

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
FORTY-SECOND MEETING, 2023 SESSION (42)  
OCTOBER 17, 2023**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Snyder presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: None.

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

Motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to go into **closed session** (at 8:30 a.m.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(c) of the 2023 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: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to go out of **closed session** at 8:45 a.m. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented a utility permit for Platinum Crush, for a water discharge pipe to the Raccoon River. Wilkinson stated that Platinum Crush has the NPDES Permit allowing it and their restrictions, and there is no issue with water quality. Wilkinson also stated that they are still waiting on the permit for the diffuser to go into the Raccoon River from IDNR. Merten stated that he wants to wait until Platinum Crush has a permit from IDNR. Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to table the **utility permit** request from Platinum Crush. Carried.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme informed the Board that he has a Drainage District Crossing Permit for Platinum Crush. Platinum Crush would be going through eight drainage districts for a total of thirteen crossings. Blomme recommends tabling this permit until Platinum Crush receives the permit from IDNR. Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to table the Drainage District Crossing **Permit** for Platinum Crush. Carried.

Supervisor Croker asked Engineer Bret Wilkinson for an update on **70<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 80<sup>th</sup> Ave.** by Platinum Crush. Wilkinson informed the Board that proposals have been sent to IDOT on the 70th Ave. intersection, and he is waiting to see if they concur with the design. Wilkinson stated that he is still waiting for two signatures on the 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. Phase 1 project, and then they can set the letting. Phase 2 is waiting on the wetland. Wilkinson stated that 80<sup>th</sup> Ave. is a separate project, because of the division with the railroad, as there will be asphalt from the railroad to Highway 7 intersection, and concrete for the area south of the railroad. Croker asked Wilkinson if he had talked with Platinum Crush about placing signs for truck entrance off of 80<sup>th</sup> Ave. as she doesn't want a huge sign at 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. that would state it is Platinum Crush's main entrance. Wilkinson stated that if they place signs on their own property, then it must abide by zoning rules. If the signs are placed in county right-of-way, then the request would come to Wilkinson.

Croker left the meeting at 9:00 a.m. for jury duty.

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

**Secondary Road Report:** The Buena Vista County Veterans Bridge in Linn Grove is open to traffic, however the sidewalk remains closed until the railings arrive and are installed; Engineer Wilkinson stated that the final paperwork still has to be completed on the Bluebird Creek Bridge to close out the project; there are four location for small asphalt patching projects, and the contractor will be working on those Wednesday through Friday of this week; the crew has been on 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. trying out equipment to smooth and shape the road, then they will see if more dust control is needed; they are still mowing and blading gravel roads; they have starting putting blades on for winter; two new hires start on Monday.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme informed the Board that he has talked with Conservation Director Greg Johnson and NRCS about putting in an **oxbow** on Conservation ground, to provide an outlet for DD #186, for better water flow.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve the **minutes** of 10/10/2023, as presented, and accept the following **reports:** September Board of Health minutes, September B V County Landfill Commission minutes, Recorder's Report of Fees Collected (July-September), and September Conservation Board minutes. Carried.

Auditor Susan Lloyd requested the Board allow her to lease a postage meter when they move to their new office location. The lease would be with Pitney Bowes, for 60 months, at a monthly rate of \$142.28. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Auditor to sign the **lease** of a postage meter from Pitney Bowes, for 60 months, at a monthly rate of \$142.28. Carried.

Chairman Snyder asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public**, with no response.

Croker returned to the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

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

Auditor Susan Lloyd asked the Board about naming the building at 317 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The Board also asked about the budget for the building, and what the name would be for the budget. Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve naming the building at **317 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street**, County Auditor's Office, and for the budget it will be referred to as E. 5<sup>th</sup> St./Seneca St. Annex. Carried.

Auditor Susan Lloyd informed the Board that she had contacted two outside vendors for **quotes on moving** all of the office desks, furniture, and files from the Courthouse to the new office location at 317 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Office Elements quoted \$2,450.00 to disassemble all of the desks, move them to the new location, and reassemble all of the desks. Another quote was received from Claeys Brothers Moving & Storage, for moving everything else in the Auditor's Office, besides the desks, to the new location. Claeys Brothers Moving was highly recommended by Cherokee County, as they had them move everything out of the courthouse for their remodeling and then move everything back into the building. The quote from Claeys Brother Moving is \$2,235.00. Lloyd asked Claeys Brothers Moving if they would also move the desks, and they said they don't do that, they prefer another vendor to disassemble the desks and reassemble them. Lloyd informed the Board that she contacted the vendors to move her office, as there are several heavy items to move, and also the complicated desks to disassemble and reassemble. Merten commented that he thought the intention was to use the desks that were left at the building. Lloyd stated that her intention was to move the current desks over to the new building, as the ones that were left there are too short. Ringgenberg mentioned taking pictures of the desks and electrical before they are moved in case someone

else could use them. Merten stated that it would be a good idea to move the desks over to the current auditor's vault area, so that the supervisors would have a desk if they wanted to come in and work on something. Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve the quote from **Claeys Brothers Moving & Storage**, for moving everything in the Auditor's Office and vault, with the exception of the desks, to the new location at 317 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, in the amount of \$2,235.00. Ayes: Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: Croker. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the **quote from Office Elements** to move the Auditor's Office desks to 317 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Supervisor Croker suggested asking the Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller if he and his staff could disassemble and reassemble the desks, instead of hiring it done.

There was discussion from the Board as to whether the **Drivers License Department** had contacted the DOT about their move to the current Auditor's Office. Treasurer Danelle Haberman was online and stated that DOT has been notified and they will come and look at the space, but until the Auditor's Office has relocated, the time hasn't been set for DOT to come.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve the **Jt. DD #22 Branch 19** claim for Abel Drainage & Excavating, Inc., for \$292.50 to repair a broken county mail tile. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to authorize the Auditor to **void and reissue check** #321944 dated 8/29/2023 to Lemmenes & Dodgen Attorneys at Law for \$130.60, as the check has been lost. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to set a public hearing date for a county **budget amendment** for Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Merten, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 a.m. until Tuesday, October 24 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.