

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FORTY-FOURTH MEETING, 2023 SESSION (44)
NOVEMBER 8, 2023**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday, November 8, 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 Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve the hiring of Alex DeRoos as an **Equipment Operator I**, effective November 13, 2023, at a rate of \$29.43, which is \$2.00 under the Operator I rate, with increases at 6-month reviews for the first two years, and eligible for any raises given by the Board of Supervisors. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: They have been straightening gravel roads, moving gravel deposits to each side; still brush cutting and hauled sand and gravel to stockpiles; the wings will be put on the equipment before Thanksgiving, to be ready for winter; they have 2,000 tons of ice control sand coming from Wirtjer's, and Engineer Wilkinson stated that their salt bins are full now; mowers are going, and they will be finishing up the mowing in another week or two; they have been spray foaming the Alta building and then will work on heat for the building so they can park equipment inside; Wilkinson stated that there was a discharge pipe update yesterday on Platinum Crush, and 20% of linear feet of pipe has been installed in the ground. The retainage pond is pretty much dug out, with cement stabilization and lining to be installed. Wilkinson stated that electricity will begin January 2, 2024, and then the water. Wilkinson informed the Board that he needs one more signature for Phase I of the project. Wilkinson is looking at the plans for the grading and so is the DOT, then they will go to letting the project, and begin working on the paving plans. Wilkinson hasn't heard from the Army Corps on Phase 2. Wilkinson also stated that he hasn't heard from DOT on the 70th Ave. intersection.

Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve the **minutes** of 10/24/2023, as presented, today's **claims approval list & stamped warrant register**, and accept the following **reports**: Jt. DD #22 minutes, August Central IA Detention Commission minutes, October Central IA Detention Commission minutes, September NW IA YES Center minutes, September Region III LEPC minutes, September NWIPDC Transportation Policy Committee minutes, September NWIPDC Policy Council Meeting minutes, FY'23 Audit Report for NW IA Planning & Development Commission, and October Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to authorize the disposal of the 9/13/2022 Storm Lake School Special Election **ballots**, as they have been kept the required length of time after the election. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to authorize the Auditor to **void and reissue check** #321391 dated 7/18/2023 to Lisa Bringle for \$155.46, as the check has been lost. Carried.

Payroll Specialist Yvonne Sandhoff asked the Board to consider what they would like the maximum deduction allowed for FLEX to be for 2024. Sandhoff stated that the current maximum deduction is \$3,050 and it may go up to \$3,200. Sandhoff asked the Board if they wanted to set a maximum amount every year, or if they would like to automatically go with the maximum allowed each year. Motion by Croker,

second by Merten, to automatically set the **FLEX deductions** at the maximum amount allowed each year. Carried.

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

Supervisor Croker stated that she had talked with Bruceanne Phillips last summer about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement being prepared by the US Army Corps of Engineers relating to the Dakota Access Pipeline and the negative economic implications for Buena Vista County if there is a disruption in the pipeline's transportation of Bakken crude oil. Phillips sent a draft comment letter that she is requesting the Board of Supervisors to sign, which is addressed to the US Army Corps of Engineers which highlights the lack of recognition of the impacts to BV County if the Dakota Access Pipeline experiences a disruption in service. Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers urging them to reissue **DAPL's easement**. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 a.m. until Tuesday, November 14 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session, and to canvass the City/School Election.