

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FORTY-NINETH MEETING, 2021 SESSION (49)
NOVEMBER 30, 2021**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, November 30, 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.

Motion by Merten, second by Altena, to **approve the agenda**, as presented. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that there would be another person retiring from his crew, and he would like to advertise for an E01 position. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Huseman, to approve Engineer Wilkinson's request to advertise for an **E01 position**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he didn't have answers yet on the request for a **speed limit sign** by the new Storm Lake Elementary School, or the cost of placing a **destination light** at the intersection of C25 and Hwy 71.

Secondary Road Report: The crew has been blading and brush cutting. Normal operations.

Motion by Merten, second by Altena, to approve the **minutes** of 11/23/21, as corrected, and the following **reports:** October Sheriff's Report of Federal Inmate Billings, October NW IA YES Center minutes, October NWIPDC Policy Council minutes, July NW IA Planning & Development Commission Transportation Policy Committee minutes, November Safety minutes, October BV County Landfill minutes, and September Central IA Detention Commission minutes. Carried.

Payroll Clerk Yvonne Sandhoff informed the Board that she talked with IPERS, regarding Kim Johnson's request to have her remaining vacation, and accrued vacation, paid out over her remaining checks, due to her retiring. Sandhoff stated that her remaining current vacation could be paid out now, but her accrued wouldn't be paid out until her last paycheck. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve **paying out Kim Johnson's current vacation, accrued vacation, and float day**, split between her remaining two checks, pending Johnson's approval. Carried.

Al Clark, stated that he was a 10-year veteran, a veteran of the postal service, a hunter, and fisherman, and said that the Constitution and the Bill of Rights is important to him. Clark stated that there is a movement across the State of Iowa, and the country, to become a **Second Amendment Sanctuary County**. Clark stated that it sends a message that history and tradition is important. Clark presented the Board with a sample resolution from the Iowa Firearms Coalition, and asked the Board to consider signing such a resolution, stating that if approved, BV County would be the 27th county in Iowa to pass this resolution. The Board asked County Attorney Paul Allen and Sheriff Kory Elston what their thoughts were on this request to approve a resolution approving BV County to be a Second Amendment Sanctuary County. Allen stated that he didn't have a particular opinion, other than to state that this is symbolic. Elson also stated that this is symbolic, and that he supports it, and there wasn't a reason not to sign it. No action was taken today. A resolution will be placed on next week's agenda.

The Board began the discussion of **additional staff** that may be needed in various offices. Ringgenberg stated that the Board of Health voted to consolidate Public Health and Environmental Health, with the supervision of the Environmental Health under Nurse Administrator Julie Sather, and the Zoning Administrator would be up to the Board to appoint. Ringgenberg stated that some things are

coming out in the future with Public Health, which it would be beneficial to have Public Health and Environmental Health together. Merten stated that Engineer Wilkinson is looking to add a person to his staff, and maybe zoning could be placed there, if the county continued with zoning. Ringgenberg asked the Board what their thought was, about interviewing the applicants again, to see if they were interested in the Zoning Administrator position. Merten stated that was a good idea, since it is a split job now. The consensus of the Board was to have Ringgenberg and Huseman contact the applicants, to see if they were interested in this part-time zoning position, and if nobody was interested, then the Board would have to appoint someone else as the zoning administrator. Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson stated that Darwin Reese would be retiring next year, so they would need someone to replace him. Johnson also stated that they have thought about another naturalist. County Attorney Paul Allen stated that he still wants to hire a 4th attorney. Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that he would like to hire another person, to help his office administrator and others.

Hear the Public: County Attorney Paul Allen informed the Board that the healthcare mandates were suspended in 10 states, and there was not a national order. The Supreme Court will decide on the CMS and OSHA requirements on the COVID vaccination requirements.

Chairman Snyder brought up the discussion of **relocating the Veterans Affairs Office & General Relief**. Snyder stated that with Environmental Health, now under Public Health, would be relocating to the East Richland Annex, and that the VA & GR would need to be relocated, in order to make room. Snyder proposed moving the Veteran Affairs Office and General Relief to the Community Services Building. The former I.T. room was looked at, but it is too small. At the Community Services Building, there would be a reception area, for someone to meet the public, and there is also a waiting room. Huseman stated that this should be brought to the Facilities Committee. Merten stated that he has issues with moving the VA and GR to the Community Services Building, where the copier and files are not locked, the offices are not sound proof. Rolling Hills CEO Dawn Mentzer was present for this discussion, and commented that she was concerned about the amount of traffic into the offices and HIPAA concerns. Merten suggested moving the Veterans and General Relief to Environmental Health offices, after they move out to the East Richland Annex. Ringgenberg stated that this should all be turned over to the Facilities Committee to investigate and make a suggestion to the Board, which the whole Board agreed to.

There being no further business, motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. until Tuesday, December 7 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.