

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TENTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (10)
FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 13, 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. 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 Snyder, second by Croker, to amend **today's agenda**, adding Wellmark renewal documents and a Jt. DD #22 Lat 19-9 claim. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson asked the Board to allow him to advertise for an additional full-time administrative assistant, in order to cross train with accounts payable and payroll, and then assist with other duties in the office. Merten stated that he would like to see the Engineer's Office open on Fridays during their summer hours. Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, for the Engineer to move forward with advertising for an additional **full-time administrative assistant** in the Engineer's Office. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The crew has been working on the Alta building, hoping to have tin on the ceiling and insulate this week, then they can move equipment in permanently; they have been hauling to the stockpile in Newell; they have been working on the gravel roads; design work continues on the Platinum Crush road project, with two additional right-of-way purchases needed.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that he wanted to go into closed session to discuss his contract. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to go into **closed session** (at 8:48 A.M.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(i) of the 2024 Code of Iowa, to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Motion carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to go out of **closed session** at 9:35 A.M. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to set the **County Engineer's salary** for his 3-year contract at \$140,000 for FY'25, \$146,300 for FY'26, and \$152,600 for FY'27. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen recommended a change in the County Engineer's contract, to simplify paragraph 4, regarding defending and indemnification of the engineer. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to change paragraph 4 of the **County Engineer's contract** to state that the Board shall defend and indemnify the engineer in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 670. Carried.

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

The time arrived for the discussion on **salaries**. The Compensation Board had recommended a 7.5% increase in wages for the Attorney, a 6% increase for the Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer, a 5% increase for the Supervisors, an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chair, a \$1,500 stipend for the Board Secretary, and reaffirmed the longevity schedule for all elected officials. Shop Superintendent

Nathan Rubendall handed out information to the supervisors, showing that employees with family health insurance would be going backwards in pay, depending on what the raises are set at. Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to accept the Compensation Board salary recommendations, setting the **FY'25 salary** increase for the Attorney at 7.5%, Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer at 6%, Supervisors at 5%, an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Board Chair, and an additional \$1,500 stipend for the Auditor, as Board Secretary, and reaffirmed the longevity schedule for all elected officials. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve **wage increases** for FY'25, for the non-elected officials and their employees that are not under another Board as: Drainage Department-Brian Blomme and Eric Yunginger (which were both approved by the shared 3-County Drainage Board); Bldg/Grounds-Joe Keller, Vance Cords, Jon Buss, Craig Boyd; I.T. Tyler Van Houten, Eric Chase; and Zoning Administrator, as they were presented in their respective budgets. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve a 6% **wage increase** for FY'25, for all Secondary Road employees, except the County Engineer who is on a contract, based on their current base rate. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to approve the **minutes** from 2/6/2024, as presented, today's **claims approval list, stamped warrant register, and Auxiant disbursements**, and accept the following **reports**: January Central Iowa Detention Commission minutes and December Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #22 Lat 19-9** claim payable to Terry Gunnarson, in the amount of \$1,275.50 for tile repair. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve a \$300 payment to Todd Kay for beavers trapped in areas that are not part of a drainage district and are being approved separately since the original allocation for **non-drainage district trapping** was exceeded. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Wellmark renewal document**. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Auditor to **void and reissue** check #323497 dated 12/19/23, to Julius Cleaners (now Kasperbauer Cleaners, Inc.) for \$325.95, pending receipt of the original paperwork requesting the replacement check. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair and Auditor to sign the **Management Representation letter**, for Winther Stave, regarding the ARPA compliance examination they performed. Carried.

FY25 Budget work session- the Board reviewed the levies and ending fund balances.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m. until Tuesday, February 20 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session.