

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
NINETEENTH MEETING, 2025 SESSION (19)  
APRIL 29, 2025**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Merten presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, 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, Snyder, and. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve **today's agenda**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson reviewed his FY'26 IDOT budget that will be submitted to the State, along with his 5-year program for construction and repairs. Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to accept and authorize the Chair to sign the **State IDOT budget** for FY'26 and submit it to IDOT. Carried. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to accept and authorize the Chair to sign the **5-year Construction Program** for FY'26 and submit it to IDOT. Carried.

**Secondary Road Report**: They have been graveling and shaping up the roads; the painting crew will be coming in soon; Cedar Valley will start the paving of 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. tomorrow, beginning at C63 and going north to the plant on 70<sup>th</sup> Ave, and then will be paving 600<sup>th</sup> St., from east to west; Engineer Wilkinson has talked with the railroad and DOT about the railroad crossing at 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. after the two accidents that have occurred there. There is a push to put temporary devices up at the railroad crossing while a permanent solution is figured out; Wilkinson stated that he has received emails from IDOT that they want to take over the design, administration, and construction of the intersections at IA 7 & 70<sup>th</sup> Ave. and IA 7 & 80<sup>th</sup> Ave., requiring additional paperwork to be signed with IDOT and Buena Vista County. Wilkinson stated that when Phase I is finished, the county will receive half of their RISE dollars, after this new DOT intersection agreement is signed.

The Chair opened the Public Hearing on the **FY'26 Budget Hearing**, with Auditor Susan Lloyd, and Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme, Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson, Treasurer Danelle Haberman, Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller, Engineer Bret Wilkinson, and I.T. Director Tyler Van Houten present in-person with Storm Lake Radio and seven other callers online. Auditor Lloyd reviewed the proposed tax levies. Chairperson Merten opened it up for questions. There were no questions, and no written comments were received. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2025-04-29-A** Elected Official Compensation Schedule for FY 2025/2026. Carried.

**RESOLUTION #2025-04-29-A  
ELECTED OFFICIAL COMPENSATION SCHEDULE  
FY 2025/2026**

**WHEREAS**, the Buena Vista County Compensation Board met on December 18, 2024 and January 8, 2025 to consider recommendations for the elected officials wages for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year based on salaries of comparable positions within Buena Vista County and within the State of Iowa as required by Sections 331.905 & 331.907 of the Code of Iowa, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the Compensation Board's continued commitment in its position to try and equalize the elected officials' salaries to bring them in line with duties and comparable salaries and acknowledges receipt of the Compensation Board's recommendation of an increase of 3.5% for the Supervisors, 4% for the Recorder and Treasurer, 5% for the Auditor, 6% for the Attorney, 6.1% (\$7,500) for the Sheriff. Plus, the continuation of longevity for all Elected Officials, a \$2,000 stipend for the Board Chair, a \$500 stipend for the Board Vice-Chair, and a \$5,000 stipend for the Auditor as Budget Director (in lieu of the Board Secretary stipend) for FY 2025/2026 as follows:

County Attorney	\$156,846
County Auditor	91,918
County Recorder	84,495
County Treasurer	84,495
County Sheriff	128,958
County Supervisors	40,981
Supervisor-Vice Chair	41,481
Supervisor-Chair	42,981

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors that the compensation schedule recommended by the Buena Vista County Compensation Board at their final meeting on January 8, 2025, be approved as follows.

County Attorney	\$156,846
County Auditor	91,918
County Recorder	84,495
County Treasurer	84,495
County Sheriff	128,958
County Supervisors	40,981
Supervisor-Vice Chair	41,481
Supervisor-Chair	42,981

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairperson.....ATTEST: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2025-04-29-B**, Adoption of 2025/2026 Budget, and the **Adoption of Budget & Certification of Taxes**.  
Carried.

**RESOLUTION #2025-04-29-B**  
**ADOPTION OF**  
**2025-2026 BUDGET & CERTIFICATION OF TAXES**

**WHEREAS** the Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista County, Iowa held a Public Hearing on April 29, 2025, for input for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget and County Levies; and

**WHEREAS** Iowa Code Section 331.434 authorizes the Board of each county to adopt their budget and certify property taxes annually prior to April 30;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors hereby approve and adopt the FY'2025-2026 County Budget and Certification of Taxes, which includes the following levies and property tax asking:

**Levies**

4.27184	General Basic Levy
2.75515	General Supplemental Levy
3.48039	Rural Service Levy
0.63404	Debt Service Levy
-----	
11.14142	Total Levies

**Property Tax Levied Dollars**

6,212,483	General Basic
4,006,780	General Supplemental
3,037,561	Rural Service
1,030,242	Debt Service
-----	
14,287,066	Total Property Tax Dollars

**Committed Funds**

\$354,967	Fund 0001 – General Basic Fund (County Trails & Signs)
\$ 243	Fund 0001 – General Basic Fund (Heritage Tours)
\$118,322	Fund 0011 – Rural Basic Fund (County Trails & Signs)
-----	
\$473,532	Total Committed Funds

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 29th day of April 2025.

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairperson.....ATTEST: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

**Hear the Public:** None.

Heidi Kuhl, Northland Securities, was online for the resolution approving **offering prospectus** on the not to exceed \$3,500,000 G O Capital Loan Notes. Croker asked about adding the description of what the \$3.5M would be used for, since it will be used to finish Phase 1 of the Platinum road paving project. Kuhl stated that she had prepared a “draft” prospectus, and she can still make changes to it. Kuhl will add the description of the use of these funds in the prospectus.

Board Member Croker introduced the following resolution entitled "RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFERING PROSPECTUS" and moved that the resolution be adopted. Board Member Snyder seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was, Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None.

Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the resolution duly adopted as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2025-04-29-D  
RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFERING PROSPECTUS**

**WHEREAS**, in conjunction with its Underwriter, Northland Securities, Inc., the County has caused an Offering Prospectus to be prepared outlining the details of the proposed sale of the Notes; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BUENA VISTA COUNTY, STATE OF IOWA:**

Section 1. That the preliminary Offering Prospectus in the form presented to this meeting be and the same hereby is approved as to form and deemed final for purposes of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, subject to such revisions, corrections or modifications as the Chairperson and Auditor, upon the advice of bond counsel and the County's Underwriter, shall determine to be appropriate, and is authorized to be distributed in connection with the offering of the Notes for sale.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 29th day of April, 2025.

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairperson.....ATTEST: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Board Member Snyder introduced the following Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION DECLARING AN OFFICIAL INTENT UNDER TREASURY REGULATION 1.150-2 TO ISSUE DEBT TO REIMBURSE THE COUNTY FOR CERTAIN ORIGINAL EXPENDITURES PAID IN CONNECTION WITH SPECIFIED PROJECTS" and moved that it be adopted. Board Member Ringgenberg seconded the motion to adopt, and the roll being called thereon, the vote was as follows: Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None.

Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the Resolution duly adopted as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2025-04-29-C**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING AN OFFICIAL INTENT UNDER  
TREASURY REGULATION 1.150-2 TO ISSUE DEBT TO REIMBURSE  
THE COUNTY FOR CERTAIN ORIGINAL EXPENDITURES PAID IN  
CONNECTION WITH SPECIFIED PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, the County anticipates making cash expenditures for one or more capital improvement projects, generally described below (each of which shall hereinafter be referred to as a "Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, the County reasonably expects to issue debt to reimburse the costs of a Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes it is consistent with the County's budgetary and financial circumstances to issue this declaration of official intent.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BUENA VISTA COUNTY, STATE OF IOWA:**

Section 1. That this Resolution be and does hereby serve as a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation 1.150-2.

Section 2. That it is reasonably expected that capital expenditures will be made in respect of the following Project(s), from time to time and in such amounts as this Board determines to be necessary or desirable under the circumstances then and there existing.

Section 3. That the County reasonably expects to reimburse all or a portion of the following expenditures with the proceeds of bonds, notes or other indebtedness to be issued or incurred by the County in the future.

Section 4. That the total estimated costs of the Project(s), the maximum principal amount of the bonds, notes or other indebtedness to be issued for the foregoing Project(s) and the estimated dates of completion of the Project(s) are reasonably expected to be as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Fund from which original expenditures are to be Advanced</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Amount of Borrowing Anticipated</u>	<u>Estimated Date of Completion</u>
<u>Phase 2 &amp; 3</u>	0020-Secondary Roads	\$11,000,000	*Not to exceed \$11,000,000	6/30/2027

\*based on current estimates, subject to change.

Section 5. That the County reasonably expects to reimburse the above-mentioned Project costs not later than the later of eighteen months after the capital expenditures are paid or eighteen months after the property is placed in service, but in no event more than three (3) years after the original expenditure is paid.

Section 6. That this Resolution be maintained by the County Auditor in an Official Intent File maintained in the office of the Auditor and available at all times for public inspection, subject to such revisions as may be necessary.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 29th day of April, 2025.

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairperson.....ATTEST: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Josh Yernatich (**Allete Clean Energy**) and Env Health/Zoning Director Ben Mueggenberg, updated the Board on the timeline of Allete's wind energy project. They are looking at 2027 for their build year. Yernatich stated that they would like to get their special use permits in May, then it would go before the Zoning Commission for their approval.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller gave a **department update** to the Board. Keller stated that his guys have been taking time off, so he has been short staffed; Keller has been waxing floors, cleaning carpets, cleaning windows, and working on yard cleanup; there will be a new automatic door installed at the Community Services building with the handicap button to push to open; Public Health has new sidewalks; in the storm, there were 1 ½ trees lost at the Courthouse. Secondary Roads brought in big equipment to remove the big tree. There were some alarm issues, and the roofer was called to check the courthouse and the LEC.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller was in attendance on behalf of the Parade of Flags to ask for permission from the Board to use the courthouse lawn for the Memorial Day Parade of Flags Dedication at 10 a.m. There will be eight flags to dedicate. The guest speaker will be Veteran Gerald Weiland. The public is welcome to bring lawn chairs. Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to approve use of the Buena Vista County Courthouse lawn for **Memorial Day Parade of Flags Dedication**. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of 4/22/2025, as presented, and accept the following **reports**: December E911 Board minutes, January E911 Board minutes, and January Region III LEPC minutes. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to authorize the Chair to sign a **Certificate of Appreciation** for Kristina Konradi, for her 13 years of service to the County, Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #14-42** claim for spraying, to B & W Control Specialists, in the amount of \$7,262.55. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Jt. DD #22 MOD** claim for spraying, to B & W Control Specialists, in the amount of \$3,908.25. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the FY'26 **SHIELD** contract with NW IA Planning & Development Commission. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 a.m. until Tuesday, May 6 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.