

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
THIRTIETH MEETING, 2024 SESSION (30)
JULY 9, 2024**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Ringgenberg presiding, and the following other members present: Croker (virtually), 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.

Secondary Road Report: They are working on flood repairs, cleaning out the culvert on N. River Road, hauling rock, cleaning up cornstalks and debris. They hauled loads of garbage from Sioux Rapids to the transfer station at BV Landfill, and several independent people were hauling too. They hope to wrap up the flood cleanup in two weeks. FEMA wants estimates by this Friday. Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that they were done with the May flood paperwork, but not for the June flood event; Wilkinson stated that he has received correspondence from IDOT and the railroad, regarding the Hwy 7 and 70th Ave. intersection. The railroad wants to see the crossing widened at the same time as the road, which the county would have to pay for. The crossing at Hwy 7 and 70th Ave. would be eligible for RISE Funds, but not the 80th Ave. intersection. Wilkinson stated that the county would be absorbing more cost on the 80th Ave. intersection, but it needs to be done, and it should be the same width as the county shoulder. Wilkinson stated that IDOT is concerned about the intersections and wants them done first, before the four miles of paving on the county roads. Wilkinson stated that if the intersections are done first, then trucks would have, at a minimum, two miles of gravel to go on. Wilkinson stated that he needs the DOT's approval before the project can be let. Wilkinson stated that he has explained to IDOT why it is important to the public to do the paving first before the intersections, and he is waiting for their response.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board of a **28E Agreement** from Clay County to share his engineering services, due to their county engineer leaving August 13. Wilkinson stated that Clay County is advertising for an engineer, but until one is hired, Clay County is requesting to have Wilkinson for a minimum of ten hours per week, until they hire an engineer. County Attorney Paul Allen received the 28E Agreement from Clay County and has briefly reviewed the agreement. Wilkinson stated that Clay County has a lot going on with flood work and have other projects planned. Wilkinson stated that Clay County has several experienced staff there to help. Merten commented that he was disappointed that the 28E Agreement went directly to our County Attorney from the Clay County Board of Supervisors, without first contacting the BV Board of Supervisors, and stated that he was caught off guard. Merten stated that it is a different negotiation than when we talked with Pocahontas County Supervisors about sharing an engineer, as Clay County is dealing with a lot and said that he wouldn't wish that on anyone. Wilkinson suggested scheduling a joint conference call with Clay County Board of Supervisors to discuss the 28E Agreement. Croker stated that she wants to be a good neighbor but asked Wilkinson if Clay County had checked with the State for help, when they no longer have an engineer, and did they contact all their neighboring counties. Wilkinson responded that he didn't think the neighboring counties were contacted as several of those engineers are either new, are currently being shared, and/or are flooded themselves.

Chairperson Ringgenberg asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public**, with no response. Public Health Nurse Administrator Julie Sather stopped in to inform the

Board that Iowa Department of Health & Human Services will be touring around Iowa, and BV County will be one of their stops on July 19, and they have requested one county supervisor to be in attendance. Sather said there will be a Behavioral Health session, Public Health session, and THRIVE Iowa. Sather also informed the Board of their two clinics they had in Sioux Rapids giving 104 tetanus shots.

Zoning Administrator Ben Mueggenberg presented information on a Final Plat of Survey for Buffalo Ridge Estates, in the north ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 15-91-37, from James L. Bauer, owner of Bay Breeze LLC and the proprietor of said real estate. Jim Bauer and Bob Bauer were present for the discussion along with County Engineer Bret Wilkinson and Assistant Drainage Engineer Eric Yunginger. Mueggenberg stated that this is a major subdivision with ten lots proposed which are 3 acre lots, with private sewer and rural water. Yunginger informed the Board that there is not a drainage district facility that goes through this property, so he has no concerns with this proposed plat for Buffalo Ridge Estates. Wilkinson would recommend having a joint entrance off the gravel road, one for every two lots, only having five driveways to reduce conflict concerns for safety. Wilkinson stated that his biggest concern is the current 66' road right-of-way, as it isn't wide enough to pave the road. Wilkinson doesn't want the landowners to build too close to the lot line in case the county needs to purchase additional right-of-way to pave the gravel road. Croker asked Mueggenberg what the setback was, and if it was from the lot line, which in the rural area, is the center of the road. Mueggenberg will check on the verbiage for the setback, as to whether it is from the center of the road or not. Wilkinson would recommend that the setback be 67' from the lot line for there to be room to pave the road. Jim Bauer stated that he could put in the abstract to have setbacks and five driveways for the 10 lots. Mueggenberg informed the Board that the proposed subdivision was brought in front of the Zoning Commission on June 11, 2024, and voted to forward the proposed major subdivision to the Board of Supervisors with no recommendation of approval or disapproval. Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2024-07-09-A**. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-07-09-A

FINAL PLAT OF BUFFALO RIDGE ESTATES

Board of Supervisors Resolution

I, Rhonda Ringgenberg, do hereby certify that I am the Chairperson of the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, and do further certify that said Board has heretofore taken under advisement the Final Plat of **Buffalo Ridge Estates** and that said Board did on the 9th day of July 2024 approve and accept said subdivision plat.

Dated this 9th day of July 2024.

Attest: /s/ Rhonda Ringgenberg, Chairperson

EMA Director Aimee Barritt asked the Board to allow her to extend her vacation to be used up, originally approved by July 12, and now due to all the time she has worked for the flood event, she is proposing to use her excess 40 hours of vacation by September 1, 2024. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and allow Aimee Barritt to extend the time allowed for her to use up her 40 hours of **excess vacation** at June 30, to September 1, 2024. Carried.

EMA Director Aimee Barritt informed the Board that Sioux Rapids lost their City Hall due to the flood event, and they are operating out of the Fire Station. Barritt stated that Public Health had excess furniture after their remodeling, and were okay giving a desk, chairs, and file cabinets to the City of Sioux Rapids. Motion by Hartman, second by Merten, to allow the **donation of excess office furniture** (table, chairs, file cabinets) to the City of Sioux Rapids, due to their office furniture having been ruined by the flooding. Carried.

EMA Director Aimee Barritt updated the Board on the **flood event**. Barritt commended the community of Sioux Rapids for everything they did dealing with this flood, stating that it was very impressive for a community of 800 residents. Barritt stated that several buildings in Sioux Rapids have been lost due to basements and walls caving in, basements flooded, and several were not in the 100-year flood plain and didn't have flood insurance. The homeowners insurance won't cover flood damages, and FEMA will only pay up to \$42,500 if the damage qualifies. Barritt stated that she asked the City of Storm Lake to have their two inspectors help with the damage assessments in Sioux Rapids, and the city ended up sending twelve people there to help. Barritt stated that they needed to show the worst of the worst for FEMA and hit a minimum amount to get individual assistance, which they did. Barritt stated that Linn Grove and Sioux Rapids are still waiting for clean water. Barritt informed the Board that GIS Coordinator Eric Chase did a fabulous job making maps for her, whatever she needed, and helped Cherokee County with their maps. Barritt thanked the Sheriff's Department, Secondary Roads, Public Health, the Fire Departments, and the community for their amazing response. Barritt stated that the Sheriff had the drone up flying over Sioux Rapids and Linn Grove, to show FEMA and the State all the flood damages. A Community Foundation Disaster Recovery Committee has been formed. The Board thanked Barritt for all her hard work during this flood event.

Motion by Merten, second by Hartman, to approve the **minutes** from 7/2/2024 as corrected, and accept the following **reports**: June Sheriff's Report of Federal Inmate Billings, June Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected, May Rolling Hills Community Services Region Governance Board minutes, May RIDES Meeting minutes, March NWIPDC Policy Council minutes, and June Central IA Juvenile Detention Commission minutes. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve the **Class B Retail Alcohol License** application for AI's Corner Oil Co., DBA Sparky's One Stop Shop #16. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve the request from NW IA Regional Housing Trust Fund to have the Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign the FY'25 pledge contribution letter to **NW IA Regional Housing Trust Fund, Inc.** in the amount of \$2,014 as the funds are used for their local match, to maintain housing, which will contribute to economic retention of workers and work done. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m. until Tuesday, July 16 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.