

**REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Melvin Jeardoe, Edwin Splichal and Doug Garman. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from Belleville Telescope monitored the meeting.

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

Pastor Rick Snodgrass, Assembly of God Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the February 7, 2022 minutes. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

This years' regular accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount \$243,033.26 and the (2021) bill back vouchers in the amount of \$140,686.75.

Mike Nondorf, Noxious Weed Director, presented for signatures his annual report for Kansas State Noxious Weed Department.

Justin Ferrell and Raymond Raney presented updates from their departments.

Ferrell reported:

- The number of court cases have increased.
- The agreement between Republic County and Trish Voth at Foulston has been modified with the commissioner's request and Voth has requested a virtual meeting on February 28 to update the commissioners.
- Ferrell presented a bid for an additional security camera and door-lock into the County Attorney's office from Car-Tel, who installed the other cameras in the courthouse, with a cost of \$1,589.69.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the bid from Car-Tel. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Raney reported that he continues to search for dispatchers.

Danielle Swanson, sent her weekly report on coronavirus cases showing 42 new cases in the last 2 weeks with 16 currently active, 6 hospitalized and 1 new COVID related death for Republic County.

Retha Blecha, Deputy Appraiser, announced the hiring of Korin Huncovsky as Data collector and Personal property clerk in the Appraiser's office starting on March 1.

Susan Aaron, Solid Waste secretary, presented 5 solid waste agreements for 2022 for signatures between the cities and Republic County. The cities are Cuba, Scandia, Republic, Narka and Agenda.

Commissioner Splichal reported that he attended the monthly Juvenile Detention meeting.

Sheriff David Cox presented and discussed with Commissioners the following:

- One jailer will be transferring to the Appraiser's office on March 1 and a part-time jailer will move to full time. Cox will place more classified ads for additional jailers.
- There are 15 inmates in custody.
- Deputies will participate in the SAFE (Seatbelt Are For Everyone) program at the Pike Valley school this month. The Belleville Police department will participate in the same program at the Republic County school.
- The Digi-Ticket is active and working well.
- The requested copy of minutes from 1990's that set the rate for housing inmates from other counties was presented to Sheriff Cox.
- Re-enforcement to the front door in the office of the sheriff's department is underway.

An email from the Republic County High School After Prom committee requesting funds was presented for action. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to donate \$750.00 to the Republic County After Prom from the Drug and Alcohol fund. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Garman made it unanimous.

Ken Robbins, Highway, Transportation and Solid Waste Director and Nathan Craig, Bridge Supervisor joined the meeting. Robbins presented and discussed with Commissioners the following:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- The installation of a railcar tanker has been completed where 6.5-J.9 bridge used to be but new signage has not been installed.
- The new recycling trailer should be completed this week.
- Due to the solid waste operator reducing hours to part-time maintenance worker, a new solid waste operator will be assigned from the current road operators.
- Because of the bitter cold temperatures this week, district operators are surveying their areas for suggestions to improve their districts with tree removal and other suggestions.

At 10:20 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding job performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal. Attending the session were the commissioners and Robbins.

The board reconvened at 10:25 a.m., taking no action.

Levi Whitley and Jeff Beikmann, EMS department, announced that Republic County EMS has been granted a \$10,000 grant to assist with the purchase of a ventilator for one ambulance. The balance of the cost will be paid from the EMS Special equipment fund.

Whitley explained that the Director of Nursing at the Republic County Hospital requested paperwork from the EMS department showing each employee has been fully vaccinated to meet the Hospital regulations. Whitley explained to the hospital that EMS employees are not required to get vaccinated per State EMS Board exemption and that the County Commissioners also voted not to require employees to be vaccinated to maintain their jobs.

At 10:42 a.m., Commissioner Splichal made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding a human resource issue. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which

was made unanimous by Commissioner Jeardoe. Attending the session were the commissioners, Whitley, Beikmann and Clerk Marsicek. Commissioner Splichal requested an additional 10 minutes.

The board reconvened at 11:02 a.m., taking no action.

At 11:20 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding a human resource issue. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal. Attending the session were the commissioners, County Attorney Ferrell and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 11:25 a.m., taking no action.

At 11:30 a.m., the meeting was moved to 3 Cedars Antiques to tour the building. Then to Fischer Rock (old armory) to tour the building.

At 12:10 p.m. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made in unanimous.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen L. Marsicek, Republic County Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Garman – Chair

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Edwin Splichal – Member

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Melvin Jeardoe– Member