

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
THIRTY- SECOND MEETING, 2025 SESSION (32)
JULY 29, 2025**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Merten presiding and the following other members present Croker, Hartman, Snyder, and with Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: Ringgenberg.

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

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Estherville, IA, to convert their existing overhead to underground along 440th St. in Sections 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, and 16 of Barnes Township, from 90th Ave. to 120th Ave. along and under 440th St. for the transmission of electricity. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to acknowledge the name change of **Storm Lake Power Partners I LLC** (SLPP I) to Storm Lake I Redevelopment LLC (SL I Redevelopment), and **Storm Lake Power Partners II LLC** (SLPP II) to Storm Lake II Redevelopment LLC (SL II Redevelopment), each a wholly owned subsidiary of ALLETE Clean Energy, and to authorize the Chair to resign the utility form. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson presented Resolution #2025-07-29-A which would change the speed limit on 70th Ave. southbound commencing at Hwy 7 to 610th St. and northbound commencing at 610th St. and proceeding North to Hwy 7. Wilkinson asked the Board what they would like to see the speed limit be. Currently, the speed limit is 35 mph north of 600th St. on 70th Ave. to Hwy 7, and the speed limit is 45 mph south of 600th St. on 70th Ave. to C63. Supervisor Croker stated that she would like to raise the speed limit to 55 mph from Hwy 7 to 610th St. (C63), both directions, which is approximately two miles. Chairman Merten commented that he would have liked to raise the current speed limits by 10 mph but would agree to increasing the speed limit to 55 mph. Merten commented that he talked with landowners in the area and the Sheriff, and most thought the engine brakes were more of an issue than the speed limit. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2025-07-22-A** Establishing a Speed Limit. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten. Nays: Snyder. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2025-07-29-A
RESOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHING A SPEED LIMIT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is empowered under authority of Iowa Code Sections 321.255 and 321.285 to determine the speed limit of any secondary road is greater than is reasonable and proper under the conditions existing, and may determine and declare a reasonable and proper speed limit, and

WHEREAS, the grading and paving of 70th Avenue has increased the safety for this stretch of roadway,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the speed limit is established effective immediately, and appropriate signs shall be erected at the locations described as follows;

55 mph on Southbound 70th Avenue commencing at Highway 7 and proceeding South to 610th Street.

55 mph on Northbound 70th Avenue commencing at 610th Street and proceeding to Highway 7.

Resolution adopted this 29th day of July, 2025

/s/ Paul Merten, Board of Supervisors Chair.....Attest: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

Platinum Crush Road Update: Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he had emailed the right-of-way group at MidAmerican regarding 80th Ave. and was told that the relocation agreement needs to be signed by two vice-presidents and so it is making the rounds for signatures; Wilkinson will be meeting tomorrow morning with HNTB Engineering and IDOT, regarding their draft concept statement, which will be presented, and they will have cost estimates on the 70th Ave. and 80th Ave. intersections and Hwy 7 between the two intersections, the project that IDOT took away from the county.

Secondary Roads Report: C49 asphalt paving should be completed this week and then shouldering. The crews have been working on shouldering and hauling gravel to the gravel roads. They have been picking up debris from damages caused by the high wind last night. Redigs are working on the shouldering on Hwy 110 and once finished, they will move to C49.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign the **fireworks permit** for Scott Haldin, 1102 Blake St., Sioux Rapids, IA to be held on August 2, 2025, with a rain date of August 9. Carried.

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve the **minutes** of 7/22/2025 as corrected, today's **claims approval list, stamped warrant list, and Auxiant disbursements**, and accepting the following **reports**: None. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Auditor to **void and reissue** check #329408, dated 3/11/2025 to US Cellular \$532.17. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to accept and authorize the Chair to sign the **Family Crisis Center new contract for FY'26**, which includes an increase in their funding request from FY'25. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to accept and authorize the Chair to sign the **Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc. new contract for FY'26**, which includes an increase in their funding request from FY'25. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2025-07-29-C** Designate Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties. Carried.

Resolution #2025-07-29-C

To Designate Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties

WHEREAS, Buena Vista County ("County") is a member of the Iowa State Association of Counties; and

WHEREAS, the ISAC Articles of Incorporation were updated in November 2024 to require the County to designate, through resolution by its Board of Supervisors, its County Voting Representatives; and

WHEREAS, only the designated County Voting Representatives have the power to vote on behalf of the County at ISAC; and

WHEREAS, the County Voting Representatives must be either elected county officials or the principal officer for each county department represented by an Affiliated Association of ISAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, effective immediately, hereby designates the following persons as County Voting Representatives for ISAC:

Iowa State Association of County Supervisors: **Dan Hartman, Kathy Croker, Kelly Snyder, Paul Merten, Rhonda Ringgenberg**
Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association: **Kory Elston**
Iowa County Attorneys Association, Inc.: **Paul Allen**
Iowa State Association of County Auditors: **Sue Lloyd**
Iowa State County Treasurers Association: **Danelle Haberman**
Iowa County Records Association, Inc.: **Curtis Reis**
Iowa County Engineers Association: **Bret Wilkinson**
Iowa State Association of Assessors: **Joe Cronin**
Iowa Community Services Association: **Tracy Gotto**
Iowa Emergency Management Association: **Aimee Barritt**
County Conservation Directors Association of Iowa: **Greg Johnson**
Iowa Environmental Health Association, Inc.: **Ben Muegggenberg**
Iowa Counties Public Health Association: **Tracy Gotto**
County Zoning Officials of Iowa: **Ben Muegggenberg**
Iowa Counties Information Technology Organization: **Tyler Van Houten**
Iowa Association of County Commissioners and Veterans Service Officers, Inc.: **Louie DeRoos**

The County shall forward a copy of this Resolution with the names of the designated County Voting Representatives to support@iowacounties.org.

Approved by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors on July 29, 2025.

/s/ Paul Merten, Board of Supervisors Chair

Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to approve and authorize Supervisor Kelly Snyder to sign the Subdivision participation & Release Forms for the **National Opioid Settlements** for Purdue Direct Settlement and the Sandoz Settlement. Carried.

Treasurer Danelle Haberman presented the Semi-Annual report for the Board to approve before she publishes in the papers. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the **Semi-Annual report** (6/30/2025) as presented and for the Chair to sign the report. Carried.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson gave his **department updates**. Weed Department: Johnson presented a map showing the roads that have been sprayed, which totals 566 miles; the spray truck has been down twice for repairs. They have worked on the old spray truck to have it ready to use when the new one is down for repairs; they have been spraying trees every day. Conservation: Standard summer operations. They have been mowing and weeding a lot this summer due to all the rains; Johnson reported that he is still working with FEMA on the Linn Grove Dam; Johnson stated that the cold storage concrete is done; Johnson reported that everything is going well at the Marina. Johnson has received a draft survey from ISG; there has been one food truck at the Marina, and more are interested in coming out there; some concrete work has been done at the Marina, and Johnson stated that he will be applying for a grant to do more work out there; some of the part-time employees at the Marina will be going back to school in August.

Zoning Administrator Ben Muegggenberg presented information on a Minor S/D request of Scott Herrig, in Section 23-92-35. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2025-07-29-B**. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-07-29-B

WHEREAS Scott Herrig has presented a preliminary and final plat (of survey) on the following described property:

DESCRIPTION LOT F:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the west line of the East Half of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 17' 42" West, on said west line, 2640.01 feet to the north line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 55' 48" East on said north line, 1322.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot F in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

Tract contains 37.69 acres and is subject to all easements of record.

DESCRIPTION LOT G:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Commencing at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 50' 10" East, on said south line, 342.97 feet to the southwest corner of Lot B which appears of record as document number 051716 in the office of the Buena Vista County Recorder; thence North 00° 22' 41" West on the west line of said Lot B; 277.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Lot B; thence South 89° 47' 06" East on the north line of said Lot B; 407.21 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 21' 16" West, on said east line, 2197.33 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot G in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

Tract contains 40.00 acres and is subject to all easements of record.

WHEREAS, the final plats meet with the approval of the Board subject only to the following if any: **None**

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

DESCRIPTION LOT F:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the west line of the East Half of said

Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 17' 42" West, on said west line, 2640.01 feet to the north line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 55' 48" East on said north line, 1322.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot F in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

DESCRIPTION LOT G:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Commencing at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 50' 10" East, on said south line, 342.97 feet to the southwest corner of Lot B which appears of record as document number 051716 in the office of the Buena Vista County Recorder; thence North 00° 22' 41" West on the west line of said Lot B; 277.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Lot B; thence South 89° 47' 06" East on the north line of said Lot B; 407.21 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 21' 16" West, on said east line, 2197.33 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot G in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa;

is hereby accepted subject to the following if any; **None**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be affixed to the final plat of:

DESCRIPTION LOT F:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Beginning at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the west line of the East Half of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 17' 42" West, on said west line, 2640.01 feet to the north line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 55' 48" East on said north line, 1322.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot F in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

Tract contains 37.69 acres and is subject to all easements of record.

DESCRIPTION LOT G:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 92 NORTH, RANGE 35 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Commencing at the northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 23, thence South 00° 21' 16" East (assuming bearing) on the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 167.92 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 89° 55' 48" West, 749.97 feet; thence South 00° 21' 16" East, 2473.05 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 89° 50' 10" East, on said south line, 342.97 feet to the southwest corner of Lot B which appears of record as document number 051716 in the office of the Buena Vista County Recorder.

County Recorder; thence North 00° 22' 41" West on the west line of said Lot B; 277.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Lot B; thence South 89° 47' 06" East on the north line of said Lot B; 407.21 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 00° 21' 16" West, on said east line , 2197.33 feet to the point of beginning.

Hereafter known as Lot G in Section 23, Township 92 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Buena Vista County, Iowa;

and copies of said final plats shall be of record in the appropriate County offices.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of July 2025.

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairman Board of Supervisors...../s/ Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

No action was needed to **void and reissue** check #923747, as it has been found.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. until Tuesday, August 12 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session.

(no meeting is planned for August 5)