

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
NINETEENTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (19)
APRIL 21, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 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.

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Estherville, IA, to bore under 630th St. (C65) between Sections 18 and 19 of Maple Valley Township to upgrade an existing facility at 142 630th St. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **utility permit** for Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Estherville, IA, to bore under the county road along 545th St. in Section 2 of Washington Township from the north right-of-way to the south right-of-way of 545th St. on the west side of 120th Ave. to upgrade existing facilities. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that the check for the **RISE Grant for Phase 1** came in the mail yesterday, in the amount of \$1,866,316.62. Regarding **Phase 2**, the contractor, PCI, is finishing up another job so they will not be in BV County for 3-4 weeks when they can begin work on the curve on 80th Ave. Wilkinson stated that he has a couple changes to make on the **DOT budget**, so he will bring that to the Board next week for their approval. Wilkinson attended a meeting for the **Competitive Highway Bridge Program Grant Project**, with other cities and counties. Wilkinson stated the BV County Bridge #54, on M50 south of Hwy 3, was chosen as one of the higher rankings and is bundled with Ida County and is eligible for up to \$616,000 in Federal dollars. Wilkinson stated that there also was a kickoff meeting for the **Safe Streets for All (SS4A Safety Grant)**, which is upgrades along C65.

Secondary Road Report: They have had the retrievers out getting rid of the edge ruts and working on the gravel roads. They closed part of M54 for tile repair yesterday. They have been working on some crossroad culverts, driveways, and hauling gravel. Wilkinson attended the NACE conference last week.

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 Ringgenberg, to approve the **minutes** of 4/14/2026 as presented, today's **claims approval list, stamped warrant list, and Auxiant disbursements**, and to accept the following **report**: FY'25 Central Service Cost Allocation Plan. Carried.

Auditor Susan Lloyd requested that the Board allow her Office to shred the 2024 Primary Election records, which is allowed by Code, 22 months after a Federal Election. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve **disposing of the 2024 Primary Election** materials, which is allowed by Code 22 months after a Federal Election, and to notify both political party chairs. Carried.

Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to accept the resignation of Dave Patton as **Medical Examiner Supervisor**, effective May 26, 2026. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the chair to sign the Certification of Cost Allocation Plan for the **FY2025 Buena Vista County CASI report**. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to set a public hearing for a FY'26 BV County **budget amendment**, for May 26, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

The Chair opened the Public Hearing on the **FY'27 Budget Hearing**, with Auditor Susan Lloyd, and Engineer Bret Wilkinson, Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson, Treasurer Danelle Haberman, Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller, Recorder Curt Reis, Environmental Health/Zoning Director Ben Mueggenberg, EMA Director Aimee Barritt, and I.T. Director Tyler Van Houten present in-person with eleven other callers online. Auditor Lloyd reviewed the proposed tax levies and proposed ending fund balances. Chairperson Merten opened it up for questions. There were no questions, and no written comments were received. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-04-21-A**, Adoption of 2026/2027 Budget, and the **Adoption of Budget & Certification of Taxes**. Carried.

**RESOLUTION #2026-04-21-A
ADOPTION OF
2026-2027 BUDGET & CERTIFICATION OF TAXES**

WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista County, Iowa held a Public Hearing on April 21, 2026, for input for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget and County Levies; and

WHEREAS Iowa Code Section 331.434 authorizes the Board of each county to adopt their budget and certify property taxes annually prior to April 30.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors hereby approve and adopt the FY'2026-2027 County Budget and Certification of Taxes, which includes the following levies and property tax asking:

Levies

4.27184	General Basic Levy
2.75515	General Supplemental Levy
3.44593	Rural Service Levy
0.32925	Debt Service Levy

10.80217	Total Levies

Property Tax Levied Dollars

6,352,799	General Basic
4,097,277	General Supplemental
3,126,824	Rural Service
542,089	Debt Service

14,118,989	Total Property Tax Dollars

Committed Funds

\$354,967	Fund 0001 – General Basic Fund (County Trails & Signs)
\$ 243	Fund 0001 – General Basic Fund (Heritage Tours)
\$118,322	Fund 0011 – Rural Basic Fund (County Trails & Signs)

\$473,532 Total Committed Funds

PASSED AND APPROVED this 21st day of April 2026.

/s/ Paul Merten, Chairperson.....ATTEST: Susan K. Lloyd, County Auditor

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 a.m. until Tuesday, April 28 at 8:30 a.m. for a special session. Carried.