

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
EIGHTH MEETING, 2022 SESSION (8)  
FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 15, 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.

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 Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve **today's agenda**, as presented. Carried.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme and Assistant Drainage Engineer Eric Yunginger reviewed what the proposed changes would have been to Iowa **Drainage Code 468**. Blomme stated that the proposed changes didn't make it through the legislative process this year, so there is year to look at it before it comes up again in 2023. His review was for informational purposes only.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present to update the Board on the status of five remaining funding requests from private non-profits. Allen stated that BV Soil & Water Conservation is okay to fund, as they qualify to receive funding from governments. Allen is still working on contracts for RIDES, CAASA, Upper Des Moines Opportunity, and Family Crisis Center. Allen asked the Board how they would like the contracts written and setting up the billing and reimbursement schedule, as these agencies are supposed to be reimbursed for specific services provided. Auditor Lloyd suggested they could bill the county at the end September and end of March, with reimbursement in October and April, as the agencies are used to. Then, the agencies could bill for April and May by the end of May, so that the final reimbursement could be made in June, by the end of the fiscal year. The billings need to be itemized, and they are subject to audit. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Altena, to approve funding of the FY'22 allocation request from **BV County Soil & Water Conservation District**. Carried.

The time arrived for the discussion on **salaries**. The Compensation Board had recommended an 8% increase in wages for the Attorney, Auditor, Recorder, Supervisor, and Treasurer, with a 12% increase for the Sheriff, and reaffirmed the longevity schedule for all elected officials, and also recommended an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Auditor, as Board Secretary, and an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chairman. Merten reviewed with the rest of the Board, what their options were, regarding the recommendations. Merten stated that if there were cuts, everyone would be cut by the same percentage, but the Supervisors could lower their own increase without affecting the rest of the elected officials. Snyder commented that with the Sheriff's Department, their counterparts are getting paid more than the sheriff, and it is difficult to hire and retain employees. Snyder recommends approving the full recommendation. Altena commented that when looking at the housing market, people have to pay more. Altena stated that 8% and 12% seems high, but it would compensate for years past. Huseman asked Auditor Lloyd if the budget could handle the increases. Lloyd stated that the full increases were included in the budget, and the Board saw what the ending fund balances were projected to be. Huseman stated that the percentages sound like a lot, but since the budget includes the full raises, he would be in favor of the recommendations. Ringgenberg commented that other businesses are raising wages in order to retain their employees. Huseman stated that the supervisors should be treated equally, receiving the same increase, so that they don't fall behind. Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to accept the Compensation Board salary recommendations, setting the **FY'23 salary** increase for Attorney, Auditor, Recorder, Supervisors, and Treasurer at 8%, and a 12% increase for the Sheriff, and including an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Auditor, as Board

Secretary, and an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chair, and reaffirmed the longevity schedule for all elected officials. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Huseman, to approve an 8% **wage increase** for FY'23, for the non-elected officials and their employees. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Huseman, to approve an 8% **wage increase** for FY'23, for all Secondary Road employees, except the County Engineer, based on their current base rate, to encourage people to move up. Carried.

**Secondary Road Report:** The crew has been cutting brush, blading the roads, and moving fuel barrels, gearing up for spring; Engineer Wilkinson met with IDOT on the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act dollars, and he will be attending his executive board meeting this week. Wilkinson stated that they are still waiting to see where the Federal dollars will be going.

Veterans Service Officer/General Relief Director Dave Andrews met with the Board to discuss developing a Home Improvement Policy for General Relief. Huseman stated that he will contact NW IA Regional Housing Trust, to obtain a copy of their list of things that qualify for the use of the funds, and give it to Andrews.

**Hear the Public:** Environmental Health Specialist Jason Butler informed the Board that the Zoning Board met last night, regarding the Platinum Urban Renewal Area. Butler stated that the Zoning Board made a motion that the **Platinum Urban Renewal Area** is in conformity with Buena Vista County's Comprehensive Plan and future land use, and they have no recommendations for changes to the Board of Supervisors.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve the **minutes** of 2/8/22, as corrected, today's **claims approval list**, **stamped drainage warrant register** and the following **reports:** January BV County Landfill meeting minutes, and January Board of Health minutes. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to set a public hearing for a FY'22 BV County **budget amendment**, for March 8, at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

Motion by Huseman, second by Altena, to authorize the Chair to sign the **Confirmation of MSP Addendum, Fully Insured Renewal Premiums, and Account Information & Binder Agreement and SBC Employer Data Form** for Wellmark. Carried.

**Supervisor Meeting Reports:** There is a Conference Board meeting tonight.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 a.m. until Tuesday, February 22 at 8:30 a.m. for a special meeting.