

## DEEDS FILED

**Trustee’s Deed:** Irrevocable Edward F. Popelka Shelter Trust to Robert A. Popelka. Undivided ½ interest in tract of land in SE ¼ 28-2-2 containing 2.74 acres; and undivided ½ interest in tract in SE ¼ 28-2-2 containing 5.89 acres.

**Warranty Deed:** Robert A. Popelka and Lesley A. Popelka to Tyler Popelka and Courtney Popelka. Tract in SE ¼ 28-2-2.

**Trustee’s Deed:** Lyle Kent Larson Living Trust to Eli Ohlde and Allayna Ohlde. Undivided ½ interest in tract in NW ¼ 3-4-4 containing 5.77 acres.

**Trustee’s Deed:** Lori K. Larson Peterson Revocable Trust to Eli Ohlde and Allayna Ohlde. Undivided ½ interest in tract in NW ¼ 3-4-4 containing 5.77 acres.

**Warranty Deed:** Damian Darveau and Amy Darveau to Nicholas L. and Jennifer A. Zenger Family Trust. SW ¼ of Block 63, OT, Belleville.

**Warranty Deed:** Nathan Gjersvig to Nicholas L. and Jennifer A. Zenger Family Trust. SW ¼ of Block 63, OT, Belleville.

## REPUBLIC COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

### CRIMINAL

Darrell Craig Emmot, Randall convicted of one count of misdemeanor criminal trespass. Placed on unsupervised probation, ordered to pay a \$100 fine and \$158 court costs.

Donna Lynn Segebart, Council Grove, charge of disorderly conduct dismissed.

Rita F. Easkins, Concordia, charge of misdemeanor battery dismissed.

### LIMITED CIVIL

LVNV Funding versus Mark Horner, Belleville, case dismissed.

Credit Management Services versus Jacob McDanel Williams, Belleville, default judgment to the plaintiff of \$1,854 plus interest and costs.

Nebraska Furniture Mart versus Tyler Frye and Diana Frye, Belleville. Judgment to the plaintiff of \$7,956 plus interest and costs.

### CIVIL

Bestifor Farms LP versus Brian Rosene, Scandia, case filed.

### DOMESTIC

Kristi R. Blazek versus Thomas G. Blazek, Cuba, divorce granted.

## REPUBLIC COUNTY SHERIFF

**April 12**  
Love’s Travel Plaza to assist BPD with report of domestic disturbance.

Assisted another agency via phone.

Deputy took an informational report via phone.

220 RD near Jade RD for report of cow out. Owner was contacted and cow relocated.

**April 13**  
17th and Q ST to assist BPD with an out of county warrant service. Deputy transported subject to Cloud County line where Cloud County took custody of the subject.

Motorist assist on US81 near Queen RD.

**April 14**  
700 block of US81 for vehicle-deer accident involving Francisco Enamorado, Sierra Vista AZ, driving a 2018 Freightliner owned by Landstar Inway Inc, Jacksonville FL.

100 block of School ST in Scandia for person assist.

**April 15**  
200 RD near Lincoln RD for vehicle-deer accident involving Jacob Frybarger, Munden, driving a 2001 Toyota.

**April 16**  
1800 block of US36 for vehicle-deer accident involving Claget Ball, Belleville, driving a 2014 Chrysler.

US36 at 40 RD for a report of a vehicle striking a dead deer laying in the west-bound lane of traffic. Driver

of the vehicle was Tyne Wolters, Belleville, driving a 2020 Ford.

US36 for report of dead animal in the road. Animal was removed.

**April 17**  
Deputy and BPD rescinded to 300 block of S Munden AV in Munden to assist with 911 call.

1200 block of M ST to assist BPD with welfare check. Subject was not located in the area.

900 block of US36 for report of criminal damage to property.

Deputy was informed of single car injury accident on 130 RD near Nickel RD that was not reported. BPD assisted.

**April 18**  
Deputy discovered minor in possession. Subject was released to parents.

Parking complaint in 2900 block of Jade RD. Deputy unable to locate vehicle.

Report of theft in Agenda. Report of violation of protection order in Belleville.

Deputies assisted BPD responding to suspicious activity in 2700 block of N ST. Report was unsubstantiated.

### Traffic stops: 11

## BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**April 15**  
2000 block of G St. for a report of a civil issue.

**April 17**  
1300 block of 16th for a 2 vehicle non injury accident. Report taken.

2000 block of O St. for a 2 vehicle non injury accident. Report taken.

Officer assisted the Sheriff Department with an accident that occurred outside the city.

**April 18**  
2000 block of Q St. for a report of suspicious activity. No criminal action was found.

2700 block of N St. for a report of suspicious activity. No criminal action was found.

**April 19**  
1400 block of S St. for a civil stand by.

**April 20**  
400 block of M St. for a report of harassment.

### Traffic stops: 8 VIN Inspections: 6

## REPUBLIC COUNTY COMMISSION

The Republic County Commission met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the Republic County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Edwin Splichal, Tim Eitzmann, and Doug Jackson. Clerk Kathleen Marsicek was present to record the minutes. Deb Hadachek, Belleville Telescope, monitored the meeting.

Accounts payable were approved in the amount of \$513,384.33.

The tax roll adjustments were approved. There were 2 abatements totaling -\$220.78.

Justion Ferrell, County Attorney, updated the board regarding several projects his office is working on.

• The new Delinquent tax sale status. Republic County will be using the firm from Wichita that was used last year.

• Ferrell is working with the local sanitarian from Washington, Ks to retrieve the Republic County historical paperwork from Smith County.

• Ferrell contacted the Geisler Roofing owner and will follow up with a letter concerning the roof repairs of the courthouse.

Faye Jones, Health Administrator, updated the board about activities the Health Department has been involved.

• Send the Silence Packing was attended by 400 people from around the area including both schools in Republic County. Surrounding areas advertised on the radio stations. There were live interviews on television and the newspapers covered the event.

• Jones announced the grant that secured Jessica Tebow position has ended, but Jones has funds within her budget to cover expens-

es until additional grants are approved.

• Jones presented quotes for 2 computers that are needing replaced.

o Amazon \$729.00 each but additional installation by local IT will be needed.

o LockIT \$949.03 each, they will do the installation

The board accepted the quote from LockIT.

• Republic County now offers a Kansas Farm worker program that assists with healthcare to non-insured migrant/seasonal farm workers. There are no conferences in Kansas dealing with this program, but there is a national conference to be held in Michigan in the last week of May. All the expenses to attend would be covered with grant funds. Jones asked permission to attend the conference. Commissioner Eitzmann made a motion to send a representative from the Health Department to the conference. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion which Commissioner Splichal made unanimous.

• Jones asked permission to research the possibility for Health department staff to be trained as sexual assault nurse examiners. This subject was tabled until additional information could be presented.

Paul Kallman, Mayor of Scandia, presented an updated request to use the ARPA funds they received.

The funds will be used to repair a waterline under US Hwy 36 and to repair the lift station pump, motor, screen, ladder and installation at the city sewer location. The board approved the change. Julie Willoughby, DVACK presented a proclamation stating April is Sexual Assault awareness month and ask the board to approve the proclamation.

Permission to travel for Cindy Coons to attend the KCTA Spring Conference in Manhattan from June 11th to 13th was approved by the commissioners.

Mat Murdock presented for review the Highway, Transportation, Bridge, and Solid Waste information.

• The weekly community concerns and projects completed report.

• Murdock stated that Ken Robbins and Nathan Craig were both out of town and that he would try to answer questions from the board.

• Murdock stated that the hot oil patching has started, the asphalt inspections are in process and the bridge crew will be installing a railroad tanker at bridge V-14.8.

Retha Blecha and Sherry Koster, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), presented the official proclamation endorsing the “TWO LIGHTS FOR TOMORROW”, an event commemorating the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s Ride on April 18, 1775, by lighting two lights in windows or on porches on April 18th.

Susan Aaron, deputy director of Emergency Management, announced that there will be a LEPC meeting at the Republic County Hospital on April 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Commissioner Splichal announced that he will be attending the Juvenile Detention meeting in Junction City on Wednesday, April 16.

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners and Clerk Marsicek moved the board meeting to the front steps of the courthouse to attend the ribbon cutting dedication of the new steps. Senator Jerry Moran was the guest speaker and was presented with scissors to cut the ribbon.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

## REPUBLIC COUNTY/ USD 109

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Republic County Unified School District No. 109, was held at East Elementary on April 14, 2025. Board members present: Brent Martin, Brady Alexander, Brian McCartney, Chris Pachtla, Laura Leite, Mike Kollath, and Edward Sandberg. Also present were Principals Lindsay Cravens, Eric Jones, and Katie Struebing, Superintendent Tami Knedler, and Board Clerk

Darice Wilkinson. Other guests as registered.

The regular board meeting was called to order by Brent Martin at 7:31 p.m.

Approval of Payment of Claims. The board approved payment of claims totaling \$291,469.47.

It was the consensus of the board to allow a special presentation by Benedict Baxa prior to the daycare tour.

Benedict presented a power point presentation showing pictures of the GaGa Ball Pit build process he completed for his Eagle Scout project and the fence designs completed at the Jr. Sr. High School track. Board President Brent Martin thanked Benedict for his leadership in completing the projects for the district.

### Daycare Tour.

Daycare director, Erin Kallman, shared building needs and information regarding the daycare program.

### EF Trip 2025 and 2027:

Jed and Tranda Strnad presented information regarding the 2025 EF trip to Italy, France, and Spain. Twenty-one students and four sponsors will be leaving July 9 and return July 17. Transportation to and from the airport provided by the district was previously approved. They are currently in the process of planning a 2027 trip to Belize, and have 9 students currently signed up with several more interested. They asked the board for continued support by providing transportation to and from the airport in 2027. The request was approved.

### Administrative Reports: RCHS Principal, Lindsay Cravens:

Written report provided. Items noted:

• Tranda Strnad was named the Region 1 Secondary Teacher of the Year Finalist on Saturday, April 12 – Will now begin the process for competing for Kansas Teacher of the Year

• Senior projects exceeded her expectations with their quality of work, thoughtfulness of their presentations, and their overall professionalism. She thanked board members who participated in the presentation day and senior project leaders, Jon Baxa, Nick Junker, and Alan Sheets

• Elly Williams was appointed the State FBLA Vice President, and Scholastica Baxa as the District IV FBLA Vice President

• Noalee Augustine from Smoky Hill presented student mental health strategies on March 14 as part of the professional development day

### JH Principal, Eric Jones:

Written report provided.

Other items noted:

• Track repairs were discussed briefly – Jr. High and High School were able to practice on it Monday, but still have more work to complete

• James Doyle visited with Mrs. Alexander’s classes about city government

• 6 Grade Hunters Education students had their field dressing day

• Trap Meeting will be held on April 28 at 6:30 p.m.

• Science Fair results were shared with the board – Overall Physical Science champion was Leo Collette and Overall Biological Science champion was Elly Williams – Rube Goldberg winners were Ethan Ines, Ayden Polansky, and Ellie Callaway

• Junior High track students have competed in two track meets – Girls placed 1st and Boys placed 2nd at the Superior meet

### East Principal, Katie Struebing:

Written report provided. Items noted:

• Music programs were well attended

• Currently completing state assessments

• 23 attended Kindergarten Visitation

• Kids are enjoying the new GaGa Ball Pit on the playground

### Superintendent Tami Knedler:

Written report provided. Items discussed:

• Plan to move the June board meeting to June 16 (was scheduled for June 9)

• Track repairs have been slowed due to weather – temperature and wind have kept them from completing the project as planned

• Schwab Eaton will be putting bids out for the C4 Entrance project on April 23– Bids will be due May 8 and presented to the board for final approval in May

• District is participating in the Community Foundation’s Fund the Future Campaign and sent emails to alumni this past week

• Jr Sr High School received a League Sportsmanship award for both the boys and girls basketball season

• April 16th– Table Top Discussion for a crisis drill to be done in the Fall

• Hosting Chamber coffee on April 24th

### Business Items and Reports:

### Scoreboard Discussion:

Superintendent Knedler shared information on replacing score boards and the various range of costs depending on if score board only or if video boards are included. When replacing the football scoreboard, it will need to be moved which will be an additional cost. Current contract for scoreboard runs through December 2025, so will not be making decisions until contract is complete. Shot clock quotes were also shared. The league is considering using shot clocks, but no final decisions have been made.

KASB Membership, Sea-son Pass, and Legal Fund Assistance:

Superintendent Knedler asked the board to approve the KASB membership dues and Legal Fund Assistance fee. The season pass for events will not be purchased at this time. The request was approved.

### Little Buffs Handbook:

Superintendent Knedler indicated there were few changes to the Little Buffs Handbook. Would like to increase the rates by \$1/day (\$5/week) to help cover staffing costs increases. Other changes made were to reflect current practices. The board is to review and the handbook will be approved at the May board meeting.

### JR SR HS Handbook:

Format changes to the Jr. Sr. High School handbook have not been completed yet. It is planned to pull policies out and put in an addendum to the handbook or noted where to find the policy. Other content changes were briefly discussed. The handbook will be reviewed and approved at the May board meeting.

### Approval to Publish Notice to Republish General and At Risk Fund Budgets:

Board Clerk Darice Wilkinson asked the board to approve the notice to republish the general and At-Risk fund budgets due to the unanticipated increase in free lunch applications which increased At Risk funding. The request was approved.

### Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel:

The board recessed into executive session with the superintendent and Katie Struebing to discuss job performances and other non-elected personnel matters 9:20 p.m. The board members, Katie Struebing, and Tami Knedler entered executive session. 9:45 p.m. The board members, Katie Struebing, and Tami Knedler returned to open session

Graduation was briefly discussed. A board picture for the yearbook was taken.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

## PIKE VALLEY/ USD 426

The regular Board of Education meeting for USD 426 began at 7 p.m. on April 14. President Bryan Rickard called the meeting to order. Roll call was answered by

Board Members Sharon Segerhammar, Troy Isaacson, John Garman, President Bryan Rickard, Superintendent Steve Joonas, Troy Carlgren, Brandi Bray, Mason Runft, Principal Mike Gritten, and Principal Jeremy Miller.

Brenda Hoard, Jr High Girls Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director, presented her resignation as coach effective immediately and as Athletic Director effective May 30, 2025.

Brandi Bray, Board Member, presented her resignation effective immediately.

Brandi Bray left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Curriculum Corner was presented by Amanda Woodard over the CTE Pathways program.

The board entered executive session at 7:28 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss matters relating to employer-employee negotiations. Entering into executive session were Board members, Superintendent Steve Joonas, and Principal Mike Gritten. The Board returned to open session at 7:43 p.m.

The board entered executive session at 7:44 p.m. for 50 minutes to discuss personnel matters for non-elected personnel. Entering into executive session were Board members, Superintendent Steve Joonas, Principals Mike Gritten, Jeremy Miller, and Brenda Hoard. Brenda Hoard exited executive session at 7:56 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 8:35 p.m.

The board approved the resignation of Jeremy Miller, HS Head Football Coach; the resignation of Crystal Lieb, Jr High Cheer Coach; the resignation of Brenda Hoard, Jr High Girls Basketball Coach effective immediately and Athletic Director effective May 30, 2025; the resignation of Brent Melby, Assistant HS Football Coach; the resignation of Brandi Bray, Board Member in Position 2 effective immediately.

The board approved the hire of Brent Melby as Head HS Football Coach for the 2025-26 school year; Tina Andrews as Head HS Volleyball Coach for the 2025-26 school year; Liz Callaway as Assistant HS Volleyball Coach for the 2025-26 school year.

No action was taken on hiring Jr High Girls Basketball coach for the 2025-26 school year.

The board approved the sale of Bus 16-9 via Purple Wave Auction and the Dodge Minivan #25 via sealed bids;

Approve certified staff as presented for the 2025-26 school year; approve classified staff pay for the additional inclement weather related school closures in February; the flooring bid from Dusin Enterprises as presented.

Mr. Gritten presented the Elementary Principal’s report.

Mr. Miller presented the Jr/ Sr High School Principal’s report.

Mr. Joonas presented the Superintendent’s report which included the following items: Needs Assessment Items as listed by staff input; Football Meetings Synopsis, General Fund and Special Education Fund.

The meeting adjournment time was 8:58 p.m. Those in attendance at the April 14, 2025 Board of Education meeting were the above Board members, Superintendent Steve Joonas, Principal Jeremy Miller, Principal Mike Gritten, Katy Duryea, Brent Melby, Haley Gile, Spencer Mohler, Crystal Lieb, Amanda Woodard, Brenda Hoard, Scott Hoard, and Business Manager/Board Clerk Morgan Barnhart.

## High Banks Wind Energy Center

### Important Numbers to Know

**Landowner Services:**  
*Phone:* 855-555-9872, prompt 3  
*Fax:* 561-304-5372  
*Email:* Landowner-Services@NextEraEnergy.com

**Claims Department:**  
*Handles crop damage and land restoration claims*  
*Phone:* 855-555-9872, prompt 3  
*Email:* DL-NEER-Property-Damage-Claims@NextEraEnergy.com