

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
SECOND MEETING, 2026 SESSION (2)
JANUARY 6, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairman Merten presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, Snyder (online), 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 Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve **today's agenda**. Carried.

County Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he would like to advertise for an EO1 position, to fill the vacancy that he has currently. Wilkinson will run the ad for four weeks in the papers and three weeks on the radio, with applications due February 6 at 3:00 p.m. Motion by Hartman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve County Engineer Bret Wilkinson to advertise for an **EO1 position**. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The crew is working on equipment and stock piling gravel. They are waiting on parts for the brine tanks and then installing them on two of the three trucks.

Matrix Construction Evaluation

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution 2026-01-06-A** adopting the matrix construction evaluation process. Carried.

**RESOLUTION # 2026-01-06-A
CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Iowa Code section 459.304(3) sets out the procedure if a board of supervisors wishes to adopt a “construction evaluation resolution” relating to the construction of a confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution can submit to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) an adopted recommendation to approve or disapprove a construction permit application regarding a proposed confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted an adopted recommendation may contest the DNR’s decision regarding a specific application; and

WHEREAS, by adopting a construction evaluation resolution the board of supervisors agrees to evaluate every construction permit application for a proposed confinement feeding operation structure received by the board of supervisors between February 1, 2026 and January 31, 2027 and submit an adopted recommendation regarding that application to the DNR; and

WHEREAS, the board of supervisors must conduct an evaluation of every construction permit application using the master matrix created in Iowa Code section 459.305, but the board’s recommendation to the DNR may be based on the final score on the master matrix or may be based on reasons other than the final score on the master matrix;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BUENA VISTA COUNTY that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this construction evaluation resolution pursuant to Iowa Code section 459.304(3).

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of January 2026.

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

Chairman Merten asked if there was anyone online that wished to be heard during **Hear the Public** and there was none. Kevin Jesse, who was present in the room, asked the Board what their vision was for the **Marina**. Merten stated that an abstract is being developed, then the State will do a Land Patent before a deed will be recorded. Merten stated that changes have been talked about. Ringgenberg commented that it is a county park and will be under the discretion of the Conservation Board. Jesse commented that he was not aware that it would be a county park and under the discretion of the Conservation Board.

Motion by Hartman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of 1/2/2026 as presented, and accepting the following **reports**: None. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve the **Jt. DD #14-42 BR 198** claim of Terr Gunnerson for a tile blowout repair in the amount of \$5,275.00. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present by phone, for his appointment. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to go into **closed session** (at 9:18 a.m.) under Chapter 21.5(1)(c) of the 2026 Code of Iowa, to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to go out of **closed session** at 10:00 a.m. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m. until Thursday, January 8 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session and Departmental budget reviews.