

REPUBLIC COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, January 23, 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 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 Jeardoe 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 January 16. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Accounts payable vouchers were approved in the amount of \$131,501.41 for billbacks to 2022 and \$174,639.71 for 2023.

Commissioner Splichal and Commissioner Jeardoe will be attending the Republic County Hospital board meeting at noon.

Cindy Coons, County Treasurer, presented a funds on hand report.

Retha Blecha, Deputy Appraiser, explained the need for new GIS mapping equipment. The current equipment is not as efficient and requires a lot of manual work before entering data in the mapping program.

At 8:43 a.m., Commissioner Garman made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 20 minutes regarding job performance. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal. Attending the session were the Commissioners and Blecha.

The board reconvened at 9:03 a.m., taking no action.

Commissioner Splichal presented a request from the hospital. The hospital is interested in renting the lower westside of the Medical Arts Building to be used as a specialty care clinic. Further discussion might be an agenda item at the hospital board meeting today.

Shellie Baxter and Judy Baxa, USD 109 After Prom committee parents, requested funds for the after-prom activities. Prom will be held on April 29th. The plan for the after-prom activities is to take the students to Salina to the activity center. The funds would be used for food to be eaten on the bus ride down. It will be purchased from Casey's.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to donate \$750.00 from the Drug and Alcohol funds as long as it is spent in Republic County. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

Adam Robertson, Adam Anderson and Mike Nondorf from the City of Belleville presented updates from Belleville.

- City is working with Robbins regarding the viaduct bridge on M St.
- The water treatment plant is still on hold. Some supplies are on hand and other parts have been ordered but no ground breaking has been done.
- Housing is a big issue in Belleville and they suggest that the County move forward on a type of incentive for landowners to build in Belleville. Robertson does not have a solution how to distribute funds fairly to benefit all that apply. Robertson and Anderson stated that the City of Belleville will help in any way to draw people to build in Belleville.

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

- The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.
- Robbins met with the owners of Premium Feeders and Nesika regarding 70 Rd from Nesika to US 36. Robbins will recommend applying millings instead of asphalt to update the road as long as the owners share the cost.

Commissioners relayed a compliment to the road crew for the quick response to clearing the roads after the recent snow.

Faye Jones and Melissa Miller, Health Department, updated the commissioners on activities at the Health Department.

- Jones submitted two permissions to travel for approval.
 - Jones to attend NCK HCC training in Beloit on March 10.
 - Jones to attend NC Regional Public Health Quarterly meeting in Beloit on February 9th.

Commissioners granted permission for both meetings.

- Jones presented a letter from the KDHE Congratulating her department with no compliance issues from the site visit.
- Jones announced that Miller found grant funds for immunization expense.
- A Safe Sleep Class was provided and 13 persons attended in which 12 were Day-Care providers.
- Jones and Miller will attend the DER training on January 26.
- Dental training will be held in February so the health department can screen for oral health of children.
- Republic County is hosting a Cloud County Community College nursing student as an intern starting this week.
- Jones is proposing early Detection Works training for free/low cost clients.
- There are 7 grant applications due by the end of March.

Jones presented suggestions for the future:

- Work with the Sheriff's office-immunizations or health checks for inmates.
- Work with employers in Republic county to hold yearly labs or blood pressure checks.
- Build a storage shed to store baby car seats, helmets and supplies.
 - Melby's Home Center \$14,185.03
 - BackYard Portable Buildings \$14,926.00
- Install a sign on the front top of the Health Department so citizens know that it is the health department.
 - Apple Media \$3,466.70
 - Precision Sign & Graphics \$9,840.00
- Remodel the front office to be more user friendly.
 - Allen's Home Remodeling \$3,050.00
 - Other bid requests were sent out but no one submitted a bid.
- Rebuild the back steps.

Jones notified the commissioners that the accreditation survey for Medicare part A will cost almost \$10,000 and the department must have medical records for 10 skilled care clients for the survey. In order to meet the requirements, we would have to do services at no cost for these clients and the county would have to hire 2 more fulltime RN's to meet the requirements.

Commissioner Jeardoe made a motion to accept the bid from Allen's Home Remodeling for the front office remodeling. Commissioner Garman seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Commissioner Garman made a motion to accept the bid from Apple One Media for the Signage on the building. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion which was made unanimous by Commissioner Splichal.

Commissioners tabled the discussion regarding a storage shed.

With all agenda items completed, Commissioner Garman made a motion to adjourn at 12:10 p.m. to attend the Hospital Board meeting. Commissioner Jeardoe seconded the motion. Commissioner Splichal made it unanimous.

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 30, 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