

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (26)
JUNE 11, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, June 11, 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 Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen 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.

Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Regional Water, Spencer, IA, for accommodation of a water pipe boring under 640th St. in Section 25 of Providence Township, from south to north, approximately 20' west of the driveway at 1809 640th Street to serve the Thayer family. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Regional Water, Spencer, IA, for accommodation of a water pipe boring under 105th Ave. in Section 22 of Washington Township, from east to west, approximately 16' north of the driveway at 5727 105th Ave. to serve the Valdez family. Carried.

Motion by Merten, seconded by Croker to authorize the Chair to sign the **fuel contract with New Century FS**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson talked with the Board about **dust control on 120th Ave. west of Rembrandt**. Rembrandt Mayor called last week wondering if it was possible for the county to perform dust control as they had previously done. Wilkinson told the Board that when done previously the City of Rembrandt had participated in a cost share agreement but could not remember what that was. Wilkinson estimated that it would be about \$3,000 to treat the ½ mile that was under discussion. It was suggested to reach back out to the Mayor and tell him if they are willing to wait for Secondary Roads to get their new spray trailer up and going that the road would be treated at no cost to them but if they would like it completed sooner then the County would like the City of Rembrandt to pay half of the cost to have an outside company perform the task. Wilkinson will get back to the Board on the decision.

Wilkinson did a brief **update on the department** explaining that they had almost completed clean up from the flooding earlier and would have everything turned into FEMA and the State soon. They have hauled rock out of Goldsmith Pit in preparation for crushing there. They are currently draining the water out of the pit. He explained that this is taking longer than anticipated and that he might need to carry over funds that he had set aside this fiscal year to next year because of the timing. He told the group he would be back later with the Platinum Crush group.

County Attorney Paul Allen joined the group on the phone with Assistant County Attorney Ashley Herrig and Office Manager Heidi Hansen present to discuss issues with the old Case Management System that is currently in use. They have been fighting multiple issues on this and when they reached out to the company, they found out that only four counties, with two in process of transitioning, continue to use the software and it would no longer be supported. Hansen explained that the transition is a lengthy process

and that it would not be completed until May 1, 2025. Allen explained to the Board that he has the money for this setup but will need to carry it over from the current budget. Motion by Merten, seconded by Snyder to carryover **\$40,000 from FY24 budget to FY25 budget for the transition to Prosecutor by Karpel.**

Allen also presented changes that need to be made to the law library. Herrig explained to the group that the old set up is very outdated and not functional given the dynamics of the County Attorney office now. They would like to put in a new desk and table for the attorneys to work at, additional seating for officers while they are waiting to testify and locking cabinets that can be used for evidence in cases. Allen explained that he has money in the budget to cover the project \$8-10,000 cost of the improvements. Motioned by Croker, seconded by Hartman to approve the purchase of **needed office furniture for the requested improvements to the law library.** Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen requested that the Board allow Valerie Anspach to carry over 32 hours of vacation time, over the allowed one week to be used before her 2025 anniversary. Motion by Merten, seconded by Hartman, to allow Valerie Anspach to **carry over 32 hours of vacation to be used before her 2025 anniversary.** Carried.

Engineer Wilkinson joined the group again with Erik Lightner and Jay Nelson from **Platinum Crush** to discuss the possibility of paying an incentive for the road project around the plant. Wilkinson explained that Platinum Crush would like to pay an incentive for completion of the widening and preparation of the gravel road for paving. Wilkinson told the group that they would like to do a \$100,000 of which they would pay \$67,000 and the county would be responsible for \$33,000 for having the 1.5 miles of the Rise Grant portion of the road widened and to the choke stone stage before December 31, 2024. The Rise Grant portion is the first mile south of the railroad tracks on 70th Ave and .5 miles east on 600th St. Lightner said that this is beneficial to everyone because that area would be in good condition for when the weather gets bad and it will easier to plow and maintain; it also makes a better base for the road if it is completed and allowed to go through a cycle of freeze and thaw before it is paved. Croker asked what the completion deadline was for this project and Wilkinson told her that on August 8, 2025, for the 4 miles south of the railroad tracks after that date penalties will start incurring. Croker stated that she did not agree with the incentive as the Board had previously stated that they would not use taxpayers' money for this project and feels this is definitely going against that statement. Merten said that he feels that this project being completed is important to the whole county and mentioned that he knows that it cannot be used directly but the penalties assessed for the late completion of the bridge in Linn Grove would off set this incentive. Croker then questioned why not make the requirements higher so more of the road is completed quicker. Lightner suggested the possibility of adding the mile south of the plant to C63 be included in the agreement. He feels that would allow the contracts an easier time of meeting a couple of the other contract requirements. One being entrance and exit of the plant cannot be closed at the same time and the other that entrance must be open September 9 through the end of October. This is not part of the incentive and is required regardless but prepping south of the plant would help with the traffic flow and help force the traffic south to C63 which is the goal once the road is completed. Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to **incentive** the completion of the two miles south of railroad tracks to C63 on 70th Ave. and half mile east on 600th St. to be completed to the "choke stone" stage by December 31, 2024, for \$100,000 with Platinum Crush paying \$67,000 and the County paying \$33,000. Carried.

Hear the Public: Chairperson Ringgenberg asked if anybody online had anything for hear the public being none. Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen told the group that **ICAP** had not gotten her the premiums for FY25 and that a check may need approval after the final payment date to make the July 1, 2024 deadline.

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve the **minutes** from 6/4/2024 as presented, and accept the following **reports**: May Sheriff's Report of Federal Inmate Billings, May Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected, May Central IA Detention Commission minutes, and May Safety Committee minutes. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the **Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor permit** for Brew Oil, LLC. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize an **appropriation change**, moving \$350.00 from account #0001-29-1050-000-63400 to account #0001-28-1110-000-12900, due to increased expenses in the Medical Examiner budget. Carried.

Upon completion of the **Canvass** pursuant to Chapter 50.24 of 2024 Code of Iowa, motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to declare the results as listed below, to prepare abstracts for submission to the Secretary of State, and to prepare 'notice of nominations' to the political party chairpersons as required. Carried. [Note: For the county offices, the person declared nominated will be designated as "#"; where no name with "#" is shown, there is no nominee for that office on that political ticket.]

OFFICE	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	REPUBLICAN PARTY	LIBERTARIAN PARTY
<i>Total votes cast: 557</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>519</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>US Representative-Dist #4</i>	<i>Ryan Melton-34 Scattering-1</i>	<i>Randy Feenstra-193 Kevin Virgil-325</i>	<i>Scattering-1</i>
<i>State Representative-Dist #5</i>		<i>Zachary M. Dieken-93</i>	
<i>State Representative-Dist #6</i>	<i>Scattering-4</i>	<i>Megan Jones-307 Scattering-17</i>	
<i>Co. Supervisor Dist. 4</i>	<i>Scattering-5</i>	<i>Rhonda Ringgenberg-423#</i>	
<i>Co. Supervisor Dist. 5</i>	<i>Scattering-4</i>	<i>Daniel J. Hartman-418# Scattering-2</i>	
<i>County Auditor</i>	<i>Scattering-4</i>	<i>Susan Kennedy Lloyd-428# Scattering-3</i>	
<i>County Sheriff</i>	<i>Scattering-4</i>	<i>Kory Elston-463# Scattering-3</i>	

Ayes—Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays—none. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m. until Tuesday, June 18 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.