

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FIFTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (5)
JANUARY 16, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Ringgenberg presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Snyder 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: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Snyder, and Ringgenberg. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to **amend today's agenda**, adding an action item, signing off on the BV Blizzard Busters request to use county right-of-way for the snowmobile route. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented a gravel crushing contract for Stratford Gravel, Inc., to crush at the Goldsmith/Marathon Pit, for approximately 200,000 tons for an estimated cost of \$1,104,528. Merten asked whether Wilkinson took bids, and the response was that this did not go to bids since it is considered maintenance. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **gravel crushing contract** with Stratford Gravel, Inc., to crush approximately 200,000 ton from the Goldsmith/Marathon Pit, with an estimated cost of \$1,104,528, with 70% to be paid in FY'25 (\$773,169.60), 15% paid in FY'26 (August 1, 2025 \$165,679.20), and the remaining 15% in FY'27 (August 1, 2026 \$165,679.20). Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: Merten. Motion carried.

Secondary Road Report: They have been busy plowing snow, fighting the winds. They have been out every morning since Friday; motor graders have a lot of work to do in order to widen their roads and push snow back. The hard surface roads look good, as they have a wider roadway and the snow is moved back; they have not worked on the Alta Shed, maybe next week when the weather warms up; during the blizzard, they had a lot of communication with farmers with livestock and the feed mill during the blizzard. There were several stalled cars on the roadway. Croker asked if the public is notified when the county pulls the plows off of the roads. Wilkinson stated that in the future, he will contact the radio station and ask the Sheriff and Emergency Management to put information out on their social media sights; the cold has been hard on the equipment. They have had lots of breakdowns and repairs.

Chairperson Ringgenberg asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public:** **Juvenile Probation Officer Robert Fritz** informed the Board that he was promoted to a different position two weeks ago, and now will be supervising all of the probation officers in the rural counties. Fritz has been the Probation Officer for Buena Vista County for 30 years. The Board congratulated him on his promotion and stated that they appreciate all that he has done; **Recorder Curt Reis** informed the Board that he will not need to have the Treasurer transfer funds to his Recorder's checking account, as they have the problem resolved with the State, that he reported previously..

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve the **minutes** from 1/9/2024, today's **claims approval list**, and accept the following **reports:** December Conservation Board minutes, December Landfill minutes, and Quarterly Recorder's Report of Fees Collected (Oct-Dec). Carried.

Julie Edwards came to discuss the **FY25 Budget Request for Upper Des Moines Opportunity.** Edwards highlighted how many people they had helped and stated that the outreach always runs in the "red" and this year is at -\$130,000. Edwards informed the Board that they have reduced the number of

days their outreach is open in the small counties to 3-4 days/week, but Storm Lake will continue to be open five days/week. The request for FY'25 is \$19,000.

Motion by Hartman, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign off on the DOT form to allow **Buena Vista Blizzard Busters** to use county right-of-way for their snowmobile trails. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to go into **closed session** (at 9:15 a.m.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(c) of the 2024 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 Snyder, second by Croker, to go out of **closed session** at 10:35 a.m. Carried.

Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen presented the FY'23 Annual Urban Renewal Report for the Board to approve. Motion by Hartman, second by Merten, to accept the County's **FY'23 Annual Urban Renewal Report** and authorize the Chair to sign. Carried.

FY25 Budget work session- The Board reviewed ARPA spending and capital projects.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m. until Friday, January 19 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session.