

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TENTH MEETING, 2021 SESSION (10)
FEBRUARY 23, 2021**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Snyder presiding, and the following members present: Altena, Huseman, Merten, and Ringgenberg, and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the following **motions** offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Altena, Huseman, Merten, Ringgenberg, and Snyder. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

Secondary Road Report: The trucks were out Sunday and yesterday pushing snow back; the bridge repair projects have been advertised, and Engineer Wilkinson sent the information to six contractors directly; they are taking the two new chassis to Minnesota today, to get the box and snow plows on them; Engineer Wilkinson is working on his 5-year construction program, which is due to DOT on April 15.

Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of 2/16/21 as corrected, and the following **reports:** December NW IA Planning & Development Commission minutes, November NW IA Chief Elected Official Board & Local Workforce Development Board Joint meeting minutes, January RIDES meeting minutes. Carried.

Supervisor Meeting Reports: Snyder attended the weekly COVID meeting, with the Public Health Administrator, BVRMC, and Clinics.

The Chairperson announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing and meeting on the matter of the authorization of a Loan Agreement and the issuance of not to exceed **\$200,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes**, in order to provide funds to pay the costs of acquisition and equipping of vehicles for the Sheriff's Department, for general county purposes, and that notice of the proposed action by the Board to institute proceedings for the authorization of the Loan Agreement and the issuance of the Notes and the right to petition for an election had been published as provided by Sections 331.402 and 331.442 of the Code of Iowa, and the Chairperson then asked the County Auditor whether any petition had been filed in the Auditor's Office, in the manner provided by Section 331.306 of the Code of Iowa, and the Auditor reported that no such petition had been filed, requesting that the question of issuing the Notes be submitted to the qualified electors of the County.

The Chairperson then asked the Auditor whether any written objections had been filed by any resident or property owner of the County to the issuance of the Notes. The Auditor advised the Chairperson and the Board that no written objections had been filed. The Chairperson then called for oral objections to the issuance of the Notes and none were made. Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the time for receiving oral and written objections to be closed.

Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the hearing on the authorization of entering into a Loan Agreement and the issuance of the Notes to be closed.

The Board then considered the proposed action and the extent of objections thereto.

Whereupon, Board Member Merten introduced and delivered to the Auditor the Resolution #2021-02-23-A hereinafter set out entitled "RESOLUTION INSTITUTING PROCEEDINGS TO TAKE ADDITIONAL ACTION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES", and moved that the Resolution be adopted. Board Member Huseman seconded the motion. The roll was called and the vote was: Ayes: Altena, Huseman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None.

Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the measure duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #2021-02-23-A

**RESOLUTION INSTITUTING PROCEEDINGS TO TAKE ADDITIONAL ACTION
FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION
CAPITAL LOAN NOTES**

WHEREAS, pursuant to notice published as required by law, the Board of Supervisors has held a public meeting and hearing upon the proposal to institute proceedings for the authorization of a Loan Agreement and the issuance of not to exceed \$200,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, for the general county purposes, in order to provide funds to pay the costs of acquisition and equipping of vehicles for the Sheriff's Department, and has considered the extent of objections received from residents or property owners as to the proposed issuance of Notes; and no petition was filed calling for a referendum thereon. The following action is now considered to be in the best interests of the County and residents thereof.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
BUENA VISTA COUNTY, STATE OF IOWA:**

Section 1. That this Board does hereby institute proceedings and take additional action for the authorization and issuance in the manner required by law of not to exceed \$200,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, for the foregoing general county purposes.

Section 2. This Resolution shall serve as a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation 1.150-2 and shall be maintained on file as a public record of such intent. It is reasonably expected that the general fund moneys may be advanced from time to time for capital expenditures which are to be paid from the proceeds of the above Notes. The amounts so advanced shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of the Notes not later than eighteen months after the initial payment of the capital expenditures or eighteen months after the property is placed in service. Such advancements shall not exceed the amount authorized in this Resolution unless the same are for preliminary expenditures or unless another declaration of intention is adopted.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of February, 2021.

/s/ Kelly Snyder, Chairperson.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Tom Schuetz, Alera Group (formerly Group Services), updated the Board on some service upgrades and improvements. Schuetz commented that currently the Federal Government is paying for the COVID-19 vaccinations, but that may not continue. Schuetz informed the Board that TASC, which has been the County's service provider for **Flex Administration and COBRA**, has had deteriorating service the last few years, and so Schuetz

looked for what else may be available, within the Alera Group companies. Schuetz stated that Reimbursement Specialists, Inc. (RSI), has a simple system, but the flow of dollars is different. There is a mobile app for employees 24/7, a consumer portal for employees 24/7, and an employer portal to manage the plan as needed. Debit cards are issued, two per account, there is online claim filing when the debit card is not used, and direct deposit reimbursement when the debit card is not used. There are no set up fees, and the cost is the same as what the county is paying for now. Schuetz stated that if there are any issues, Alera Group has direct contact, because it is part of the same company. COBRA would be the same. Schuetz stated that the County has until the end of 2021 to amend the 2020 Plan, to choose a rollover (\$500) or extended grace period (75 days). Schuetz stated that he will outline where the County is now, and demo the portal of RSI. As for the administration of the claims, Alera Group looked at an employee portal and electronic EOB's, but the cost was prohibitive. Alera Group has decided to outsource the claims administration piece to **Employee Benefit Services (EBS)**, Burlington, IA. EBS has an employee portal, electronic EOB's, which should be very easy to read. EBS also has a provider portal, to file electronically. Schuetz stated that the administration cost is less than what the cost is currently, and is guaranteed for three years. Employees would still contact Alera Group with questions. Schuetz stated that this move, to EBS, will be effective April 1, 2021.

Veterans Service Officer David Andrews discussed the General Relief guidelines. Currently, the income guidelines for General Relief are from 2002. Andrews asked the Board if they would like to increase the income guidelines to the 2021 income projections. Motion by Huseman, second by Altena, to update the **General Relief income guidelines** to the 2021 Income Projections. Carried.

Veterans Service Officer David Andrews stated that he has individuals that want to apply for **General Relief** assistance, however, they are not citizens, but they have their green card and are allowed to be here to work. Andrews asked the Board if they wanted to allow these individuals to get assistance. The consensus of the Board was to table any action on this, until conferring with the County Attorney. This will be on the March 16 Supervisor agenda.

Public Health Administrator Julie Sather updated the Board on the **COVID vaccine**. Sather stated that it was very busy last week with the vaccine, with 750 vaccinations (678 new and 72 boosters). Public Health had 399 last week and 165 this week. Sather stated that Public Health receives 300 new doses and 300 boosters. HyVee received 200 doses last week and 200 doses this week. Sather stated that they are behind by 600 doses due to the snow down south. Sather is working with Elderbridge Agency for those individuals that can't get out to receive their vaccination. Sather is also working with Tyson and Rembrandt Enterprises.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme and IDALS Environmental Engineer Mike Bourland were present to discuss a proposed CREP Wetland Project in Section 19 of Lee Township. The proposed project is a mile east of the Hwy 10 and Hwy 71 intersection. Blomme stated that this CREP Project will affect DD #116 and Lats 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Bourland stated that the wetland area is 5.6 acres, and it would treat 1,000 acres for nitrate removal. Merten asked if this project would affect any of the other laterals that have been reclassified. Blomme stated that it wouldn't amount to much, only pennies. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve modifications to **DD #116**, as proposed by the **IDALS CREP Wetland Project #BV933619D**, at the cost of the CREP Project. Carried. Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to direct legal council to review a **Drainage Agreement** to be developed for **DD #116** and the landowners of the CREP Wetland. Carried.

The Board Chair stated that he called and asked Curtis Reis and Danelle Haberman, both candidates for the County Treasurer position, if they would allow a closed session to discuss their applications. Both Reis and Haberman requested that the Board go into **closed session**. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to go into closed session (at 10:58 a.m.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(i) of the 2021 Code of Iowa, to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Ayes: Altena, Huseman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Huseman, to go out of **closed session** at 11:30 a.m. Carried.

A call was placed to the County Attorney, regarding taking action today on the **Treasurer's appointment**, or waiting until Monday, March 1. The decision was made to wait to make the appointment until Monday, March 1, as it couldn't be official until there was a vacancy, which is March 1.

There being no further business, motion by Ringgenberg, second by Huseman, to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. until Monday, March 1 at 8:00 a.m. for a special session, to appoint and swear in the new County Treasurer. Carried.