

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FOURTH MEETING, 2022 SESSION (4)
JANUARY 18, 2022**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Merten presiding, and the following members present: Altena, Huseman, Ringgenberg, and Snyder and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting.

Motion by Snyder, second by Huseman, to **amend today's agenda**, adding two additional action items: Revised Buena Vista County Lodging Expense & Human Trafficking Policy and a contract amendment to the Agreement between BV County and the University of Iowa for the CDBG-NDR project (North Raccoon River Watershed). Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The plows were out Friday and Saturday, and one plow out on Sunday; they have been short-handed, with some covid cases and exposures; the engineer has asked for a quote for a wheel loader from John Deere, and will bring it to the Board at a later date; the engineer has been working on his budget and the 5-year project.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Altena, to approve the **minutes** of 1/11/22, as printed, today's **claims approval list**, holding the claim for Practical Products Group, LLC, in the amount of \$433.20 for two weeks, **stamped drainage warrant register**, and the following **reports**: FY'21 Audit Report for BV County Solid Waste Commission, January Solid Waste Manager's Report, December Landfill minutes, January Recorder's Report of Fees Collected, and CB Household Hazardous Waste Agency Financial Statements at 12/31/2021 and 2020. Carried.

Motion by Huseman, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #105-64** claim for BV County Secondary Roads for tile repairs, in the amount of \$1,298.10. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Huseman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the new revised **Buena Vista County Lodging Expense & Human Trafficking Policy**. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the contract amendment to the Agreement between BV County and the University of Iowa for the CDBG-NDR project (**North Raccoon River Watershed**). Carried.

Treasurer Danelle Haberman reviewed the Investment Policy with the Board. There were no changes to the current policy. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve the **Buena Vista County Investment Policy**. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Huseman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a letter to Citizens 1st National Bank, changing the signors on the **K-9 account** from Kory Elston and Marty DeMuth to Danelle Haberman and Tami Tendal, effective immediately. Carried.

Gene Suhr, **Hanover Historical Society**, presented their funding request for FY'23. Suhr thanked the Board for support over the years. They are requesting \$1,000, the same as the current year, which will be used for upkeep and restoration of the Hanover Village. The Board thanked him for everything they do.

Gary Sundblad, **Threshermen & Collectors Association**, presented their funding request for FY'23. They are requesting \$5,000, the same as the current year. They would use the funds for advertising their annual show in August. This year will be the National Minneapolis Moline Collectors, so they will bring in people from several states. Sundblad thanked the Board for supporting them over the years. The Board thanked him too for everything they do.

County Attorney Paul Allen updated the Board on the OSHA ETS Vaccination & Testing Mandate. The Supreme Court ruled against the OSHA mandate, but maintained the CMS mandate. Allen stated that this isn't the final ruling, it could still change.

County Attorney Paul Allen discussed a County Leave/Return to Work Policy, after talking with Public Health Administrator Julie Sather. Sather stated that department heads need to require employees to stay home when they are sick, in order to try and keep the covid from being spread. Some employees that are new hires don't have any sick leave, and haven't received any vacation hours yet. Sather stated that there are employees that are working while they are sick. Allen asked the Board what they would like to have put in place, as Public Health wants to mitigate covid. Merten asked whether the Board wanted to go back to the policy that was in place before. The consensus of the Board was not to go back to the former policy for covid sick pay. Allen stated that the quarantine days have been shortened by the CDC, and stated that Public Health can order someone to be quarantined, if the employee refuses to go home, and continues to work. Allen stated that by an employer knowingly allowing a known exposure in the workplace, and if someone were to get sick or die, there would be claims filed. Snyder suggested a temporary leave of absence. Ringgenberg asked Payroll Clerk Yvonne Sandhoff if she had received many complaints. Sandhoff responded that most complaints were from new hires that didn't have sick or vacation time to use. The suggestion was made to give all employees "emergency sick leave", to only be used after their existing sick leave was all used up. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to give 40 hours of **emergency sick leave** to all employees, to be used only after their existing sick leave has been used up, and this emergency leave will expire at the end of 2022. The departments are to follow current CDC guidelines. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Altena, to go into **closed session** (at 10:17 a.m.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(c) of the 2022 Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Ayes: Altena, Huseman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to go out of **closed session** at 10:34 a.m. Carried

Mike Pertzborn, Tony Pertzborn, and Barb Wetherell, from Stille, Pierce and Pertzborn Agency, were present for the discussion on **health insurance rates**. Also present for the discussion were Paul Allen, Curt Reis, Jason Butler, and Yvonne Sandhoff. Mike Pertzborn reviewed the County's Annual Report and claims history. The total increase for the Wellmark portion of our insurance this year is 5.77%, with a loss ratio of 94.35%. Pertzborn stated that the renewal average over the past 11 years is 7.56%. The information has been passed along to Tom Schuetz, Alera Group, the County's Third-Party Administrator, who will be scheduling a time to meet with the Board, and will make a recommendation on the self-funded portion of the health insurance before rates will be set for FY'23.

Hear the Public: Env Health/Zoning Director Kim Johnson informed the Board that there will be a Zoning Commission Monday night at 7:00 p.m. at the East Richland Annex meeting room. Kelly Snyder asked that the discussion of eminent domain, in regards to the Navigator Pipeline project, be place on the January 25th agenda, with possible action.

There being no further business, motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 a.m. until Tuesday, January 25 at 8:30 a.m. for a special meeting.