

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
NINETH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (9)
FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9:30 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 Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve **today's agenda**. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Berkley Grimm (Braun Intertec Corporation) for eight geotechnical soil borings along IA7 from 0.28 miles southeast of IA7 & 80th Ave. to IA7 & Villa Road. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson broached the subject of the **Secondary Road Department summer hours**, including the office staff. Wilkinson stated that for the past two years, they have worked four 10-hour days for a 6-month period. Wilkinson stated that when there is a holiday, the department works five 8-hour days for the holiday week. Merten asked if office staff could be present on Friday, as he wants office presence five days a week. Croker stated that since there are two front office staff, the Engineer could manage their hours so that someone is there Monday-Friday. Wilkinson stated that there are efficiencies on keeping the office staff on the same schedule as the work crew and stated that 80%-90% of their time is interaction with their office and not the public. Wilkinson stated that he would like the summer hours to be 6:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. April 6-October 2, Monday-Thursday. Merten commented that he has a problem with a 6-month time frame and the four days per week. Croker suggested that Wilkinson take the Board's comments back to his staff and see what they have to say, maybe there is a compromise.

Secondary Road Report: They have been busy cutting brush and moving trees and will continue to work on it all week. They are also blading spots on the gravel roads.

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

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the **minutes** of 2/03/2026 as corrected, today's **claim approval list, and Auxiant disbursements**, and accept the following **reports**: January Sheriff's Report of Fees Collected. Carried.

The Board started their **budget work session and** suspended it at 11:00 a.m. for the closed session.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to go into **closed session** (at 11:00 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, and Snyder. Motion carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to go out of **closed session** at 11:51 A.M. Carried.

The Board continued with their **budget work session**.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 12:47 a.m. until Tuesday, February 17 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session. Carried.