

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (28)
JUNE 25, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, June 25, 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 the two claims for tile jetting in Jt., DD #14-42 Branch 198 as an action item. 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, to drill from east to west under 90th Ave. between Sections 32 & 33 of Hayes Township, approximately 30' south of the centerline of the driveway at 6531 90th Ave. to serve the Holtorf family. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The river at Linn Grove peaked at 29.8' due to the flooding, which is 5.5' over the old record. The USGS was out measuring the flow under the Veterans Memorial Bridge to determine the number of years flood event that occurred. The most damage was in Sioux Rapids. There were six road closures, due to the Little Sioux River over its banks. Hopefully, once the water goes down, there won't be much damage. The bridge on S. River Road will be evaluated when the water does go down, as it was under water. Bluebird Creek bridge is okay, as it is higher than the Veterans Memorial Bridge, and is back in its banks. The culvert on N. River Road east of Hwy 71 washed out, and Engineer Wilkinson stated that they will increase the size of the culvert, so it doesn't happen again. Engineer Wilkinson stated that there had been water over the Veterans Memorial Bridge, and it was closed for 24 hours, while they drilled twelve holes in the deck to relieve pressure under the bridge. Wilkinson stated that there are no signs of damage to the Veterans Memorial Bridge. The Linn Grove water pump house was completely inundated. Wilkinson stated that they hauled rock to roads and will continue doing so this week. They ran the loader at Sioux Rapids to help and helped build a berm using county sand in Sioux Rapids. Wilkinson stated that they will need to replace the gravel, as the sand used in the flood cannot be reused; the contractor will start crushing at Goldsmith Pit anytime; Wilkinson is trying to get final approval from IDOT on the road project around Platinum Crush, and he is pressing the railroad, as to what the county can and cannot do.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a **Certificate of Appreciation** for Kay Evans, who is retiring after 29 years of service to Buena Vista County. Carried.

Chairperson Ringgenberg asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public**. The Assessor and his staff all came into the meeting, to watch as Supervisor Croker presented Kay Evans with her Certificate of Appreciation, who is retiring after 29 years of service to the county. Everyone congratulated Evans on her retirement.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to approve the **minutes** from 6/18/2024 as presented, and accept the following **reports:** March E911 Service Board minutes and March SHIELD Board minutes. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to remove Kim Briley from the BV County **Insurance Committee** and add Karyn Waites to the Committee. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to remove Kay Evans from the BV County **Wellness Committee** and add Alison Myrtue to the Committee. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, that Buena Vista County is the **Employer of Record** for the Rolling Hills CEO Dawn Mentzer, Office Administrator Kelsey Allen, & Coordinator of Disability Services Caylyn Bishop thru June 30 of Fiscal Year 2025. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to reappoint Mark Herrig, with a term expiring 6/30/2027 to the **Lincoln Benefitted Fire District Board of Trustees**. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Auditor to **void and reissue check** #325345 dated 5/7/2024 to Sioux City Fire & Rescue, in the amount of \$10,411.50. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Local Disaster Declaration**. Carried.

Veterans Service Officer Louie DeRoos and Jerry Weiland reviewed the **GDx Report** with the Board. This report shows the amount of Federal dollars coming into the county from the Veterans Administration for the period of October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. Weiland stated that the funds coming into the county have been increasing, with \$4.7M coming in. DeRoos stated that they have seen increases to the number of veterans they see from word of mouth, and from contacts they make. Both DeRoos and Weiland have accreditation, so they are both able to get into the VA system and check on claims that have been submitted and will continue to pursue claims that have been rejected for some reason or another and ask for a higher level of review. They discussed the IA Veterans Trust Fund, which is funded from the Iowa Lottery, and can be used for emergency home repairs and dental services, if the veteran is at 300% or more below the poverty level. DeRoos stated that they have brought in \$60,000 of the \$500,000 allotted to the program in the State of Iowa.

The Board started the discussion regarding the **VA Commissioners**. Currently, they are a 5-member commission, with one seat vacant and two other seats up for reappointment. There was discussion as to whether to drop back to a 3-member commission, or to stay with five commissioners. Veterans Service Officer Louis DeRoos stated that the number of commissioners can be based on population of the county and informed the supervisors that currently three commissioners served in the Vietnam era, and he would like to see some from the Gulf War or forward. One of the applicants, Lee Meth, was present for the discussion. Croker stated that they must decide whether to have three or five commissioners. Merten stated that he doesn't have a problem staying with five commissioners, he was worried about getting enough applicants, and would like to have a little continuity with the members with experience. DeRoos stated that the way he sees the commission currently, they refuse to do their own minutes, the Chair is hard to get ahold of, three of the commissioners do not want him attending the National training, but the State has allowed \$3,000 for training. DeRoos stated that he and Jerry both have three accreditations, and they are very busy. DeRoos stated that they have gone from 36% to 59% of the veterans getting assistance, as of August 2023. DeRoos stated that he loves his job, he is excited because he knows he will be helping someone every single day. DeRoos suggested that a policy be developed regarding pay, etc. and stated that evaluations are needed. DeRoos stated that there is high turnover rate in our area for Veterans Service Officers, as they can become burnt out quickly. Merten commented that he appreciates the comments, that this Board appoints the commissioners, and he would like to see the members spread out and meld new with the old. Snyder suggested keeping the number of commissioners at five, so there isn't a problem having a quorum for their meeting. Merten suggested calling each of the applicants and do interviews. Croker stated that they haven't talked to the current commissioners either. Merten suggested having a sub-committee to interview the three applicants and the two current commissioners that are up for

reappointment. The consensus was to take applications through June 30, and then two supervisors will interview the candidates and current commissioners next Monday and Tuesday, with the decision to be made at the July 9 supervisor meeting.

Deputy Auditor Sharon Henkel and representing the Wellness Committee, reviewed the FY'24 Wellness Program activities, and presented an allocation request of \$25,000 for wellness activities in FY'25, keeping the amount reimbursed to employees for a physical at \$150, and allowing up to 3 hours paid time off for their physical. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve an **allocation** of \$25,000 for Wellness activities in FY'25, continuing the amount reimbursed to employees for a **physical** at \$150, and allowing up to 3 hours of **paid time off** for their physical. Carried.

Michael Pertzborn II, Stille, Pierce & Pertzborn Agency met with the Board to review the renewals for ICAP and IMWCA insurances for the county. Pertzborn stated that the current mod factor is .84, rolling three years of claims, and that the premium is up 10%, to \$93,127 for FY'25. Pertzborn stated that we are in a large weather area, with drastic rate increases, and higher deductibles. Pertzborn stated that some insurance companies are going to a percentage-based deductible, or a percentage of building value, but so far, ICAP hasn't done that yet. Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve and sign the **ICAP** member proxy, and not make any changes to the liability coverage for FY'25. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve payment to **ICAP** for the insurance coverage for FY'25 that is due prior to July 1, which included the additional coverage of equipment missed and for the motor graders, for a total of \$277,247. Carried.

Auditor Susan Lloyd presented a request to the Board to purchase 18 laptops to be used for the electronic check-in process (Precinct Atlas) during all elections. The current laptops have Windows 10, which will no longer be supported by Microsoft by October 2025. Lloyd stated that it is necessary to move to Windows 11 to remain in compliance with our state's election laws and rules in 2025, and she would like to have them before the 2024 General Election, to try and avoid any problems with the 8-year-old laptops. Lloyd informed the Board that her digitizing project came in under what was estimated for use of ARPA Funds, so there would be \$14,675.60 available to be used for the purchase, and the remainder would come from the Auditor's Capital Projects portion of the budget. The equipment quote for 18 laptops is \$15,750.00. Lloyd would like to order the laptops soon before the prices change in July. Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Auditor to place the order for 18 **HP ProBook 450 G10 Notebooks** to be used for Precinct Atlas, from IPAC, West Des Moines, IA, in the amount of \$15,750.00, with \$14,675.60 to be paid from ARPA funds, and the remainder from the Auditor's Capital Projects portion of the budget. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-06-25-A** appropriating funds for FY'25 to departments at 100% per the FY'25 budget. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-06-25-A

WHEREAS it is desired to make appropriations for each of the different officers and departments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, in accordance with section 331.434 (Sec 6) 2024 Code of Iowa,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. The amounts itemized by department or office on the certified County Budget for 2024-25 are hereby appropriated at 100% to the department or office listed in the 2024-25 budget.

Section 2. Subject to the provisions of other county procedures and regulations and applicable state law, the appropriations authorized under Section 1 shall constitute authorization for the department or officer listed to make expenditures or incur obligations from county funds effective July 1, 2024.

Section 3. In accordance with section 331.437 of the 2024 Code of Iowa, no department or officer shall expend, or contract to expend, any money, or incur any liability, or enter into any contract, which by its terms involves the expenditure of money, for any purpose in excess of the amounts appropriated pursuant to their resolution.

Section 4. If at any time during the 2024-25 budget year the Auditor shall ascertain that the available resources of a fund for that year will be less than said fund's total appropriation, she shall immediately so inform the Board and recommend appropriate corrective action.

Section 5. The Auditor shall establish separate accounts for the appropriations authorized in Section 1, each of which account shall indicate the amount of the appropriation, the amount charged thereto, and the unencumbered balance. The Auditor shall report the status of such accounts to the applicable departments and officers monthly during the FY2024-25 budget year. The Auditor shall also provide a summary report of all departments to the Board monthly.

Section 6. All appropriations authorized pursuant to this resolution lapse at the close of business June 30, 2025.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of June 2024.

/s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chair, Board of Supervisors.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-06-25-B** authorizing interfund operating transfers from the General and Rural Funds to the Secondary Road Fund, and local option sales tax funds from "Local Option Sales Tax Funds for Secondary Roads" (0019) to the Secondary Road Fund as detailed in the FY'25 budget. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-06-25-B

WHEREAS it is desired to transfer monies from the General Basic Fund (0001) to the Secondary Road Fund (0020) and to transfer from the Rural Services Basic Fund (0011) to the Secondary Road Fund (0020); and

WHEREAS said operating transfers are in accordance with section 331.432, 2024 Code of Iowa,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista County, Iowa as follows:

Section 1. The sum of \$221,195.00 is ordered transferred from the General Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund with one-half the amount (\$110,597.50) transferred no earlier than July 1, 2024, and the last one-half transferred no earlier than January 1, 2025.

The sum of \$2,374,753.00 (Rural Basic levy) is ordered transferred from the Rural Services Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund (levy) with one-half the amount (\$1,187,376.50) transferred no earlier than July 1, 2024, and the last one-half transferred no earlier than January 1, 2025.

Section 2. The total maximum transfer from the General Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund shall not exceed \$221,195.00 (levy) and the total maximum transfer from the Rural Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund shall not exceed \$2,374,753.00 (levy) all for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024.

Section 3. The total transfer of local option sales tax for Secondary Roads shall be limited to 60% of the total local option sales tax receipts for FY'24 received by the county, estimated for budget purposes at \$600,000.

Section 4. The Auditor is directed to correct her books accordingly and to notify the Treasurer and Engineer of these operating transfers, accompanying the notification with a copy of this resolution and the record of its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of June 2024.

/s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chair, Board of Supervisors.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-06-25-C** regarding the designation of a portion of the FY'24 General Fund and Rural Fund ending fund balances (June 30, 2024) for the **Drive Trails and County Trail System**. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-06-25-C
Drive Trail & County Trail System
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balances

WHEREAS Buena Vista County included \$73,289.53 of the original \$100,000 in its FY'24 ending fund balances (\$54,967.15-General, \$18,322.38-Rural) for 'signing' for a Drive Trail to the Alta wind-farm and other attractions around the county in connection with Storm Lake's Project Awaysis; and,

WHEREAS the Drive Trail sign project was started, but not completed by June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS Buena Vista County 'pledged' a total of \$400,000 over 8 years for Trails in the county in connection with the Storm Lake Project Awaysis; and,

WHEREAS the FY'14 budget adopted by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors included the last tax asking of \$50,000 for the County Trail System (or 1/8th of total \$400,000) in FY'14; and,

WHEREAS Buena Vista County Trail projects have commenced as of June 30, 2016, with signs being purchased; and,

WHEREAS the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors wishes to set aside the taxes levied for both the "signing" for the Drive Trail and Trails for expenditure at a later time; and

WHEREAS the funding source amounts approved for both "signing" for the Drive Trails and County Trail System are from the General Basic Fund (75%) and Rural Basic Fund (25%);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUENA VISTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that \$354,967.13 in the FY'24 General Basic ending fund balance, and, \$118,322.40 in the FY'24 Rural Basic ending fund balance, be considered and are hereby unreserved/designated and committed for the "signing" for the Drive Trail and the County Trail System projects associated with Project Awaysis.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of June 2024.

/s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chair, Board of Supervisors.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-06-25-D** regarding the designation of a portion of the General Fund ending balance (June 30, 2024) for the **FY'25 Heritage Tour** expenditures. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-06-25-D

**BV County Heritage Tours
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balance**

WHEREAS Buena Vista County received \$828 in FY'10 to be used for Heritage Tours for schools in Buena Vista County, which were received into the General Fund for expenditure, and

WHEREAS a portion of those funds were not expended in FY'24 and the remainder of those funds may be spent in FY'25,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, that \$242.86 in the General Fund ending fund balance is hereby designated and committed for expenditure on Heritage Tours only.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of June 2024.

/s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chair, Board of Supervisors.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-06-25-E** regarding the designation of a portion of the General Fund ending balance (June 30, 2024) for the **FY'25 County Attorney's Office software** expenditures. Carried.

**RESOLUTION 2024-06-25-E
BV County Attorney's Office Software
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balance**

WHEREAS Buena Vista County had included \$40,000 in the County Attorney's FY'24 budget to be used for transitioning to new software (Prosecutor by Karpel) which is included in the General Basic Fund for expenditure, and

WHEREAS those funds were not expended in FY'24 and those funds may be spent in FY'25,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, that \$40,000.00 in the General Basic Fund ending fund balance is hereby designated and committed for expenditure on the transitioning to new software, Prosecutor by Karpel, for the County Attorney's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of June 2024.

/s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chair, Board of Supervisors.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to accept and approve the Chair to sign the B&W Control Specialists **2024 Woody Vegetation Spray Treatment** for the following BV County and Joint County Drainage Districts, with the following cost not to exceed: **DD #1 Lat 1 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #1 Lat 2 OD** (\$2,000), **DD # 3 & 3 EXT** (\$4,500), **DD #20** (\$2,500), **DD #32** (\$1,000), **DD #34 Lat 1 OD** (\$1,500), **DD #34 Lat 2 OD** (\$12,000), **DD #34 Lat 3 OD** (\$2,500), **DD #49** (\$2,500), **DD #63 OD Easement** (\$1,500), **DD #101** (\$2,500), **DD #184** (\$1,500), **DD #205** (\$2,000), and **JT DD #1 BV, POC, MOD** (\$4,500), **JT DD #183 BV, POC, MOD** (2,000), **DD #69** (\$500), **DD #74** (\$500), **DD #99** (\$500), **DD #107** (\$500), and **DD #203** (\$500), and to authorize the BV County Drainage Department to appoint a contractor to conduct the work. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #14-42 BR 198** claim to Clay County Secondary Roads for tile jetting, in the amount of \$180.00. Carried.

Motion by Merten, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #14-42 BR 198** claim to Koenig Portable Toilets for tile jetting, in the amount of \$750.00. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m. until Tuesday, July 2 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.