

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
SEVENTEENTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (17)
APRIL 2, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, April 2, 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 Hartman, to approve **today's agenda**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he would like to advertise to hire 1-2 seasonal mowers. Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Engineer to advertise to hire 1-2 **seasonal mowers**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board of a newer employee in his department that had an unexpected medical issue and would be off work for a couple of weeks. Wilkinson stated that this employee has not received any sick leave yet, and so Wilkinson was asking for permission to allow other employees in his department to donate some of their vacation time to help this employee. Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to approve allowing employees to **donate vacation time** to the employee in the Secondary Road Department (A.D.) who does not have any sick leave, as he is a new employee. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: They have been hauling gravel and limestone to gravel roads, blading and shaping them up; the department will begin their 10-hour days next Monday; they will be working on shouldering/edge rutting and driveways in April. Engineer Wilkinson informed the Board of an informational meeting with Allele Energy on April 12, if a couple of them wanted to attend.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme and Asst. Drainage Engineer Eric Yunginger were present to request a carryover of vacation hours for Yunginger, in the amount of 17 hours over the 40 hours allowed. Yunginger stated that he intends to use the 17 hours within the next two pay periods. Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve the request of Eric Yunginger to **carry over an additional 17 hours of vacation** over the 40 hours currently allowed, to be used within the next two pay periods. Carried.

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve both sets of **minutes** from 3/26/2024, as presented, and accept the following **reports**: FY'23 Central Service Cost Allocation Plan, September VA Commission minutes, February NW IA YES Center minutes, February NWIPDC Policy Council minutes, December SHIELD Board meeting minutes, February & March Central IA Detention Commission minutes, and February & March Central IA Juvenile Detention Center Executive Committee minutes. Carried.

Nine third and fourth graders from Storm Lake Elementary School were present to read the Proclamation Declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Proclamation Declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month**. Carried. The Board thanked the students for coming and reading the proclamation.

Joanne Follon, Business Retention & Workforce Partnership Coordinator with Iowa Lakes Corridor stopped in to update the Board on their activities.

Early Childhood Iowa Director Annette Koster brought in pinwheels to the Board, to display in April for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller brought a purchase agreement to the Board for a John Deere tractor mower, trading in the 2016 model which has 835 hours on it. The price of the John Deere mower also includes some parts for the mower used at the Sheriff's Department. Keller received quotes from C & B Operations, Storm Lake, and from K. C. Nielsen, Ltd., Laurens. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the purchase agreement with C & B Operations, Storm Lake, IA, to purchase a John Deere tractor mower, in the amount of \$13,148.98. Carried.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller informed the Board that he will have another contract for the Board to approve next week, for the concrete work on the steps and railings at the Courthouse. Keller stated that this is included in the current budget, and the work should be done by the end of May. Keller is also checking into tuck pointing of the Courthouse.

Department Update: Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller informed the Board that he has had the boiler inspected, participated in the tornado drill, and had fire inspections done. Keller stated that carpeting will be placed in Courtrooms B & C and DHS, and that he will be waxing floors this month.

Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen requested that the Board allow the Auditor's Office to shred the 2022 Primary Election records after April 7, which is allowed by Code, 22 months after a Federal Election. Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve disposing of the 2022 Primary Election materials, after April 7, 2024, which is allowed by Code 22 months after a Federal Election, and to notify both political party chairs. Carried.

Supervisor Meeting Reports: Ringgenberg will attend the Department Head meeting on Thursday and reported that there would be a safety meeting on Wednesday. Merten attended the Rolling Hills Region meeting last week and attended a virtual meeting with Allete Energy.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to go into closed session (at 9:43 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 Croker, second by Snyder, to go out of closed session at 11:03 a.m. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 a.m. until Tuesday, April 9 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.