

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
NINTH MEETING, 2023 SESSION (9)
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Snyder presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Merten, Ringgenberg, and Altena and with Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen as clerk for the meeting.

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

Motion by Croker, seconded by Ringgenberg to **approve today's agenda**. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: Wilkinson told the Board that crews are still working on gravel roads. Hoping that the rain would allow them to get some of the pot holes and rumble strips out. He did say that they hauled four loads of crushed concrete to the area around the Platinum Crush plant as that gravel was in very bad shape and mud was starting to form. He plans to address each individual issue on the gravel roads as they come up and will probably have to haul more rock to some especially the ones that are heavily traveled by trucks.

Wilkinson updated the group on the **Bluebird Creek Bridge**, DOT wrote the contract incorrectly when they sent the work order out for bid letting. Originally they were supposed to have a 100 work days with the road open and 30 with it closed but they bid it as 100 closed and 30 open. Wilkinson said they could try and get work order changes in but that would cost approximately \$200,000 more for the project. He said it will be an inconvenience to the few families who live between the two bridges but otherwise the closing will co-inside with the road closing for the other bridge. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Board to go ahead with the bridge as the DOT had let it and save the \$200,000 for other projects.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve the **utility permit** of Windstream Iowa Communications of Little Rock, AR to bore along CR-M36/510th St, section S32 T93N R37W, Linn Grove for accommodation of one underground fiber optic cable from CR-M36 to 510th St. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he will have an opening for Maintenance Superintendent and stated that he would like to advertise now, to get someone hired since this is such a key position. McGowan will be retiring the end of April with almost 48 years of service to the county. Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and authorize Engineer Wilkinson to advertise for a **Maintenance Superintendent position**, to get someone hired and trained while McGowan is still here. Carried.

Linn Grove Bridge: Marian McNabb from Linn Grove asked if the new bridge would be named in Linn Grove. The Board hadn't really considered it but was open to the idea. Her suggestion was to name it either "Linn Grove Veteran's Bridge" or "Veteran's Bridge". The Board was in favor of the suggestions and asked Wilkinson to investigate what it would take to do this. They will discuss the actual name and procedure later.

Chairman Snyder asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public**, with no response. Supervisor Don Altena presented the Board a letter stating that he would be retiring June 30, 2023.

Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen requested the Board allow her to carry over an additional 40 hours of vacation. Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the request to allow Karla Ahrendsen to carry over an additional 40 hours of **vacation** over the 40 hours allowed, with the intention that she use it by June 30, 2023. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Altena, to approve the minutes of the 2/7/2023 meeting and approve today's claims approval list and stamped warrant register. Carried.

FY24 Budget: Auditor Lloyd told the Board that a max levy rate would have to be set and published before the pending legislator (SB181) would be decided. She told the group that this would just set the maximum dollars that could be raised but that we could always lower the rate. She also briefly explained how SSB 1124 if passed would impact current and future budgets. After a brief discussion the Board asked Lloyd to submit the max levy for publication with \$3.95 on rural basic and to increase the general basic over the \$3.50, to whatever was needed to leave the county with a 15% ending fund balance.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to set the **Public Hearing** for the FY'24 Proposed Property Tax Levy for Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., and publish the notice in the official newspapers. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Merten, to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 a.m. until Tuesday, February 21 at 8:30 a.m. for a special meeting.