road and bridge employees to have a CDL (Commercial Driver's License) Class A license within 6 months of date of hire. All current employees with CDL licenses must keep them up to date. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

There is currently nothing in the county personnel manual that prohibits an employee's possession of firearms in a private vehicle. It was a consensus of the Board that when a private vehicle is parked on County property, all firearms must be out of sight and the vehicle must remain locked. This too will be added to the manual.

Permission to travel was approved for Mr. Finkbiner and Secretary Darlene Havel to attend a required transportation meeting on July 24 in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Campbell and Johnson Engineers started to create a design for the Republican River Bridge repair near Republic, KS. Even if the County does all the dirt work and lays the asphalt, the projected cost is still a six figure project. The bridge repairs and funding for it will require additional study.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen presented permission to travel requests for Linda Wendt and Debbie Sells to attend the Kan Care Workshop in Salina. Deb Sells will also attend the Preferred Health Systems Annual Provider Conference in Wichita, Kansas. Permission granted for both meetings.

A Memorandum of Agreement between Cloud County Health Department and the Republic County Health Department was presented to the Board for signatures. Republic County receives \$3,588.00 in funds in conjunction with this annual agreement. Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve it, second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Chairman Rytych signed the agreement.

Director Ellen L. Anderson met with the Board to request a signature. A motion was made by Commissioner Holl to sign and approve the FY 2013 Carryover Reimbursement Plan for the 12th Judicial District Community Corrections. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 11:40 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 10:50 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn and join the Republic County Hospital Board for lunch followed by the hospital board meeting. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 30, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, July 30, 2012 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.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored the meeting.

County Appraiser Barry Porter visited with the Board. He noted that only about 65% of the residents in the County who receive personal property renditions in the mail, are returning them to the appraiser's office on time. These forms are only mailed to residents that own trucks requiring the heavier tags or to those who own "other" tangible personal property. He wants to encourage people to open this letter, review what is listed, check the box YES if they still own what is listed or NO indicating we sold or traded the property. The taxpayer then signs and returns the paper by mail or in person to the appraiser's office. Mr. Porter noted that if you have vehicles and/or personal property listed on such a statement it is the responsibility of the taxpayer to get it back to the Appraiser's Office by March 15th to avoid penalties. These are sent out every year and so many ignore them. Mr. Porter received approval from the Board to put signs on the Courthouse doors to remind residents to "STOP" and visit his office to review their personal property listings and sign their sheets.

Mr. Porter noted that he will be getting a different photocopier due to the increase in the maintenance agreement. He can lease a new machine, have lower maintenance costs and it is only \$225.00 more than if we purchased it.

At 8:49 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. Regular session resumed at 8:54 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 8:54 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a ten-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:04 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board a Treasurers Accounting through June 2012.

Doug McKinney, North Central Regional Planning, Beloit, Kansas stopped to visit.

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

Sheriff Ron Blad visited about the cost of collecting delinquent personal property taxes.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited about various matters. The major topic debated by the Board and Finkbiner was the posted weight limit on many of the small bridges in the county and the large (over-weight) vehicles that continually cross them. Should the 16 ton road graders cross the small bridges during routine road maintenance? Farm vehicles continue to ignore the weight limits and cross the small bridges as well as the oversized county vehicles. Even the road graders weight more than is allowed or posted. This would be quite a dilemma if the road graders are not able to cross bridges to perform routine maintenance.

In the 2010 report it states that we have 58 bridges that are sub-standard or structurally deficit. This issue will be studied further. We currently have about 40 bridges that have a posted 7 ton limit or less. The Board directed Finkbiner to notify his employees not to cross any of those smaller bridges with more than 16 ton until further notice. The Board will discuss this matter further next week.

It was decided that County Clerk Hall will discuss all pros and cons with KCAMP and will also report the findings next week. All small counties must be struggling with this problem.

Mr. Finkbiner asked if the Board would consider expanding the number of road grader districts from 10 to 12.

Finkbiner noted that employee Lance Mason did show up to work today. He took a week off work without communicating with or notifying his department head.

At 11:20 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Scott Finkbiner and County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. This was extended to a total of 15 minutes. Regular session resumed at 11:35 with no action taken by the Board.

The Board visited with Finkbiner about paying his employees time and one half regular rate of pay for "call back" time if they are called back to work during or after a storm. We currently pay time and one half the regular rates when an employee is called back on a holiday. The Board indicated they plan to follow the fair labor standards law as always but will discussion it further.

County Attorney Secretary Kathy Calkins visited with the Board the window grant project.

Chairman Rytch made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-29 to appoint Frank G. Spurney, Jr. to act as the attorney for Republic County, should the need arise during the absence of Republic County Attorney Marlea James, July 30, 2012 through August 6, 2012. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

At 11:57 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Communications Director Raymond Raney. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 12:02 p.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board directed a letter to Sarah Monsanto Noble in response to her request to name the entertainment center at the NCK Free Fair in honor of her father, Harold Monsanto. The Board struggled with this request but after much discussion, that included the NCK Fair Board, it was decided to deny the request. It would be inappropriate to single out one person's accomplishments with this honor, when there are others who are just as deserving in other aspects of making the fair a success. It is important not to offend any other deserving individuals. One cannot disagree that Monsanto's time and efforts over the years have certainly helped the fair grow.

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, August 6, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 6, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Ryttych present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Pastor Kathy Aiello offered the morning prayer.

At 8:45 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. At 9:05 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Sheriff Blad visited with the Board about cattle that are running at large. It is not only a problem for the neighbors but having cattle on the roads is an even bigger issue for the traveling public. The Board agreed that Sheriff Blad should run a help wanted ad in the paper to hire some cowboys who would be willing to "round up" cattle on an as needed basis. If an owner ignores the notice from the Sheriff's office to keep the cattle penned up, the County has to hire someone to round them up and get the cattle to the sale barn.

Sanitarian Sherry Koster and County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board. The annual report July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 was reviewed. Smith County Clerk Sharon Wolters invited the Board to attend a meeting in Lebanon, Kansas August 20th to discuss wastewater.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

The Board approved a Memorandum of Agreement between Republic County and the City of Scandia concerning the collection and payment of solid waste fees. A second agreement was also approved for the City of Courtland concerning collection and payment of solid waste fees.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbinder visited with the Board. He noted that Lance Mason was no longer employed at the Road and Bridge Department. Finkbinder will run an ad to hire another employee.

They again visited about the condition of the smaller county bridges. It was emphasized that if a patron breaks a bridge down they will have to pay for the repairs. If the county breaks it down the County stands the cost and fixes it. Roads must be maintained which translates to direct the employees to cautiously drive the road graders across the county bridges. If a county employee, who maintains the roads, does not feel comfortable crossing a bridge, then they should not cross it. The Board agreed it will be "business as usual" and ask our residents to use

caution and good sense to help preserve our bridges. If it is reasonable to go around an extra mile to preserve our bridges, then do so when possible. The County will continue to repair them as money allows.

Finkbiner said they plan to start sealing roads August 20th and will do 4 miles on the Clyde Road, 8 miles south of Scandia and 1 mile of old 81 Hwy. He noted that they have laid down 8,000 ton of asphalt this year.

At 10:45 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Scott Finkbiner. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:14 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Deb Hadachek mentioned that the Courtland Medical Clinic is looking quite run down. The building is old and in need of repairs.

Permission to travel was approved for Beth Reed and Raymond Raney to attend the KEMA Board Meeting, August 7, 2012, in Topeka, Kansas.

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

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, August 13, 2012 and will begin at 8:00 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville. The day will begin with the official county canvass of votes from the August primary election. Routine business will follow.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 13, 2012 at 8:00 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 Wall offered the morning prayer.

The day began with the commissioners holding the official canvass of ballots from the August 7, 2012 Primary Election. Those in attendance were the Commissioners, County Clerk Vickie Hall, Election Deputy Beth Ball and Kathleen Marsicek.

Following the canvass of ballots the Board resumed regular session.

Permission to travel was approved for Appraiser Barry Porter to attend a Continuing Education Seminar, October 1-5, 2012 in Topeka, Kansas.

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

Sheriff Ron Blad reported that Dale Hostinsky and Bud Beneda were still having issues with cattle getting out. This is an on-going issue of cattle being outside Mr. Beneda's pasture.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons gave the Board a report of 2011 Delinquent Real Estate and Mineral taxes.

At 10:00 a.m., Chairman Rytych called the Official Republic County 2013 Budget Hearing to order. Those in attendance were Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek, Treasurer Cindy Coons, Register of Deeds Peggy Frint, Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner, Deputy County Clerk Cheryl Loring, Kelvin Blecha, Kathleen Marsicek, Commissioners Holl, Bergstrom and Rytych and County Clerk Vickie Hall. No one present had questions about the budget. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the 2013 Republic County budget as published. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. The Republican River Bridge near Republic was a topic of discussion. It will cost 2.5 to 3 million dollars to replace it. Finkbiner will seek out grants and study other rehabilitation programs for possible cost share.

Finkbiner reported that High Plains sold their mix plant to a company in Alaska. He is working with Hall Brothers to try and find an affordable option to purchase asphalt mix for Republic County in 2013.

Finkbiner noted that he plans to start work August 20th on the Clyde Road to finish spending the federal exchange money. He hopes to submit the paperwork in September for reimbursement.

At 11:00 a.m. the Board held the official delinquent solid waste hearings.

Kelvin Blecha visited with the Board about the NCK Free Fair.

A utility agreement was signed between JBN Telephone Inc. and Republic County. Permission was given to construct and operate an underground phone line (3 pr) on certain public road right-of-way commencing ½ mile south of 300 Road, going ½ mile north to Nickel Road thence going west for ½ mile on north side of the road in Section 2, T4S, R1W.

A second utility agreement was signed between JBN Telephone Inc. and Republic County. Permission was granted to construct and operate an underground phone line (3 pr) on certain public road right-of-way commencing on 270 Road, go ¼ mile east on Lincoln Road into Section 21; R2W; T1S on north side of the road.

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

Joe Chizek and Idan Kauer visited with the Board about the streets in Cuba. Finkbiner told the Board the County does not have any asphalt mix left but plans could be made to assist them in 2013. Mr. Finkbiner will ask Belleville City if they have any left that they might sell to Cuba City.

Carl Eyman, Loss Prevention Specialist for KWORC, visited with the Board. He noted that due to a resignation there was going to be an opening on the KWORC Board. They meet once a month in Topeka if they are interested in serving on that board.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 20, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 20, 2012 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.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about the “cattle running at large”. The cattle were caught and sold through the local sale barn. Blad explained that those involved in rounding up the cattle and holding them until sale day will be paid with the proceeds from the sale of the animals.

Chairman 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 Register of Deeds Peggy Frint. She will attend a retirement reception in McPherson, County and there will be no cost to the county. As a courtesy she notified the Board that she will be out of the county on August 29, 2012.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored the meeting. She asked the Board about funding available for the after prom parties held in both school districts. Previous funding has come through the drug and alcohol prevention program.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen received Chairman Rytych’s signature on the annual agreement between Republic County Health Department and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Through this Public Health Emergency Preparedness Agreement, \$9,634.00 will be available to Republic County.

Permission to travel was approved for Marcia Hansen to attend the Area Agency on Aging meeting August 28, 2012 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Communications Director Raymond Raney notified the board that he has hired Lacy Blomberg as a full time 911 Dispatcher. Jeff Smith recently began working as a part-time dispatcher in the communications department.

Pastor Emily Meckley, Belleville United Methodist Church, introduced herself and offered the morning prayer.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about road and bridge matters. He noted that they are starting to seal the Clyde road Monday and will seal the east parking lot behind the Courthouse and the inside square on Tuesday of this week.

Finkbinder told the Board that Reece Construction will begin construction on the Wayne East Bridge Replacement on 230 Road in Grant Township this week. This bridge is sometimes referred to as the "Cherney Bridge".

Finkbinder told the Board that he hired Lisa Jones as a part-time secretary for the Road and Bridge Department.

He also reported that Kenneth Havel has decided to retire from the seasonal job of mowing the road sides for Republic County. His last day at work was August 16, 2012.

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

K-Camp representative Larry Sharpe gave an update on Republic County's loss ratio. The County is listed as the 3rd lowest loss ratio in counties our size. Republic County's rates will not increase for 2013.

Mr. Sharpe also told the Board that the K-Camp Insurance Pool now has tenant user liability insurance (TULIP) available for special **events held in a county owned building** or a venue held at the **county owned fairgrounds**. This program makes available to tenants, insurance protection that is lower in price than normally is available and provides protection for the county. This would include events such as the "After Prom Party", Home and Garden Show, horse shows, household sales and other venues. Those renting or occupying the building or grounds are required to have liability insurance for special events held on county owned property. They can now make application to purchase that insurance through KCAMP.

Mr. Sharpe also discussed having property belonging to others stored in county owned buildings. The insurance company paid out \$44,867.27 to clean and refurbish the smoke damaged concrete block Commercial Exhibit Building at the NCK Fairgrounds. A fire caused by a stored vehicle severely smoke damaged the entire building, metal roof and contents. The Commissioners agreed they will no longer allow the rental of storage space in county owned buildings on the fairgrounds.

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 27, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, August 27, 2012 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.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored the meeting.

James Popelka, Kelvin Blecha and Justin Trost, members of the NCK Fair Ag Board, gave a review of the NCK Free Fair. They received many compliments on the Commercial Building and the additional asphalt walkways on the fairgrounds.

The Board told the fair board members to install some concrete pillars or some sturdy form of protection around all electrical transformers on the fairgrounds. KCAMP Insurance paid a claim caused by a vehicle backing into an electrical post.

The Board also informed them that KCAMP now offers tenant user liability insurance (TULIP) that would be available at a reduced rate for household sales and other events held in County buildings. Something to consider that can cover tenant users of specific county buildings or a venue at the fairgrounds.

Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board about RCD matters.

Sheriff Blad stopped and indicated his department had a busy week-end. Under sheriff Eric Brunner had pulled a two year old child out of a septic tank near Courtland, Kansas. A "freak" accident was reported and a young child was rescued due to the quick response from the Sheriff's department. The child had minor injuries and did not require medical treatment.

Kathy Calkins gave a report on the Courthouse window restoration project. A bid was received from Pishny Restoration Services, Lenexa, Kansas and she will begin checking references on the company.

Permission to travel was approved for Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney and Beth Reed to attend the annual KEMA Conference in Topeka, Kansas.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf informed the Board that he would be out of town September 13 to attend the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, Kansas. He planned to work in the weed association's fair booth but there will be no cost to the County due to his absence.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about various road and bridge matters. He noted that his department is helping Belleville City for a couple days. They then plan to seal the Scandia/Norway road between Hwy 36 and Hwy 148 on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Finkbiner has made a list of county bridges on our asphalt roads. He hopes to get the ratings changed on these bridges.

Discussion was held about the recently purchased tractor and mower. The Board informed Mr. Finkbiner that only a portion of the mower and tractor should come out of the solid waste fund. Finkbiner agreed that \$8,000.00 would come from capital outlay in the Solid Waste Fund and \$17,000.00 from the Road and Bridge fund to pay for the \$25,000.00 used John Deere tractor.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2012 meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Hoard Oil had reported that the County was behind on a fuel bill. The inquiry was studied and the findings showed the bill was paid and the check has been cashed.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen gave a department review. She told the Board that she felt things were going better. She was having more frequent staff meetings and informed her employees that no job is "guaranteed". The

Board reminded Hansen to keep half time employees down to 20 hours per week. They approved 23 hours this week for Mrs. Lapo due to employees on vacations.

Hansen visited about immunizations that are available through the health department. She noted that 15 cases of West Nile and a few cases of whooping cough have been reported in Kansas.

Hansen reminded them that October is cancer awareness month. She said women from the Scandia area volunteered to host the annual Ladies Night Out this year. The cost of the meal is paid by a grant from the Tammy Walker Cancer Center and this event will be held in Scandia.

At 11:31 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a five-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:36 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting to attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on TUESDAY, September 4, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 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.

Permission to travel was approved for Register of Deeds Peggy Frint to attend the Register of Deeds Annual Conference, September 11-14, 2012 in Wichita, Kansas.

Sharon Segerhammar, Republic County Representative on the Pawnee Mental Health Board, asked the Board to sign a proclamation designating September as National Mental Health Recovery Month.

Communications Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the 911 Dispatch Center. He asked permission to hire and train another part-time employee that can fill in when full time employees are absent from work. Permission was granted.

Arlene Clayton visited with the Board.

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

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner proposed the County have a new sign made for the county landfill. Bids will be taken.

Finkbiner noted that Raymond Raney had made a plat map of the County yard at the Road and Bridge Department to identify the location of things like oil storage, compressed air and the location of any flammable or hazardous chemicals. This would be invaluable if an emergency situation arises to insure the safety of the employees and/or rescue personnel.

Finkbiner visited about building bridges. He is studying the cost of precast bridge decks to see if this could be a way to save time and money by changing our

method of building. He is doing the comparison to study cost, strength and longevity of such a bridge.

He noted that his department will seal a one mile stretch of Old Hwy 81 tomorrow. He recently finished all interviews for an equipment operator and will be making an offer to an applicant today.

Custodian Kevin Calkins had the Board review the proposed ad for the Telescope. Bids are being taken for carpet and work to be done at the Republic County Medical Arts Building. The contact person for additional information would be Nancy Holt.

Commissioners Bergstrom and Rytych went out with Finkbiner to view the structure on South K Street. The Board told Finkbiner to replace the structure since it is 12 foot wide instead of installing tubes at this location.

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, September 10, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 10, 2012 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.

Sheriff Ron Blad gave a review of activities within his department. He told the Board they are selling the Blazer through the car auction. It has many mechanical problems.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 4 meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion approved 2-0. Commissioner Holl did not vote as she was absent from this session.

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

Economic Development Coordinator Jenny Russell and Assistant Luke Mahin gave a progress report. They noted the 81 Highway survey was coming to a close as they study options to encourage economic development in Republic County. They also mentioned the three day Hwy 36 Treasure Hunt. The Garage Sales and food vendors will bring many visitors to Republic County for the long week-end of shopping for treasures.

They also noted that the Community Foundation is seeking applications. There is \$5,700.00 available.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He noted that they have sealed one mile of Old Hwy. 81 as planned. He also shared that Dan Wilber has accepted the job of equipment operator for the County.

Finkbiner noted that his study or cost comparison of steel versus precast concrete decking for bridges has shown that steel does cost less than the concrete. There was a \$7,000.00 difference in cost. He plans to keep looking for cost savings to allow the county to replace additional small bridges.

Finkbiner also asked the Board about getting rid of a bunch of 20 foot planks. Can he sell them at a set price on a first come first serve basis or must he go through the bidding process. Clerk Hall will ask other County Clerk's how they liquidate items that the bridge crew cannot use.

Finkbiner also informed the Board that he found a home for his family to rent in the Agenda area.

Residents throughout the county have voiced their concerns about semi trucks and heavy vehicles crossing over the smaller bridges throughout the county. In response to the reports it was discussed by Mr. Finkbiner and the Commissioners. It was a consensus of the Board that when the County is notified that an over-weight vehicle has crossed a posted bridge, the individual will receive one warning. The second time, a citation will be issued for over-weight if they are caught driving over a small posted bridge if other routes are available. The Board encourages farmers to plan their route from the field to

home or the elevator. Residents are concerned that if someone goes through a bridge it will obviously be closed. The permit process to replace a bridge is six months and another 60 days to build it if the weather cooperates. Residents impacted by the closed bridge would be forced to take an alternate route out of their farmsteads for up to a year. Please consider the residents who live in the vicinity of small posted bridges.

RN Kathy Zach presented permission to travel for employees of the health department. RN Karen Henke will attend the Kansas Immunization Conference, September 11-12, in Wichita, Kansas; six other county employees who work in home health will attend the Senior Fair in Salina on September 18, 2012 to get in-service hours; RN Kathy Zach will attend the Kansas Home Care Association Workshop in Wichita, Kansas from September 17-19, 2012.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the courthouse window project. Engineer Eric Johnson told Kathy that he has worked with Pishney in the past and things went well. With only one bidder the Board decided to accept the proposal of \$93,490.00 and have a contract drawn up for approval by both parties. The Board hopes the work would begin in the spring of 2013. This is an 80/20 grant.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen invited the Board to a meeting in Smith Center, Kansas. The North Central Public Health Regional Meeting will be on Thursday, September 27, 2012 and wanted them to attend if possible.

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, September 17, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 17, 2012 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 Roger Wall offered the morning prayer.

Nancy Holt, Board President for the Republic County Historical Museum, visited with the Board about liability insurance. They recently acquired the gas station.

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

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. James Hurley will seek a utility agreement application for an underground water line.

A waterline agreement was approved for Clay Aurand granting permission to construct and operate an underground waterline on public road right-of-way at the intersection of Diamond and 30 Road.

An electric cable agreement for Ward & Glen Aurand was approved to construct and operate underground electric wires on certain public road right-of-way 90 ft. north of Fir Road and 20 Road.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he hired Dan Wilber as an equipment operator in his department and his first day is September 17, 2012.

Justin Sole no longer works at Road and Bridge.

Bids were taken for the purchase of a new welder for the bridge crew. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the \$3,675.00 bid from S & P Farm Supply, Belleville. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Other bids were \$6,521.25 from Airgas, Salina and \$3,550.00 Matheson Gas, Salina, Kansas.

Finkbiner noted that October 8, 2012 there will be a construction meeting at 10:30 a.m., Belleville City library. Study includes project design and review on the proposed 23rd Street bridge for KDOT approval.

Larry Tebow stopped to visit the board.

The Board plans to allocate some money to both USD 109 and USD 426 for drug and alcohol prevention. The drug and alcohol money can only be used for programs and/or activities that encourage drug and alcohol prevention.

A bill was presented for sealing the east parking lot and around the Courthouse Square. The board will discuss and/or review it at the next meeting.

Chairman 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 24, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Linda Holl 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.

Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek monitored a portion of the meeting.

Bill J. Cory, Concordia, Kansas visited with the Board about the valuation process for farm ground.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker told the Board there would be an RCD meeting on October 3rd. If applications are received they will meet in the Commissioner's Office, if no applications come in they will meet at the Pizza Hut.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner met with the Board and discussed various road and bridge matters. Jim McDonald visited about the condition of 170 Road south of Highway 36.

The Board approved a Utility Agreement between Republic County and Brad Hobelmann to allow Hobelmann to construct and operate an underground electric line on certain public road right-of-way commencing ½ mile south of Diamond on 130 Road then crossing from Section 24-1-4 into Section 19-1-3.

A Waterline Agreement was approved for James J. Hurley to grant permission to construct and operate an underground waterline on certain public road right-of-way 1400 feet south of Elm Road and Republic Lane, Section 25-1-5 thence crossing Republic Lane into Section 25-1-5. Refer to the map attached to the waterline agreement.

The Board signed a letter of support to accompany the Kansas Department of Transportation grant application.

The Board signed an agreement between Republic County and Havel Recycling to sell all white goods (refrigerators, stoves, water heaters, washers, dryers, air-conditioners, etc.) as well as tin and all types of wire, excluding electrical, from its Construction and Demolition Site to Havel Recycling. Also other metals such as iron, steel, cast, aluminum, copper, brass, electrical wiring etc., at the rate per ton to be negotiated each quarter. A copy of all scale tickets will be provided to the County when payment is made. For specifics refer to the signed contract.

Chairman Rytch made a motion to purchase a sign from Brian Isaacson at Apple One Media for the County Construction and Demolition Site. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

Permission to travel was approved for Darlene Havel, Lisa Jones and Scott Finkbiner to attend a transportation meeting, October 30, 2012, in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Permission to travel was also approved for Richard Bergstrom to attend the Landfill Operator Training Course, November 7-8, 2012, sponsored by KDHE in Salina, Kansas.

Larry Rundus visited with the Board about small culverts and bridges in his area.

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

Chairman Rytych made a motion not to reimburse the road and bridge department for man hours (payroll) or for the use of the equipment when one county department is providing a service for another county department. Reimbursement will be made for the products used to oil and seal the courthouse square and east parking lot. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0.

At 11:31 a.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 11:36 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 1, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 1, 2012 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.

AFLAC Representative Bonnie Miller visited with the Board and tentative plans are for a return visit on October 29, 2012.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 2-0. Bergstrom did not vote as he did not attend this meeting.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint received permission to travel to the Register of Deeds Fall District Meeting, October 12, 2012 in Minneapolis, Kansas. Frint will also be attending a class on legal descriptions to increase her continuing education hours, October 24, 2012, in Salina, Kansas.

Retha Blecha, Appraiser's office, explained the value of waste land on the Bill Cory property.

County Treasurer Cindy Coons received permission to travel to the County Treasurer's Fall District Meeting, October 12, in Minneapolis, Kansas.

Highway Administrator and Republic County Solid Waste Director Scott Finkbiner met with the Board. Cloud County Solid Waste Director Justin Murdock joined the group and made a proposal for Household Hazardous Waste Collection for Cloud, Republic and Mitchell Counties. He noted that these three counties are the only ones in the state that do not have some facility to collect household hazardous waste.

There is a start-up grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 available through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Murdock was asking the Board if they were interested in participating with Cloud County before he would make a grant application for a (HHW) Household Hazardous Waste facility. The facility would be located at the Cloud County Recycling Center, 304 N. Cedar in Concordia. Mr. Murdock estimated it would cost about \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 per year to operate the collection facility. He noted that his interest in this is not to make money for Cloud County as it would not make any money but that this will give local residents a safe way to properly dispose of household hazardous waste material. The cost or

expense of the operation will be to transport or ship the items out to a certified disposal facility.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to participate in the HHW Project with Cloud County. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Finkbinder told the Board that they will soon be working south of Belleville on 170 Road. They will be extremely careful putting a new culvert in due to the fiber optic lines.

Finkbinder asked how to get the FEMA reimbursement money for building the Cherney Bridge back into his Special Bridge Account. Clerk Hall will research it.

Belleville Chamber and Main Street Representative Melinda Pierson received permission to block the inside of the Courthouse Square off for the Autumn Fest to be held on October 20, 2012. She asked if the County transportation bus could run that day to encourage more seniors to participate. Mr. Finkbinder will research that possibility and report back to the Board.

Economic Development Assistant Coordinator Luke Mahin visited with the Board. At 11:13 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss land acquisition with Mr. Mahin. Second by Chairman Rytych, motion passed 3-0. At 11:23 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

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

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 8, 2012 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 Denise Group offered the morning prayer.

Emergency Preparedness Director Raymond Raney visited with the Board about the upcoming table top exercise to be held October 23, 2012. This is for local schools, law enforcement, emergency medical services, hospitals and health department to discuss the emergency procedures for school safety. Neighboring counties have also been invited to participate. The exercise will start at 8:00 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. and the table top exercise is dealing with a possible shooter in a school or a reported bomb in a school.

Mr. Raney received permission to attend the Kansas APCO Conference, October 14-16, in Topeka, Kansas.

Raney told the Board that grants for GIS mapping will be available from the 911 funds collected by the State of Kansas. He plans to make application as this would be an opportunity for Republic County to get better maps.

Mr. Raney told the Board that a new agreement should be drawn up for those who rent space on the County radio tower. He will write up an agreement in the near future and return for the Board's approval.

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

County Treasurer Cindy Coons met with the Board to discuss the finance charges on the postage meter. A large unpaid balance has been carried on the postage meter for some time. The 2011 annual county audit letter to the Commissioners noted the finance charges. The Board directed Ms. Coons to pay this balance from the Courthouse General Fund thus putting a stop to the finance charges on the leased postage meter. From now on the Board suggested the postage meter invoices could be paid from Courthouse General and each department will reimburse the general fund for the postage they use. Ms. Coons keeps track of the usage.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner, Sales Manager Chadd Blackwood and Service Manager Patrick Messmore from Murphy Tractor visited with the Board about future equipment needs. Messmore explained that John Deere has a good buy back program that offers five years or 5000 hours. Mr. Finkbiner is studying the equipment available and the needs of his department. He will obviously solicit bids when appropriate.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he had received a call from High Plains. They have purchased another asphalt plant and would like to continue mixing for Republic County. That was good news.

Finkbiner also shared that NRCS did a survey on the damaged and closed bridge near the Kuhlman property. Campbell and Johnson Engineers said that creek drains 36 sections of land with considerable water flow when it rains.

Mr. Finkbinder informed the Board that Road and Bridge Secretary Darlene Havel plans to retire November 30, 2012.

Permission to travel was approved for Carol Nelson, Howard Killingbeck, Tom Snapp and Tom Thompson to attend the transportation certification meeting October 11, 2012 in Eldorado, Kansas.

Mike Hadachek and RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited about RCD matters. Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve a re-amortization of the RCD Loan for Belleville Farm and Home, Todd and Teresa Frye. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

A Deed of Reconveyance was also approved by the Board. This removed the County as named beneficiary as Julie Lambert's RCD loan has been paid in full. Attorney William L. Navis drew up the deed of reconveyance and Chairman Rytych signed for Republic County.

Mr. Hadachek asked the Board's permission to work with Doug Parks at the Bel Villa Restaurant. Parks is going to insulate the north and west side of the building. Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve subordination to Astra Bank on Mr. Park's restaurant equipment. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Doug Parks' RCD Loan is in good standing.

The Board asked Custodian Kevin Calkins to make sure there are two parking spots on each side for the public to park near the east door of the courthouse.

Chairman Rytych left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

At 12:00 noon, Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 15, 2012 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.

Jim Melton visited with the Board about the small bridge near his home. He also told the Board that Melton Motor Company appreciates the county's business and wants to bid on all used vehicles as well as new.

Mr. Melton also shared a report that shows how much sales tax his business generates and brings into Republic County.

Robin Nelson visited about the recent Breast Cancer Awareness Event in Scandia, Kansas. The event had more than 100 in attendance. Nelson presented a bill for \$900.00 for the meal. A voucher was made and presented to County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen. The meal is paid for through a grant and other donations.

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

Commissioner Holl made a motion to give the county schools each \$750.00 from the drug and alcohol fund for the after prom festivities. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. They also encouraged Sheriff Blad to find a program for drug and alcohol prevention and do presentation for our youth. The program could be paid for through the drug and alcohol money.

Sheriff Ron Blad visited with the Board about ambulance fees for transporting prisoners. They decided to invite EMS Director Don Lieb in to discuss the matter.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about road graders and new information on closing county roads.

At 10:45 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 5-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Mr. Finkbiner. At 10:50 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

Mr. Finkbiner informed the Board that he would make Lisa Jones the full time secretary for the road and bridge department starting October 15, 2012. Ms. Jones has been working part time and learning the job in anticipation of Darlene Havel's retirement on November 30, 2012.

A utility agreement was approved between Republic County and Nex Tech for them to construct and operate an underground phone line on certain public road right-of-way commencing 1320

feet each at 50 Road and Jade Road crossing from Section 14-2-5 then crossing into Section 11-2-5.

Finkbiner noted that he has put bid specifications out for culverts and grader blades.

Mike Hadachek, Jenny Russell, Luke Mahin and Neal Lewis visited with the Board about plans for economic development and the NCK Industrial Development Park. At 11:02 a.m., Chairman Rytych made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with those in attendance to discuss land acquisition. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 11:17 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

The Board later discussed taking a road trip to tour some property at 11:00 a.m. on October 22, 2012 and include the Economic Development Board and Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 22, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 22, 2012 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 Roger Wall offered the morning prayer.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to reappoint Dr. Cayle Goertzen to serve on the Republic County Hospital Board for a four year term. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The appointment will expire October 31, 2016. The Board signed a letter of appointment.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to pay for one half the cost of the new carpet in the lower level of the NCK Medical Arts Center/Building. Second by Commissioner Holl, motion passed 3-0. The money will be paid in equal parts from the county building fund and the hospital-medical arts maintenance fund. The estimate is under \$10,000.00 for the county's share.

The Board invited County Treasurer Cindy Coons to visit with them. They asked for documentation on the \$5,474.25 paid from Courthouse General Fund to zero out the invoice and stop paying interest on the postage meter account. The auditor will want to see a breakdown of items purchased and/or services received to explain the amount paid out.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf visited with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to allow Nondorf to purchase a new computer for his department and install the WeedWyse software program. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. The software is from CIC, Computer Information Concepts.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker visited with the Board. Commissioner Holl made a motion to update the RCD Criteria Sheet and require a D-U-N-N-S number on all applications. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. This number is to meet government guidelines and is sometimes referred to as a System for Award Management (SAM) number.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board. He introduced Casey Fraser and Kevin Walker from Foley Equipment Company. They visited with the Board about CAT Motor Graders. CAT has a buyback plan that deserves further study. CAT and John Deere have both brought loaner or demonstration machines to Belleville for the road and bridge department to try out for a couple of weeks.

Mr. Finkbiner noted that he received word that Republic County will be getting back \$532,000.00 from the Federal Fund Exchange for 2012. Finkbiner also shared that he has spent a bit under \$900,000.00 on sealing roads.

The Board discussed the HHW, Hazardous Household Waste containment. It was decided to let Cloud County provide a cabinet for storage.

EMS Director Don Lieb and Dave Holloway visited with the Board. Mr. Lieb received permission to attend the North Central Regional Trauma Council and State Meeting to be held at the Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Goertzen, Rebecca Brown and Mr. Lieb are going to attend the seminar.

Sheriff Ronald Blad joined in the discussion about transporting inmates for medical care. It was agreed that the Sheriff will pay \$125.00 for prisoner transport.

At 11:42 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Mr. Lieb and County Clerk Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:52 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 on Monday, October 29, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, October 29, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, 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.

The Board began their day with a telephone conference with Auditor Randall Hofmeier to discuss year end expenditures. The Board and Highway Administrator Scott Finkbner have discussed purchasing two new road graders this year. The Board asked Mr. Hofmeier to review the revenue and expenditures before they approved buying two graders.

At 8:42 a.m. Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Sheriff Ron Blad to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 8:52 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

The Board signed accounts payable vouchers.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the historical restoration grant to be used for the windows on the north side of the courthouse. If the Board accepts the bid, the work could start in March or April of next year. The one bid was for \$93,495.00 and with the county paying 20% of the cost on the 80/20 grant. The Board made no decision.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbner visited with the Board about Road and Bridge matters. Commissioners signed the Agreement with the Kansas Secretary of Transportation to reimburse the County up to \$532,152.22 on the federal fund exchange for 2012.

The Board informed Mr. Finkbner that after reviewing the budget with the auditor earlier in the day, the Board approved the purchase of one new road grader. If the \$500,000.00 federal fund exchange money is received and deposited in 2012, the Board of County Commissioners would approve the purchase of a second road grader at that time.

Mr. Finkbner told the Board he had received notification that Republic County will be limited to \$168,000.00 for the 2013 Federal Fund Exchange Program.

The Board asked Mr. Finkbner to prepare a list of future equipment needs. They asked that he prioritize in the order of importance and include the approximate cost of these items.

Beth Reed asked the Board to consider the purchase of a new photo copier. Currently the copier expenses are split between three funds; emergency preparedness, solid waste and the county commissioners. She noted that they could split the expense four ways by adding 911 Communications and split the expenses four ways. The Board asked for additional bids before making a decision.

Finkbner noted that there had been an audit of the county landfill and only one violation was recorded. The violation is minor and by adding a little more back fill dirt the county would again be in compliance. There must be twelve inches of dirt on top.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to close the county offices on December 24-25, 2012 for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

The County Commissioner's do not plan to hold a regular session during the week of Christmas. If needed they will individually stop by the Clerk's Office to sign accounts payable vouchers toward the end of that week.

The Board will consider closing December 31, 2012 but no decision was made today.

At 10:45 a.m., the Economic Development Committee members, Luke Mahin, Mike Hadachek and Neil Lewis, Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner and the Board went to view the north county yard.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:45 a.m. to visit with Ellen Anderson, Agency Director for the 12th Judicial District. Anderson asked the Board to approve and sign the Year End Outcome Report for the Community Corrections Agency. Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the report. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2012 meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Clerk Hall reminded the Board that the Kansas Statutes requires them to hold the official county canvass of ballots from the General Election on Monday, November 12 or Thursday, November 15, 2012. The Board chose to canvass ballots on Thursday, November 15 at 8:00 a.m. Upon completion of the canvass the board will conduct their regular business meeting. A department head meeting to be held at 11:00 a.m. that same day.

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, November 5, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 5, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville, with Commissioners Linda Holl, Marvin Bergstrom and Frank Rytch present. County Clerk Vickie Hall was also present to record the minutes of the meeting.

Custodian Kevin Calkins asked the Board about involving the businesses and civic groups in decorating the Courthouse lawn for the holidays. The Republic County Courthouse is front and center as residents participate in Christmas Around the Square. Businesses and organizations could sign up for a space on the courthouse lawn and decorate that space for Christmas. The County would put up uniform signs that say “compliments of” the business/organization. It was a consensus of the Board to allocate \$1,000.00 from the Parks & Recreation Fund to advertise the contest as well as offer a prize to the winning Christmas display. Mr. Calkins will be the contact person and organize the contest. He will get additional information out to the newspapers and radio.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint visited with the Board about the land descriptions of cemeteries in the County. The commissioners received a letter from Attorney Scott R. Condray offering the Stephenson Cemetery to the County. The previous owner of the cemetery is now deceased. The Board responded with a letter stating that it would not be in the best interest of the County to accept a family cemetery.

Kathy Calkins visited with the Board about the installation of new windows in the courthouse. The original historical grant application was made in 2010. Replacing the windows on the north side of the building is estimated at \$90,000.00 leaving three sides of the building untouched. It has been determined that other counties have replaced all the windows (on all four sides of their building) for approximately \$120,000.00 without grant money. They have installed quality double pane windows. We of course would stick with the aluminum finish. No decision was made on the windows.

Secretary Kathy Calkins asked the Board to turn the window project over to custodian Kevin Calkins. It is taking up too much time when the Co. Attorney’s office has been busier than usual.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about equipment. The department is still trying out the machines and he hasn’t made a decision on which grader to buy.

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

Finkbiner will review the route for a new house to be moved into Republic County by Wardcraft Homes. The house is going into the City of Courtland, November 8, 2012. Clerk Hall is preparing the official moving permit.

The Board approved and signed the Phone Line Agreement between AT&T and Republic County. AT&T is hereby granted permission to construct and operate an underground phone line on certain public road right-of-way described as: Commencing on west side of 150 Rd; Section 17; T4S; R3W from Hwy 148 going 1 mile north to Valley Road thence $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west on south side of road; Section 17-4-3.

An Electric Cable Agreement was approved and signed between Moeller Electric and Republic County. Moeller Electric is hereby granted permission to construct and operate an underground electric cable on certain public road right-of-way described as follows: Section 3-T1S-R5W running between 40 Road on Ash to 50 Road, thence going north into Nebraska SE 34-T1N-R5W.

Beth Reed received approval from the Board to attend the KEMA board meeting, November 8, 2012 in Newton, Kansas.

It was decided that due to the Veterans Day Holiday on Monday, the commissioners will hold a special meeting on Thursday, November 15 at 8:00 a.m. to canvass ballots from the November 6 General Election. Following the canvass they will conduct regular business for the week.

No commissioner minutes were submitted for approval this week.

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

The next regular business meeting will be held on Monday, November 19, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 8:00 a.m., to conduct the official canvass of ballots from the November 6th General Election. Commissioners Frank Rytch, Linda Holl and Marvin Bergstrom were present. County Clerk Vickie Hall and Election Deputy Beth Ball assisted with the canvass. Kathleen Marsicek observed the canvass and monitored the meeting.

At 10:15 a.m., the regular commissioner meeting began, following the canvass of ballots. Accounts payable vouchers were signed throughout the meeting.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner visited with the Board about road equipment. Commissioner Holl made a motion to purchase two Caterpillar, all wheel drive, road graders. One will be purchased immediately and the second one will be purchased as soon as the county receives reimbursement from the federal highway exchange fund. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The plan is to get on a 5 year rotation plan with newer road graders. Finkbiner noted that the all wheel drive will be a big asset when doing ditch work and pushing snow.

Finkbiner noted that the bid opening for culverts will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 19, 2012.

The scheduled department head meeting began at 11:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner, Communications Director Raymond Raney, Treasurer Cindy Coons, EMS Director Don Lieb, Health Administrator Marcia Hansen, Appraiser Barry Porter, Register of Deeds Peggy Frint, Custodian Kevin Calkins, Sheriff Ron Blad, County Attorney Marlea James and County Clerk Vickie Hall. The commissioners informed them that Republic County employees would have December 24 and 25 as paid holidays for Christmas. The county holidays will also include December 31 and January 1, 2013 for New Years. Public service announcements and advertisements will notify the public of the closings in an effort to alert them to conduct their county business prior to those dates.

Revised personnel manuals will be distributed in the near future. Christmas celebrations were discussed and the Board asked department heads to complete employee evaluations by December 3rd. Department heads should then schedule an appointment with the Board to discuss evaluations and salary increases. A schedule for year end accounts payable deadlines will be set. Vouchers that are submitted after the end date will be paid in the next batch of accounts payable vouchers.

It was a consensus of the Board to continue with the annual pay adjustment of \$50.00 for full time employees and \$25.00 for part-time employees.

Melinda Pierson, Belleville Chamber and Main Street, presented a hold harmless agreement and received permission to use the inside drive around the courthouse for "Christmas on the Square" November 23rd.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to re-appointed Sharon Segerhammar to serve on the Pawnee Mental Health Board. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 11:31 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 30-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 12:01 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Clerk Hall noted that she signed the authorization for the Standard Switched Service Agreement with TouchTone Communications. Previously with Media Concepts, we were paying .0399 and with TouchTone the county will pay \$.0265 offering a savings of \$100.00 per month. We will not notice any change in service. TouchTone was already doing the billing for Media Concepts. Dave White is our representative.

The Board gave Beth Reed permission to replace the Christmas tree in the basement.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 29, 2012 meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2012 meeting. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to adjourn the meeting and attend the retirement party for Road and Bridge Secretary Darlene Havel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 19, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 19, 2012 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.

At 8:31 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Appraiser Barry Porter to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 8:41 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board visited with Mr. Porter about cell towers and zoning. It is a concern that some of the towers do not have sufficient "set back" in Republic County. If some of the towers went down they would surely block major highways. Zoning has its challenges but without zoning the companies have no rules or required "set back" in Republic County.

Custodian Kevin Calkins told the Board that he has put "Notice to Contractors" in three papers seeking bids for new windows. He did include the windows on the west side of the building in the jail corridor. Bids are due by December 7, 2012.

Calkins said there is less excitement about decorating the courthouse lawn due to time constraints. A few groups that originally signed up for a space have backed out. If the word gets out earlier next year it might be one of those things that catches on and grows a little each year.

Weed Director Mike Nondorf received permission from the Board to look for a one ton dual wheeled pickup truck for his department. Nondorf told the Board that he could carry more weed spray if he had a heavier pickup with dual wheels and it would be safer and better balanced than his current one. Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner has agreed to purchase the pickup truck Mr. Nondorf currently uses to spray.

The Board signed a letter to employees thanking them for their service. The letter will be included with their pay adjustment check.

Attorney Frank G. Spurney, Jr. visited with the Board about the Duclos Foundation.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the November 15, 2012 minutes with one correction. The date for culverts should be November 19th and not November 26. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 9:47 a.m., Chairman Rytych made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:57 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 10:00 a.m., Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner the Board held the official bid opening for culverts. Gary Montre of Welborn Sales, Inc. was in attendance. Chairman Rytych made a motion to accept the low bid from Welborn Sales, Salina, KS in the amount of \$47,499.70 for aluminized and \$45,791.48 for galvanized. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Other bids were as follows:

JJ Drainage Products Co., Hutchinson, KS	\$57,864.72 for aluminized
	\$55,350.40 for galvanized
Kahn Culverts, Inc., Paola, KS	\$55,396.08 aluminized
	\$46,117.00 galvanized
Metal Culverts, Inc., Jefferson City, MO	\$56,149.64 for aluminized
	\$48,582.92 for galvanized

Bob Dameron, Kahn Culvert, Inc., Paola, Kansas joined the group.

Following the culvert bids, Chairman Rytych proceeded to open the bids for grader blades for the county and Belleville City.

Welborn Sales, Salina, KS	\$8,001.50
DC Wholesale, Concordia, KS	\$7,242.20

Commissioner Holl made a motion to accept the low bid of \$7,242.20 from DC Wholesale, Concordia, Kansas. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Sonny and Kevin Kuhlmann visited with the Board about the proposed culvert replacement near their feed lot. A larger structure needs to be put in to carry water. They asked that the county delay replacing that particular structure and instead replace or fix the water flow near the corner. Mr. Finkbiner will study the situation.

Discussion followed about the damaged bridge near the Kuhlmann property. The county received \$40,000.00 for the damage done to County Bridge E-17.3. Kevin Kuhlmann indicated that he thinks the idea of the big steel tubes would work but stated that water will still go across the road if we get a really big rain. Campbell and Johnson engineers told the county that those tubes would not carry enough water. Kuhlmann's suggested a low water crossing be installed so they could have access but the county has been cautioned many times that low water crossings are not appropriate due to the liability it extends to the county. Finkbiner will

visit with Norman Bowers about what constitutes both the “farm access road” and a “minimum access road”.

Economic Development Director Jenny Russell, Neal Lewis and Michael Hadachek visited with the Board about land acquisition. The Commissioners and the North Central Kansas Industrial Development Committee are working to trade property in section 34-2-3 currently owned by the county. The County previously agreed to trade a piece of property with the City of Belleville. It needs to be of equal value.

Mike Hadachek introduced Pastor Emily Meckley, First United Methodist Church, Belleville. Kathleen Marsicek and Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek also monitored portions of the meeting.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker and the Board agreed upon December 19 as the next RCD Committee Meeting.

Commissioner 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 26, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, November 26, 2012 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. Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and Kathleen Marsicek monitored portions of the meeting.

Pastor Roger Wall offered the morning prayer.

Election Deputy Beth Ball joined the Commissioners at 8:30 a.m. According to Kansas State Statutes the Board of County Commissioners will decide "by lot" the winner of the election when the election results indicate a tie. There were several ties following the official county canvass of votes, November 15, and the winners of the coin flip are as follows:

Beaver Township Trustee – Paul Langston
Fairview Township Trustee – David Kadavy
Rose Creek Township Trustee – Billy Joe Strnad
Union Township Trustee – Delton Robison
Union Township Treasurer – Connie Levendofsky
White Rock Township Trustee – Brad Peterson

County Attorney Marlea Woodman James visited with the Board about the legal requirements for Republic County and the City of Belleville to trade parcels of land. The Board asked her to personally visit with the Belleville City Manager Neal Lewis for more direction.

Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and the Board shared their concerns about the maintenance of the Republic County Hospital and the North Central Kansas Medical Arts Building. The Board will consider adding a small levy to the 2014 County Budget to help with the ongoing maintenance of the clinic.

Register of Deeds Peggy Frint presented the employee evaluation for her department.

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

At 9:47 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 13-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. At 10:00 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

EMS Director Don Lieb sent his request for pay increases in his department.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner introduced Casey Fraser from Foley Equipment Company. Chairman Rytych signed the equipment order for the two new Model 2012 Caterpillar road graders. Purchase price \$220,646.99 for 120M2AWD CAT Road Grader Serial #0M9H00226. Trade in value of \$66,800.00 was allowed for the GD655 Komatsu road grader making the total \$153,846.99 for the new grader. There is a guaranteed buy back of \$154,000.00 at five years.

A second CAT Road Grader 120M2AWD (All Wheel Drive) Serial #0M9H00227, with a purchase price of \$220,646.99 has a 5 year guaranteed buy back, will be written up as a rental unit until the end of the year. When the reimbursement arrives from the Federal Highway Fund Exchange the County will write the check to Foley Equipment paying for the second grader.

Finkbiner noted that the County finally received the \$83,333.31 reimbursement check from FEMA which will be deposited into the Special Bridge Fund.

Mr. Finkbiner reported that two of his employees were involved in an accident. One employee rear-ended the truck of another employee. Both were older trucks and thankfully unloaded at the time. There was \$8,415.97 damage to one and \$2,653.50 damage to the second vehicle. We must take time for safety. He noted that a defensive driving class will be given by KWORC for county employees in December.

The Board and Mr. Finkbiner visited about County Bridge E-17.3 and the road near Kevin Kuhlmann's. He had visited with Norm Bowers who informed him that if the county wanted to make that road a "low maintenance road" it would have to be posted as such. The Board indicated they would rather keep that road open to the public and post it as "low maintenance".

Mr. Finkbiner noted that each employee who operates the crane must be certified. Currently the tuition for the class is now at \$1,200.00 and the tuition is expected to go up to \$1,500.00 per employee in near future.

Finkbiner and the Board discussed employee evaluations and pay increases for the road and bridge department. He also asked the Board to do away with the 6 month waiting period for new employees who prefer to use earned vacation time on a regular basis.

A utility agreement was signed between Republic County and Every Angle Covered granting permission to construct and operate an underground electric line on certain public road right-of-way in Section 5-4-5. The line is to be maintained and kept in good repair by Craig Elliott.

At 11:07 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with County Clerk Vickie Hall. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:22 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to give \$300.00 to the Rocky Pond Christmas Lighting Project, to be paid from the Parks and Recreation Fund. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Rytych excused himself at 11:40 a.m., to meet his son for lunch.

None of the Board members will attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting today.

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

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 3, 2012 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. Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and Kathleen Marsicek monitored the meeting.

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

Kathy Calkins and Kevin Calkins visited with the Board about the windows grant project. Ruth Rahe contacted the State Historical Society regarding the windows project after seeing ads in the newspaper seeking bids for “replacement windows” for the courthouse. Mrs. Rahe had previously been involved in restoration projects at the Republic County Courthouse during her tenure as Republic County Register of Deeds and has remained interested in historical preservation. Katrina Ringler, the Kansas State Historical Society’s Grants Manager confirmed that Mrs. Rahe had called their office, therefor Ms. Ringler followed up with an email to Kathy Calkins. Ms. Ringler is aware that no decision has been made to date. She also understands that we are looking at all options to compare the cost of replacement vs. repair and exterior storms. When the bids are in and studied and references checked, the Board will then make a fully informed decision.

At 10:00 a.m., Grant Coordinator for the Courthouse Window Project Kathy Calkins, Kevin Calkins, Republic County Historical Society President Nancy Holt and Ruth Rahe visited with the Board. The Board is currently taking bids for replacement windows for all four sides of the building. It is the Board of County Commissioners job to study any “feasible and prudent alternatives” to repair the courthouse windows or purchase and install double paned replacement windows. They are doing their “due diligence” as they look at all options and the total costs to be good stewards of the county taxpayer funds. Ruth Rahe insists on repaired windows and not replacement windows. Rahe had asked Nancy Holt to come with her to voice Rahe’s concerns about the window project. Everyone present agreed that historic preservation of the courthouse is obviously one of the priorities as they investigate the options. Nancy Holt told the group that she understands that fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers is a very important part of the decision as well as historical preservation.

Brad Swanson, Terry Cherney and Kevin Kopsa, three supervisors from the Road and Bridge Department visited with the Board. At 10:17 a.m., Chairman Rytych made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session with the three supervisors to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Regular session resumed at 10:32 a.m., with no action taken by the Board. Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner is currently on vacation.

Utility Agreements were approved and signed between JBN Telephone and Republic County to operate underground telephone lines in Section 29-1-1 from the intersection of 270 Rd and Fir Rod going west to the address 2641 Fir Road going south to the house.

A second agreement was approved between JBN Telephone Inc. and Republic County to Section 5-2-1. This telephone line will go on the east side of the road shoulder for one mile to 270 Rd & Hickory Rd.

A utility agreement was also approved and signed between Bob Lawson and Republic County to grant permission to use the public road ditch as part of a waterway in the development of an accepted Drainage Plan as proposed by a licensed engineer. The waterway located along the north side of the south road of Section 13-4-1.

County Health Administrator Marcia Hansen visited with the Board. At 10:39 a.m., Chairman Rytych made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with Marcia to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. At 10:49 a.m., regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board.

City Attorney Douglas G. Simms, Belleville City Manager Neal Lewis, Mike Hadachek and Luke Mahin visited with the Board. County Attorney Marlea James was invited to join the group. It was a consensus to hire Campbell and Johnson to do a new survey and create a new legal description on the property in the Industrial Park. The cost will be covered by Economic Development funds.

Communications Director Raymond Raney presented the evaluations for his department and visited with the Board.

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, December 10, 2012 at 8:30 a.m., Courthouse, Belleville.

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 10, 2012 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. Belleville Telescope Editor Deb Hadachek and Kathleen Marsicek monitored the meeting.

Pastor Emily Meckley offered the morning prayer.

Mike Schultz visited with the Board about the county landfill.

At 8:38 a.m., Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session with County Treasurer Cindy Coons to discuss non-elected personnel employee evaluations with the Board. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 8:48 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

The Board engaged in a telephone conference with the Washington County Commissioners and agreed to pay \$150.00 per year starting in 2013 for mowing and upkeep on the 6th Principal Meridian Monument Site northwest of Mahaska, Kansas. Maintenance will be \$600.00 per year; Republic County will share this expense with three other entities.

At 9:11 a.m., Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Sheriff Ron Blad. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 9:21 a.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Rytych held the official bid opening for the window project at 9:30 a.m. with Don Bechard, Kevin and Kathy Calkins and Deb Hadachek in attendance. The only two bids received were from Wilson Group, Greenwood, Missouri for all four sides of the building and doors at \$197,502.00 working with Don Bechard. Glass Services Inc., Salina, Kansas bid \$156,312.00 on the project. Both bidders will be

invited to do a presentation to the Board to explain their product and allow the Board to ask questions.

There was some discussion that the bid specifications could have been more detailed to insure that we are comparing apples to apples. There are many “grades”, qualities and strengths of window glass. More information is required before a decision is made on the window project.

RCD Secretary Kay Shoemaker told the Board there would be no RCD meeting this month. The next scheduled meeting will be January 9, 2013.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner reported that the County has received the reimbursement check in the amount of \$512,842.88 from the State of Kansas - Federal Fund Exchange for highway projects.

Finkbiner also noted that he had received a load of used I-Beams to build bridges which was a large savings to the County as it works out to \$285.00 a ton.

Finkbiner noted that Husker Steel wants to evaluate the Republic Bridge sometime this week. They will do a preliminary study on it but it is still in KDOT’s hands at this time.

Finkbiner and the Board discussed the usual road and bridge matters. At 10:29 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session only with Board members. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 10:39 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 10:43 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 20-minute executive session with Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:03 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

Following considerable discussion it was the consensus of the Board that one new CAT road grader will be assigned or located on the east side of the county and the other new grader on the west side.

A utility agreement was approved between Republic County and JBN Telephone Company. They will bury a new phone line in the NW1/4 of Section 32-1-1 to 2641 Fir Road to the Stephens residence.

Permission to travel was approved for Richard Bergstrom to attend the E-Waste and landfill meeting, December 13, 2012, in Solomon, Kansas. Mike Schultz complaint was also discussed with Mr. Finkbiner.

Lyle Peterson, Kansas Department of Commerce, Luke Hubert, Neal Lewis, Randy Hansen, Randy Nelson, Leah Krotz, Mandi Valek, Mikel Hadachek and Luke Mahin joined the Board. Doug Wilkinson had a telephone conversation with the Board and Mr. Mahin gave a power point presentation on the "year one" findings of the Rural Opportunity Zone Program.

Luke Hubert, Citizens National Bank, visited with the Board and offered additional banking services.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to recess for lunch and return to study evaluations and salary increases for 2013. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 1:45 p.m. regular session resumed to study evaluations. Republic County elected official's salaries for 2013 were also discussed by the Board.

At 1:58 p.m., Commissioner Linda Holl made a motion to go into a 30-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. At 2:28 p.m. Holl made a motion to extend the executive session by 30 minutes. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 2:58 p.m. regular session resumed with no action taken by the Board. The Board and Clerk Hall took a short break.

At 3:04 p.m., Chairman Rytych made a motion to go into a one hour executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 4:04 p.m. with no action taken by the Board.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 2-0. Holl did not vote as she did not attend that meeting.

It was a consensus of the Board to issue no pay increases for the Republic County Health Department employees until things are running more smoothly.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 p.m. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

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

The Republic County Governing Board met in regular session on Monday, December 17, 2012 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. Kathleen Marsicek monitored this meeting.

Custodian Kevin Calkins announced that the winner of the Courthouse Lawn Christmas Decorating Contest was Brian Isaacson owner of Apple One Media. He will receive \$100.00 in Chamber Bucks.

Sheriff Ron Blad received permission to take bids for a new pickup truck for his department. He was recently informed that the drug seizure money his department is to receive will not be distributed until 2013. Blad has delayed trading vehicles so the vehicle could be bought with some of the seizure money.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to pass Resolution 2012-32 authorizing Republic County to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone student loan repayment program. Republic County will allocate \$3,000.00 from Republic County Economic Development funds for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas. Second was by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Bergstrom made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by Holl, motion passed 3-0.

After many years of dedicated service, NCK Fair Board member Don McChesney has resigned as Rose Creek Township representative. Chairman Rytych made a motion to accept Mr. McChesney's resignation and appoint Jarad Sasser to represent Rose Creek Township on the fair board. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Highway Administrator Scott Finkbiner met with the Board to discuss road and bridge matters.

The Board approved a utility agreement between Republic County and Verlene Veteto to use public road right-of-way in the development of an accepted drainage plan as proposed by a licensed Engineer. Said waterway shall be constructed and maintained at 50 Road and Timber Road along the west side of the SW ¼ of Section 35-3-5.

A second utility agreement was approved between Republic County and JBN Telephone Company to grant permission to construct and operate an underground telephone line on certain public road right of-way described as follows: from Granite Rd to Hickory Rd on east side of 270 Rd to replace existing old cable for Mark Thomas. Section 4-2-1.

Don Danielson asked if the county road employees could work on a corner near land owned by Republic County Museum. This was discussed about a year ago so it is the second request but the Board again denied the request.

Finkbiner noted that KDOT identified 13 county bridges with scouring. When time allows the bridge crew will put rip-rap at those sites to stop undermining the abutments. They also listed the 7 bridges that are currently closed in Republic County.

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

At 10:25 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Scott Finkbiner. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. The Board extended the session by 10 additional minutes. Regular session resumed at 10:45 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:22 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with Terry Cherney. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0. Regular session resumed at 11:37 a.m., with no action taken by the Board.

At 11:38 a.m., Commissioner Holl made a motion to go into a 10-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.

The Board reviewed the appointments of various committees throughout the County.

Board members decided not to attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting due to numerous cases of flu at the hospital.

Commissioner Holl made a motion to approve the salaries of all the employees paid an hourly rate and the listing of appointed department heads as proposed. Second by Rytych, motion passed 3-0.

It was a consensus of the Board to leave Brad Swanson's 2013 salary the same as last year.

It is a consensus of the Board that there will be no raises at the County Health Department until the department is running more smoothly.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-30. This is a resolution setting the salary of the County Clerk. Whereas, the County Clerk is newly elected and has no previous experience or knowledge of the duties required by this office or position; the Board has set the 2013 salary of the County Clerk at \$27,500.00 with the expectation of increased wages as the knowledge of the job increases. Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0.

Chairman Rytych made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-31 Whereas, the County Commissioners set the Elected Officials Salaries for 2013 as follows:

County Attorney	\$47,380.00
County Sheriff	42,000.00
County Treasurer	33,615.62
County Clerk	27,500.00
County Register of Deeds	27,400.00
County Commissioners	12,000.00

Second by Bergstrom, motion passed 3-0 and supersedes any previous resolutions regarding the salaries listed above for the Republic County elected officials.

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

The official swearing in of the newly elected Republic County Officials will be held in the Republic County Courtroom at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 14, 2013.

County offices will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 7, 2013, Courthouse, Belleville.