

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Doug Garman, Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope observed most of the meeting. Others attending were Nick Levendofsky, Nathan Craig and Warren Sutton.

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

Lay Pastor Al Urich, Lutheran Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the minutes from November 15. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the minutes from November 7. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$165,524.63.

Kay Shoemaker, Republic County Development, presented lien release papers Central Respiratory for completing their obligation to Republic County Development loan program.

Clerk Marsicek presented the election positions for Township Clerk that need tiebreaker results completed.

- Beaver Township- Kevin Jensen
- Fairview Township-Jennifer Craig
- Norway Township-Ashley Carlgren
- Richland Township-Jesy Strnad
- Rose Creek Township-Lance Rundus
- White Rock Township-Betty Bouray

Honorable Mayor of Munden, Jimmie Blecha, joined the meeting to update the commissioners on the City of Munden.

- Blecha thanked the commissioners for the ARPA funds to assist with the mandatory water shut for the south part of Munden.
- Munden has new tower service through Next-Tech.
- Munden's Christmas celebration will be December 8th at 7 P.m.
- Munden received a grant from the Republic County Foundation that was used to purchase a Television and mounting for the community center.
- Blecha asked if the county had discussed the pass-through program that would allow the cities in Republic County to pay the County the money received from residents only for solid waste services instead of billing a set amount regardless of the number of residential units. The commissioner will look further into the situation but all the cities would need to agree to the change not just a couple.

Jay Kallman, Republic County's Silver Haired Legislator (SHL), reported that he attended the annual SHL meeting in Topeka on October 4th to 6th. Kallman shared that he really enjoys this opportunity attend these meetings. It is a great experience and learns many things about what goes on in the State Legislator.

The Commissioners thanked Kallman for his service to represent Republic County on this committee.

Commissioner Splichal shared that he attended the Juvenile Detention meeting in Junction City on November 16.

Ken Robbins, Nathan Craig and Stacey Bowen presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge and turbine project information:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins presented for signature on a utility agreement between Republic County and K&K Land LLC to construct and operate an underground irrigation pipe under Xavier Rd.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

- Road crews assisted the City of Scandia by mulching and trimming trees.
- Robbins is searching for a salt/sanding truck or alternative modifications to an existing dump truck to increase the County's capacity to respond to icing conditions.
- Mowing roadsides continues as long as the weather allows.
- The two excavators are currently down for repairs.
- Robbins will be contacting the school district in regards to bus routes during the construction phase of the turbine project.
- Robbins stated that NextEra will be publishing areas of increased traffic during construction in the Belleville Telescope.

Commissioner Garman shared that there is a grader listed on Big Iron Auction that Robbins could check out and also complimented the person mowing and trimming west of Courtland on a great job.

- Bowen invited the commissioners to the annual employee appreciation lunch on November 30 at 1:00 p.m. and presented quotes for the meal from:
 - Northside Pizza \$10.00 per meal
 - Los Primos \$12.00 per meal

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the quote from Northside Pizza. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

- Bowen announced there were 34 riders who received prizes during the week of November 14 to 18.
- Bowen announced that there will be bus tours to Rocky Pond lights for citizens.

Raymond Raney announced that a candidate for dispatcher has also applied for another department. Raney will visit with the other supervisor and see if arrangements can be made in helping both departments.

Commissioners reviewed the suggested Holiday schedule for 2023. The Holiday schedule would include a four-day Christmas break starting on Saturday, December 23 and continue through Tuesday, December 26.

Commissioner Garman made a motion not to hold a commissioner meeting December 25 to December 29. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe.

Toby Marco, County Appraiser, updated the board on the functioning of the Appraiser's office:

- His department is finalizing the inspections for yearend certification.
- Ag land appraisal valuation of the land rate is set by Kansas State but the local appraisers set the market value by evaluating land sales in the last year.

At 10:55 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel wage reviews. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it

unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Macro and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 10 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:20 a.m., taking no action.

Sandee Swanson, Register of Deeds, announced the hiring of Olynn Pierson as Deputy Register of Deeds at a rate of \$15.30 per hour.

Ms. Nancy Meyer, Superintendent of USD 109, introduced herself and shared that she is enjoying being part of the Republic County community. Every school district can always use extra funds for projects or special classes to help students reach their full potential. Meyer will create a suggestion list and present it to the commissioners at a later date.

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

The next meeting will be on Monday, November 28, 2022, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Doug Garman, Chairperson

Melvin Jeardoe, Member

Edwin Splichal, Member