

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
SIXTEENTH MEETING, 2023 SESSION (16)  
APRIL 4, 2023**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Snyder presiding, and the following other members present: Altena, Croker, Merten, Ringgenberg, and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting.

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

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

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented a resolution to the Board for their consideration. Wilkinson informed the Board the resolution was to show support for the current Local Option Sales Tax, and not in favor of SF550. Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair and the other supervisors to sign **Resolution #2023-04-04-A** Supporting the current Local Option Sales Tax. Carried.

**RESOLUTION #2023-04-04-A**

- WHEREAS,** the voters of Buena Vista County and cities within the county have voted to enact a 1 cent Local Option Sales Tax in accordance with Iowa Code 423B, and
- WHEREAS,** the revenue derived from the tax is used for road and bridge improvements and property tax relief, and
- WHEREAS,** the residents of Buena Vista County have grown to rely on these revenues as a means to reduce property taxes, and
- WHEREAS,** the 2023 legislative session has seen the introduction of SF 550, which proposes to convert the Local Option Sales Tax efforts into a statewide sales tax and impose the local option sales tax in every jurisdiction, thereby triggering the constitutional amendment to require an allocation of 3/8th of a cent to the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWLL) trust fund, and
- WHEREAS,** SF 550 proposed to backfill revenues lost due to the proposal, there are concerns of the Legislature ability to continue backfilling revenues, and
- WHEREAS,** voters across Iowa who have voted to either implement a local option sales tax or not to do so, and
- WHEREAS,** voters across Iowa who have voted to utilize the local option sales tax have approved revenue purpose statements (RPS), and
- WHEREAS,** SF 550 also sunsets these provisions on January 1, 2025, after which no jurisdiction will have the authority to take either a LOST proposal or revenue purpose statement to a vote, essentially deleting the local government's ability to have local option sales taxes.

**THEREFORE,** the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors would like to express their support of the current Local Option Sales Tax. The current law best represents the interest of voters and furthers the reduction of property taxes, which is a common goal of the County and the Iowa Legislature. The Board of Supervisors unanimously supports the Iowa Water and Land Legacy (IWLL) trust fund; however, SF

550 as currently written, would not only strip the County of control over Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) revenues, but would effectively disregard the will of the Voters.

Passed and approved on this 4th day of April, 2023.

/s/ Kelly Snyder-Chair, Rhonda Ringgenberg-member, Paul Merten-Vice Chair, Don Altena-member, Kathy Croker-member.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he was approached by Patrick Lane, asking if he could plant hay at the Hayes Pit. Lane would plant oats as a cover crop and alfalfa. Wilkinson stated that the land is not currently cropped and is approximately 4-5 acres. Merten asked if Lane would be responsible for the seed. Wilkinson stated that Lane would be responsible for the seed, and he would take the crop at his own risk. Merten suggested that Wilkinson contact the County Attorney to prepare a lease for one year, to see how it goes. Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to allow Patrick Lane to plant hay at the **Hayes Pit**, pending the County Attorney preparing the lease for Lane. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Regional Water, Spencer, IA, to drill under 600<sup>th</sup> St., from north to south between Section 31 Coon Township and Section 6 Newell Township, to transmit water 128' east of the driveway of the residence at 1964 600<sup>th</sup> St. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board of a request from the Buena Vista County Fair Board, requesting 75 tons of sand to be donated out of the county pile in Storm Lake, to be used in the horse arena. Wilkinson stated that the county's cost is approximately \$5/ton, and Reding Gravel will do the hauling for the Fair Board. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve the request of the Buena Vista County Fair Board, for the county to **donate 75 tons of sand**, to be used in the horse arena. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson reviewed with the Board three tractors that he had information about, which he would like to purchase one for Secondary Roads. Wilkinson looked at a New Holland TS6.140 that is new and has a 2-year/2,000-hour warranty (\$84,000), a New Holland T6.180 that is new and also has a 2-year/2,000-hour warranty (\$114,000), and a Case IH Farmall 140A, with a loader that has 200 hours on it (\$84,500). Wilkinson stated that he recommends the New Holland TS6.140. Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve the Engineer's request to purchase a **New Holland TS6.140** tractor that is new and has a 2-year/2,000-hour warranty for a net cost of \$84,000 which includes a trade-in of a John Deere 6615. Carried.

**Secondary Report:** Crew has begun edge rutting, blading gravel roads, and hauling gravel where it is needed; Engineer Wilkinson stated that the summer crew started yesterday, which drops them down to 9 motor graders; Engineer Wilkinson stated that they discovered a hole in the road northeast of Truesdale, and they are checking to see what the cause is; work continues on the Linn Grove Bridge. They are pouring the south pier cap, and the next step will be bringing in concrete beams that are 150' long and set them; Dixon Construction moved in yesterday and signage went up regarding the Bluebird Bridge Project. Tree removal has started at Bluebird Creek; Engineer Wilkinson informed the Board that he will be bringing his IDOT budget and 5-year plan to them next week for their approval. The IDOT budget and 5-year plan is due to the IDOT by April 15.

**Hear the Public:** There was no response from anyone requesting to speak, either virtually or in-person.

Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of the 3/28/2023 meeting, as presented, and accept the following **report:** January Rolling Hills Community Services Region Governance Meeting minutes. Carried.

ECI Director Annette Koster and Cassandra Crum, Family Steps, met with the Board, requesting that they consider signing a proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Koster read

the Proclamation and Crum explained the Family Steps Program. Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Board to sign the **Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation**. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve the Class C **Liquor License**, Outdoor Service & Sunday Sales, for The Little Sioux Golf and Country Club. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to set the date and time for the Public Hearing on the **FY'24 County Budget** for Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room of the Courthouse. Carried

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Merten, to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m. until Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.