

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, July 24, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal and Doug Garman. Melvin Jeardoe was absent. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope observed most of the meeting.

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

Pastor Craig Roberts, Landmark Church of Belleville, offered Morning Prayer.

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

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve the minutes from July 17, 2023. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$250,930.11 were approved.

Commissioner Splichal will attend the Republic County Hospital Board meeting at noon today.

Clerk Marsicek announced that the east door of the courthouse will not be usable on August 8 and 9 so the new wheelchair lift can be installed.

Ken Robbins presented for review, Highway, Transportation, Bridge, and turbine project information:

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- There are 85 fully erected turbines.
- Robbins presented pictures of damage to a turbine blade near Marble and 200 Rd that was struck by lightning. The Developer has scheduled a team with experience to investigate this event and determine how the damage occurred along with how to repair the blade.
- Robbins reported the results of five sealed bids for a bridge X-27.2.
 - L&M Contractors, Inc \$334,371.50
 - Reece Construction Co. \$372,960.57
 - King Construction Co. \$374,775.50
 - Bridges, Inc \$398,695.00
 - RMA Engineering, LLC \$482,675.64
- Robbins announced that L&M Contractors was the lowest bid. No action was taken.
- Robbins will meet with Premium Feeders and Nesika this afternoon.

Commissioner Garman mentioned to Robbins that the Kackley road has a culvert to be inspected for repairs.

Commissioner Garman mentioned an area under 20 Rd that needs to be addressed where it appears the water is not draining properly.

- Robbins presented for signatures a Solid Waste agreement between Republic County and the City of Munden.
- Robbins presented for signatures the letters purchase Right-of-way for bridge X-19.1:
 - K&K LLC Section 24-4-3

- Joanne Walker Section 19-4-2
- Annis Family Farm, LLC Section 30-4-2
- K&K LLC Section 25-4-3

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the letters to purchase the right-of-way of each property. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kelvin Blecha, President of the North Central Kansas Free Fair, presented a new quote for the flooring of the commercial hall at the fairgrounds. The commercial building is used year-round by many groups within Republic County. Commissioners suggested that the ARPA or Windfarm funds could be used for the improvements.

The commissioners agreed that the flooring needs repaired. The contractor has agreed to come in September and present samples of the flooring colors and a decision can be made at that meeting.

Commissioner Garman suggested that Blecha and the fair board develop a 5-year update plan for the fair ground facilities to give the commissioners time to plan for the expenses.

Levi Whitley and Amy Havel, EMS department, presented updates for their department.

- The rescue equipment has been received. Some of the older helmets are going to be donated to local fire departments if they want them.
- EMS has responded to 360 calls from 911 and performed 62 intrahospital transfers so far in 2023.
- One ambulance is having the a/c repaired.
- The amount of reimbursement paid for the first 6 months of 2023 is \$187,407.

At 9:45 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel regarding job performance. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried. Attending the session were the Commissioners, Whitley, Havel, and Clerk Marsicek.

The board reconvened at 9:55 a.m., taking no action.

Raymond Raney, Emergency Management Director, discussed a proposal to purchase additional cameras to install throughout Republic County. Commissioner Garman asked if the cameras would record what was being observed? Raney said that additional equipment would be necessary. The commissioners requested that the entire system be purchased, not just cameras.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to authorize the purchase of the cameras and recording equipment from the LATCF funds. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Garman gave a list of radios needed for the Courtland Fire Department for Raney so Raney can complete the radio order using the Windfarm Emergency Services funds.

Raney announced that there is an opening in the dispatch department.

The North Central Regional Planning Commission sent a request for a letter of support for a grant. Commissioner Splichal made a motion to sign the letter of support. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Faye Jones, Health Director, sent an application for signature for a grant to KDHE.

Clerk Marsicek presented Resolution No. 2023-30 authorizing the cancellation of 3 outstanding checks.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-30. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Marsicek presented a request from Cunningham Communication for a letter of support for a grant for broadband development.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to sign the letter of support. Commissioner Splichal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Splichal made a motion to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, July 31, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom. After 10:00 a.m., the Commissioners will tour the High Banks Windfarm project.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Edwin Splichal, Chairperson

Melvin Jeardoe, Member

Doug Garman, Member