

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FIFTY-THIRD MEETING, 2021 SESSION (53)
DECEMBER 21, 2021**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, December 21, 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 1st Deputy Auditor Sharon Henkel 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.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented a utility permit for Schaller Telephone Company to bury new fiber optic cable and upgrade some old copper lines to some of their current customers in the southern part of Buena Vista County. Most of the work the company will be doing is in Sac County. The project is being planned for 2022 with no exact start date. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten to approve the **utility permit for Schaller Telephone Company** to bury new fiber optic cable and upgrade some old copper lines to some of their current customers in the southern part of Buena Vista County. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented to the board a Certificate of Appreciation for Richard Noll and a Certificate of Appreciation for Edward Dowdy for their combine 56 years of service to the county. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Altena to approve the signing of **the Certificate of Appreciation for Richard Noll and the Certificate of Appreciation for Edward Dowdy** for their years of service to Buena Vista County. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The county had trees damaged and powerlines down from the high wind storm that passed through the county including Hanover, Alta, Sioux Rapids, and Rembrandt on Wednesday, December 15. Several county employees were out that night tending to the cleanup to get roads opened with maintainers to push trees, wheel loaders and chain saws while waiting on ILEC and Mid American for the downed powerlines. Wilkinson stated that they should be done picking up trees and downed signs today. He is waiting to determine if the amount of the damages in the county would merit help from the State of Iowa as Buena Vista County was included in the list of counties hit by the storm that night. Another topic of discussion was the condition of the county shed located in Truesdale. It is not in good shape as it is an old building and the flat roof leaks bad, especially when it rains. The building is not heated just used for storage of equipment.

Motion by Merten, second by Huseman, to approve the **minutes** of 12/14, as printed, today's **claims approval list**, **stamped drainage warrant register**, and the following **reports**: September 2021 911 Service Board minutes, September 2021 Emergency Management meeting minutes, and the Plains Area Audit Report from Burkhardt & Dawson. Carried.

Action on the Policy for employees that stay at hotels for meetings, making sure the **hotels are certified in the new sex trafficking training** was tabled for discussion and action until the December 28, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Zach Ruroden, Chairman for the Buena Vista County Compensation Board, presented their Board's FY 2023 salary recommendations from their December 15, 2021 meeting. Recommendations were as follows: 12% for the Sheriff, 8% for Attorney, Auditor, Recorder, Supervisors, and Treasurer, with a \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chair and \$1,500 stipend for the Board Secretary, plus longevity for all.

The Board of Supervisors thanked Zach for his work and time, noting that the meeting was very informative, well discussed and everyone present was participating. Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg to acknowledge receipt of the **Buena Vista Compensation Board** recommendations.

Chairman Kim Johnson of the County's Redistricting Plan along with GIS Coordinator Eric Chase and Elections Deputy Karla Ahrendsen presented the information from the Public Hearing that was held December 20 recommending the Board accept Supervisor Plan B modified. Based on population, each supervisor district should have 4,165 residents with a 1% variance +/- of 41 residents. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Altena to accept the **County's Redistricting Plan B modified**. Roll Call: Snyder -Yes, Ringgenberg – Yes, Altena -Yes, Merten -No, Huseman – No. Motion carried.

John Pitstick was in attendance for Hear the Public. He discussed the Hubbard Feed buildings and what would happen to that if it no longer has value. Another concern was of the wind generators which have reached their life span and those that were in tough shape. It was discussed that Mid American Energy owns the wind generators now.

Deputy of Elections Karla Ahrendsen explained the HAVA Cybersecurity Grant Agreement to the board. The Iowa Secretary of State's office has a grant for \$10,000 we can get to use for increasing our Elections security. Motion by Huseman, second by Ringgenberg to approve the **HAVA Cybersecurity Grant Agreement**. Carried.

Discussion on **Platinum Crush** is canceled per Merten due to nothing new to report, therefore no action to take.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve the **appointment of Assistant County Attorney** Lindsey L. Browning as of December 13, 2021 at \$82,500. Carried.

Motion by Huseman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **appointment of First Assistant County Attorney Ashley Herrig** as of December 13, 2021 at \$92,500. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Altena to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #22 Lat 183-61** claim for Clay County to pay Koenig Portable Toilets for tile jetting \$350.00. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Huseman to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #22 Br 183** claim for Clay County to pay Koenig Portable Toilets for tile jetting \$875.00. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Huseman to transfer the remaining Buena Vista County funds in the amount of \$29,042 remaining in the **NW IA Regional Housing Trust Fund** to Buena Vista County General Relief Fund for \$5,000 and to UDMO for \$24,042 to be spent in Buena Vista County. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Merten, second by Huseman to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 a.m. until Tuesday, December 28 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session. Carried.