

# **REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**

## **MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe and Edwin Splichal. Commissioner Marvin Bergstrom was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek, The Belleville Telescope and Doug Garman observed 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 carried

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Danielle Swanson, Justin Ferrell and Raymond Raney, presented their weekly update regarding the reopening of Republic County businesses and activities. Swanson announced that Republic County is following a modified Phase 3 that includes increasing the number of people in a gathering to 75, bars can serve up to 75% capacity and the swimming pools and splash pads can open as of June 1. After June 15, all restrictions will be lifted if there are no new coronavirus cases in Republic County. Raney shared that some of the flex panels, to be used as barriers, has been received and one has been installed over Susan Aaron's desk.

Commissioner Jeardoe inquired if Republic County can collect repair costs when people drive on muddy roads and destroy it. Ferrell explained if the person is caught in the act they can be fined for damaging property.

Sheriff Ron Blad announced that Rick Cleveland will retire on June 30. Blad is advertising for two full-time security guards. The benefits would include regular KPERS not KP&F.

Danielle Swanson returned to announce that the Health Department was awarded a \$12,000 grant from the state COVID -19 funding to be paid out in installments. The first payment of \$3,000 has been received. Once receipts are submitted to the state to show the use all these funds, a second check will be received. Swanson also announced that the installation of the new roof on the health department will begin this week.

Clerk Marsicek presented for action five resolutions to process the transfers of unencumbered funds from 2019 to 2020 funds.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-31 to 35 in the following amounts.

- Resolution No. 2020-31      Transfer \$175,000 from R&B to Special Highway
- Resolution No. 2020-32      Transfer \$150,000 from R&B to Special Equipment
- Resolution No. 2020-33      Transfer \$75,000 from Ambulance to Special Ambulance Equipment
- Resolution No. 2020-34      Transfer \$100,000 from County General to Equipment Reserve
- Resolution No. 2020-35      Transfer \$100,000 from County General to Capital Improvement Reserve

Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bobby Lawson and Dan Snyder, Road and Bridge department presented updates from the county shop departments:

- Asphalt crew is patching south of Scandia.
- Bridge crew is installing a culvert west of 220 Rd on Elm Rd.
- Maintainers are blading their regular routes.
- Commissioner Jeardoe inquired when the road work on Diamond Rd will be finished and shared a citizens' concern regarding two roads that need a bridge and culvert in Lincoln Township.
- Bobby announced that Tom Thompson will retire on June 25<sup>th</sup> and his retirement party will be on June 11 at noon.
- Commissioners advised Bobby to place classified ads for two full-time operators and a couple part-time operators.
- Dan announced that the recycle trailers have been delivered to the cities for use and projects that they will fill fast and a transfer to the recycle center will be scheduled quickly.
- Dan announced that the buses are back on the road with limited number of passengers for proper social distancing.
- The landfill is operating its regular summer hours.

John Robison, Morgan Barnhart, Doug Garman and Wayne Pacht from Republic County Soil Conservation District presented their annual request for funding. They requested \$37,500 which is the same amount as 2020. Morgan announced that the Conservation District will receive increased amounts of funding from the state. The commission will take under advisement this request when compiling the 2021 Republic County budget.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to sign the agreement with Work Force One which is designated as a "Local Government, to define the right and duties of the Local Governments in their cooperative oversight of the work force development programs authorized by the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act" until June 30, 2025. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jeff Beikmann, EMS Director, announced that he viewed the new ambulance by a virtual tour. The ambulance should be available for a tour by mid-June. Beikmann also requested a letter on County letterhead showing that he was appointed as Director effective June 1.

Discussion regarding the requirement of wearing face masks in the courthouse resulted in a unanimous decision to remove the requirement within the courthouse unless a specific department requests its use.

Commissioner Jear DOE made a motion to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, June 8, 2020, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen L. Marsicek – County Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melvin Jear DOE – Chair  
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Edwin Splichal – Member  
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Marvin Bergstrom – Member