

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FOURTEENTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (14)
MARCH 25, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson 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, and Snyder. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

The Chair opened the **Public Hearing** on the Proposed Property Tax Levy for the FY'27 Buena Vista County budget, with Darnell Millard, Juan Ocegueda, Juwan Ocegueda, Jeff Stewart, Mari Jo Wilbur, Bruce Wilbur, Greg Johnson (Conservation Director), Bret Wilkinson (Engineer), John "Al" Clark, and Rob Smith present and eleven people online. Juan Ocegueda stated that he is concerned about the increase in taxes and what the increase is for, and what steps have been taken to reduce taxes. Merten commented that inflation was a big factor. Croker commented that the levy is down, but valuations are up. John Clark stated that he was speaking for the senior citizens, those on a fixed income, that cannot afford these tax increases, and asked the Board to cut the budget. Clark stated that people won't be able to afford rent, that inflation has hit everyone, and everyone must tighten their belt. Clark stated that he doesn't want any more tax increases. Bruce Wilbur commented that the public hearing should have been held at night, so that people that are working would be able to attend. Wilbur commented that something must be given up, that he must take cuts due to his insurance going up, but the county's isn't. Wilbur stated that he is paying for his increases along with paying for the county's increases, and feels he is the servant, and the county is the king. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to close the public hearing. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. until Wednesday, March 25 at 9:48 a.m. for a regular session.