

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING, 2025 SESSION (26)
JUNE 17, 2025**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 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. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

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

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

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board of a request from the Buena Vista County Fair Board, requesting up to 75 tons of sand to be donated. Wilkinson stated that the county's cost is approximately \$14/ton, and Reding Gravel will do the hauling for the Fair Board. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the request of the Buena Vista County Fair Board, for the county to **donate up to 75 tons of sand**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he and County Attorney Paul Allen will be on a phone call this afternoon with MidAmerican and their attorney, to discuss the **Relocation & Reimbursement Agreement**.

Secondary Road Report: The seeding is done on 70th Ave. by Platinum Crush; permanent signs will be going up on Thursday on 70th Ave, and the road closed signs will come down; Engineer Wilkinson stated that is some cleanup left to do on 70th, but he is trying to get the contractor to finish this week. Croker informed Wilkinson that there are signs down on C63 from the April storm. Wilkinson stated that he was aware of the signs down, and they are working to put up several signs from the high wind event in April; Engineer Wilkinson informed the Board that he will have a Zoom meeting with the DOT on June 25 at 8:00 a.m. about the 70th Ave. intersection that the State took over; the C49 cold-in-place is curing before the contractor comes in to pave over it; the crew is looking at one area on C49 west of 190th Ave. that they may want to knock down the small hill, but they need to first see where the fiber optic is located. Wilkinson stated that it would be best to remove the hill now during the C49 project.

Chairman Merten asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public** and there was none.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson presented his department updates. **Weed Department:** They have a new full-time person hired, Evan Appleby, as a roadside vegetation assistant. The department has been spraying around the parks and bare ground shoulders for Secondary Road. The department worked 4-5 days on leafy spurge and have sprayed 125 road miles. **Conservation:** They have been busy. Bur Oak Campground is completed, with 14 sites out there, and they have water, electric services and restrooms. Timber Ridge has been busy. They have hired a second naturalist. Johnson stated that they received a Community Foundation Grant of \$3,400 for a music garden at BV Park, which will cost \$7,000. Johnson stated that he has given FEMA updated numbers on the Linn Grove Dam for damages caused from flooding. Johnson stated that FEMA has reimbursed them for the May storm, and the paperwork has been submitted for the storm in June, 2024. **Marina:** It has been going good at the

Marina, which they are calling Casino Bay Bait & Tackle. Johnson stated that they have some \$300-\$400 in sales per day. A new roof was installed and now they have HVAC issues. Johnson stated that currently they are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. They will likely be extending the days they are open since they have hired more help.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson informed the Board that at the last Conservation Board meeting, they discussed and would like to have some of the budget carryover funds from the Marina budget placed into a separate fund that is set aside for capital improvements for the Marina that they may need in 10-15 years. Johnson stated that he is anticipating \$40,000-\$50,000 of carryover in the current year Marina budget. The consensus of the Board was to have Johnson wait until July 2026, to come back and request an actual amount that he would like transferred to the new fund. Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to establish **Fund #0038 Marina Capital Improvement Fund**, and as an interest-bearing fund. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve the **minutes** of 6/10/2025 as corrected, today's **claims approval list, stamped drainage warrant list, and Auxiant disbursements**, and accepting the following **reports**: May Conservation Board minutes, March E911 Board minutes, and May BV County Solid Waste Commission minutes. Carried.

Chairman Merten presented the Board with the Joint Drainage Engineer's FY'26 employment contract. Merten stated that this was discussed at a joint meeting of Board representatives with the three counties that are a part of this shared position, and 3.5% increase was the approved salary increase for FY'26. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the whole Board to sign the shared **FY'26 employment contract**, with Buena Vista, Calhoun, and Sac Counties, for Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme, with a salary of \$118,700. Carried.

Auditor Susan Lloyd requested the Board to approve of her appointment of Yvonne Sandhoff as Payroll Deputy, effective July 1, 2025, at a salary of 80% of the Auditor's salary excluding any additional paid to the Auditor as budget director. Sandhoff has been employed for five years in the Auditor's Office and has done an outstanding job with payroll and all the "HR" issues that come up. Merten agreed with the Auditor's comments. Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Certificate of Appointment** of Yvonne Sandhoff as Payroll Deputy in the Auditor's Office, effective July 1, 2025, at a salary of 80% of the Auditor's salary excluding any additional paid to the Auditor as budget director. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the **Tobacco License Review Application** for Brew Oil LLC, DBA Brew Oil #1 to sell cigarettes, tobacco, vapor products, and alternative nicotine products. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **Tobacco License Review Application** for Al's Corner Oil Company, DBA Sparky's One Stop Storm Lake, to sell cigarettes, tobacco, vapor products, and alternative nicotine products. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, having had the first right of refusal on the sale of the property located at **315 E. 5th St.**, to approve the negotiated price of \$47,500, to purchase the West Twenty-Five Feet (W 25') of Lot Five (5), Block Seventeen (17), in the City of Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, Iowa, and to authorize the Chair to sign the necessary paperwork. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten. Nays: Ringgenberg, Snyder. Motion carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 a.m. until Tuesday, June 24 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session.