

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, August 29, 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. Fred Arnold from the Belleville Telescope observed most of the meeting.

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

Lay Pastor Kathleen Marsicek, Little Blue River Parish, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the August 22, 2022 minutes and Special meeting minutes from August 23. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Marsicek presented Resolution No. 2022-25 to approve the increase in the RNR for the Republic County budget year 2023.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-25. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Clerk Marsicek presented the final approved 2021 audit report to each commissioner.

Jenny Russell, RCED, sent via email an application for reimbursement for the demolition of a building. Steven Breden is the applicant.

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to appoint Dr. Joshua Chapman as a Republic County Coroner effective September 7, 2022 to fulfill the unexpired term of the retiring Dr. Andy Walker for the balance of 2022. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Marsicek presented a letter to appoint Barbara Jan Jacobson as the Clerk of Norway Township.

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

Faye Jones, Health Administrator, presented a permission to travel to Beloit for the NCHPHI Regional meeting on September 14. Permission was granted.

Jones presented two quotes for a new computer.

- Lock-It \$1,879.22
- Professional Computer Systems \$1,894.95

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to accept the quote from Professional Systems. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Garman.

Jones also updated the commissioners on the following:

- Immunization are starting today, August 29 at the Health Department.
- Walk-in clinic will start on Wednesday.
- Flu clinic will be held in late September.
- COVID vaccines should be received on Tuesday.
- Senior Care Act Program will begin this week
- Searching for an additional RN.
- Health Department has starting the invoicing and bill process on services performed.
- CDC and KDHE have changed the rules pertaining to COVID recommendations. The Commissioners reviewed the recommendations.

At 8:53 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 7 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding job performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

The Board reconvened at 9:00 a.m., taking no action.

Persons attending the public forum were Barry Baxa, Robert Lahodny, Brenda Danielson, Joanne Filinger, Jeannette Sheets, Tommy Kokko, Alan Anderson and Jeremy LaFaver.

Commissioner Splichal clarified the issue of conflict of interest regarding his land deed changes back in 2019 between his lawyers and his family. The deed transfer did not have anything to do with the possibility of a windfarm coming to Republic County.

Baxa stated that the setback information has not been made clear. Is the setback from a person's residence or the property line? What rights do non-participates have? This windfarm will not affect current generations as much as the next generations.

Danielson stated that towers should be built in areas that are less populated, than here.

Filinger shared that she attended the informational meeting in Cuba on Thursday, August 25. She received answers to several of her questions.

Anderson thanked everyone that attended the meeting. There were several people that attended and many good questions asked and the concerned persons were encouraged to stay around and discuss any questions with the panel of experts that were not asked.

Commissioner Garman asked when the application to the FAA for ADLS lights will be approved.

Anderson explained that until all the proposed tower locations are approved the application for ADLS cannot be finalized.

Danielson asked who's responsible if damage is caused from a tower.

Commissioner Garman and Anderson stated that a tower is a piece of equipment and it will be insured as such.

Kenneth Robbins, Highway, Transportation and Bridge Administrator presented for review:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Jewell County has been working on the shared bridge between Republic County and Jewell County.
- Some A/C issues in some tractors and mowers.
- Several culvert projects have been completed.
- A couple of job applications have been received but no interviews have been set up yet.

Attorney Trish Voth and Intern Madison Moore, Foulston Siefkin LLP, joined the meeting.

At 10:10 a.m., Commissioner Jeardoe moved to enter into executive session for 1 hour for Attorney-Client Privilege to discuss the proposed wind farm project. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Voth and Moore.

The board reconvened at 11:10 a.m., taking no action.

At 11:17 a.m., Commissioner Garman moved to enter into executive session for 30 minutes for Attorney-Client Privilege to discuss the proposed wind farm project. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous. Attending the session were the commissioners, Voth and Moore.

The board reconvened at 11:47 a.m., Voth was asked to return on September 19.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion and Commissioner Splichal seconded to adjourn at 11:55 a.m. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

Due to Labor Day on Monday, the next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Doug Garman, Chairperson

Melvin Jeardoe, Member

Edwin Splichal, Member