

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal, Melvin Jeardoe and Doug Garman. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek from the Belleville Telescope watched the meeting.

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

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

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

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve the minutes from May 30, 2023. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- The railroad delivered two transformers to Republic County for the wind farm project.
- Two new employees will start this week.
- Robbins explained that Mike Nondorf has sprayed the road ditch near the fields with the noxious weed issue.
- Robbins said that some wind farm employees will be working around the clock on private properties.

Clerk Marsicek announced per a message from Kay Shoemaker that there will be an RCD meeting on Wednesday, June 7 at the Bel-Villa Restaurant at 6:30 p.m.

Following a brief discussion regarding COVID benefits, Commissioner Garman made a motion to drop any special benefits regarding COVID pay. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

Retha Blecha, Interim Appraiser, requested an update on the proposed GIS program. Toby presented a quote back in January. The commissioners reviewed the quote in February but were awaiting more information before deciding. The first quote from 2022 was much less.

The DVACK/Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Center asked the Republic County Commissioners to proclaim June as "ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH".

Commissioner Garman made a motion to proclaim June as Elder Abuse Awareness Month. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Blecha returned to meeting along with Raymond Raney, Emergency Management Director, to answer questions about the GIS quote. Raney agreed to contact "SAM" company about the details of the quoted price and estimated time once the quote is approved.

The Commissioners reviewed the presented options for salaried/department head longevity.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to approve option #4 to be effective January 1, 2024. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

The Republic County Conservation District's request for 2024 was presented. The amount requested was \$39,000, which is an increase of \$1,500 from 2023 request.

Commissioner Splichal made a motion to approve the Republic County Conservation District's request. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion. Commissioner Jeardoe made it unanimous.

The annual COLA figure was discussed but no action was taken. Estimates are between 4-6%.

The balance of the meeting was used to review departmental budget requests for 2024.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on Monday, June 12, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST: _____
Kathleen L. Marsicek, County Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Edwin Splichal, Chairperson

Melvin Jeardoe, Member

Doug Garman, Member