

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
THIRTY-FIRST MEETING, 2025 SESSION (31)
JULY 22, 2025**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Merten presiding and the following other members present Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: Snyder.

Unless otherwise indicated, all the following **motions** offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

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

Platinum Crush Road Update: Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he forwarded the red-lined copy of the MidAmerican right-of-way agreement on to County Attorney Paul Allen to review. Once Allen approves the changes, it will go back for MidAmerican to sign. Once the agreement is signed, the county can move forward with the bid letting for the next phase of the project. Wilkinson also stated that IDOT will have a meeting July 30 with their engineering company, HNTB, to discuss the cost of the paving of Hwy 7 and 70th Ave. intersection and 80th Ave. intersection and Hwy 7 between the two intersections.

Secondary Roads Report: Heartland started paving C49 yesterday and started on the intersections on Hwy 110, moving south to north, Wilkinson stated that they will have 6-7 full days of paving; Engineer Wilkinson stated that they had to close a section of road on 150th Ave. south of C49 due to a lot of water going over the road last weekend. The culvert will be checked for blockages. Wilkinson stated that repairs were done and now the road is back open; the DOT is doing some patchwork on Hwy 10 in BV and Pocahontas; Engineer Wilkinson stated that some material will be coming to the Goldsmith Pit, and he will have it crushed at some point; Wilkinson stated that the crew has been shouldering and working on the gravel roads this week.

Supervisor Meeting Reports: Merten attended a meeting with Dawn Mentzer, CEO of Rolling Hills region regarding their close out of the region.

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

Motion by Hartman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of 7/15/2025 as presented, and accepting the following **reports:** June 2 & June 9 Board of Health minutes and 2024-2025 Iowa Land Records Annual Report. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign the **fireworks permit** for Doug DeRoos, 5673 50th Ave, Alta, IA to be held on July 27, 2025. Carried.

No action was taken on **voiding and reissuing** two lost checks, #330388 and #330611 since they were found.

Chief Deputy Medical Examiner Tim Speers and Deputy Medical Examiner Dave Patton discussed changes that will be happening to the department in August. Speers has been managing the medical examiner investigators (MEI's) for 35 years, and he would like to pass that responsibility on to MEI Dave Patton. Speers stated that he would still work part-time on calls and would also stay for awhile to train Patton. Speers current position receives a salary, and the MEI's are paid an hourly fee for working on

cases. Speers would go off salary and insurance August 1 and Patton would begin his salaried position August 1 but wouldn't take the insurance benefit until he retires from the hospital in a year. Speers also stated that he wanted to recognize Doug Simons for his many years of working law enforcement and serving as an MEI. Speers also presented a letter from Medical Examiner Dr. Garrett Feddersen, recommending Nicole Mason (Nikki) to join the county as a medical examiner investigator (MEI). Speers stated that if Mason were appointed, he would get her registered for the necessary training. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to appoint Dave Patton as **MEI/MEI Manager** as of August 1 with the same salary that Speers was receiving, and to move Tim Speers to an **MEI** as of August 1, removing his salary since he will be paid hourly, and to remove his insurance benefit. Carried. Speers thanked the Board for working with the medical examiner department. The Board thanked Speers for what he and the ME Department does.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to appoint Nicole Mason as a **Medical Examiner Investigator (MEI)**, effective immediately, based on the recommendation from Medical Examiner Dr. Garrett Feddersen. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to recognize **Doug Simons** for his many years working for Buena Vista County, both in law enforcement and as a medical examiner investigator (MEI). Carried.

9:45 a.m.—The time having arrived for a joint meeting online with Calhoun and Sac Counties, as the Joint Board of Trustees for **Jt. DD #16-30-92 MOD**, **Jt. DD #16-30-92 Sac County OD**, and **Jt. DD #16-30-92 Sac Tile Branch**. All members of the Boards were present except Kelly Snyder-Buena Vista County. A motion was made and seconded for Ranell Drake-Sac County to be the Chair and Renee Roland-Sac County to be the Secretary of the meeting. The motion carried. There was a motion and a second to approve a levy of 248% on **Jt. DD #16-30-92 MOD**, to approve a levy of 446% on **Jt. DD #16-30-92 Sac Co. OD**, and to approve a levy of 31% on **Jt. DD #16-30-92 Sac Tile Branch** with no waivers on all three. The motion was carried. There was a motion and a second at 9:59 a.m., to adjourn the joint meeting of the three Boards. Motion carried. Following their completion, minutes of the meeting will be forwarded to Calhoun and Buena Vista Counties. (The full set of minutes will be included in the respective Jt. Drainage District records.)

9:59 a.m.—The joint meeting online continued with Sac County Board of Supervisors, to discuss levies on Jt. DD #19-26 Main Tile, Jt. DD #19-26 MOD, and Jt. DD #19-26 Lat 4. All members of the Boards were present except for Kelly Snyder-Buena Vista County. There was a motion and a second to appoint Ranell Drake as Chair and Renee Roland as Secretary of the meeting. Motion carried. There was a motion and a second to approve a levy of 1465% on **Jt. DD #19-26 Main Tile**, with a 10-year waiver, a levy of 104% on **Jt. DD #19-26 MOD**, with no waiver, and a levy of 34% on **Jt. DD #19-26 Lat 4**, with no waiver. Motion carried. There was a motion and a second to adjourn the joint meeting at 10:05 a.m. Motion carried. Following their completion, minutes of the meeting will be forwarded to Buena Vista County. (The full set of minutes will be included in the respective Jt. Drainage District records.)

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 a.m. until Tuesday, July 29 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.