

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
TWENTY-NINTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (29)
JUNE 30, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, June 30, 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 Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson discussed increasing entrance installation rates. The rates were last updated in August, 2022. Wilkinson stated that if he compares the actual cost of entrances vs the 2022 rates, the county is losing money. Wilkinson stated that he isn't trying to make money, just wants to break even on most of the driveway entrances. Wilkinson recommends increasing the cost of pipe and increasing the cost of the dirt fill/entrance construction. Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to approve increasing **entrance installation rates**, for the cost of pipe and driveway entrances, due to increased material and labor costs, effective with any new driveway requests. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board of a request from the Buena Vista County Fair Board, for rock for lanes on their property. Wilkinson stated that the county's cost is approximately \$20/ton for limestone/class A roadstone, and Fair Board will have someone else do the hauling. Motion by Snyder, second by Croker, to approve the request of the Buena Vista County Fair Board, for the county to **donate 45 tons of limestone**. Carried.

Secondary Road Report: The crew has been working on crossroad culverts, entrances, and have been out mowing along the hard surface roads so they look nice for the 4th of July. Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that they are reviewing the various no passing zones to see if any changes are necessary due to the increase in the speed limit to 60 mph. The contractor has removed the old bridge #95. PCI should be done next week with rock base on Phase 2, with no dates set for paving yet. Wilkinson had an online meeting with the DOT yesterday on Phase 3. The DOT reviewed their plans and comments that were made about their public information meeting. The DOT stated that access was brought up during the public information meeting, so they will be modifying their plan for access. Wilkinson stated that there will probably be another update from DOT for the Board and the public this fall.

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 6/23/2026 as presented, today's **claims approval list, the stamped warrant register, and Auxiant disbursements**, and to accept the following **reports**: March BV CO E911 minutes, March BV Co Emergency Management minutes, May NW IA YES Center minutes, and February NWIPDC SHIELD minutes. Carried.

Rebecca Greenway, Northland Securities, was online and reviewed the finance plan with the Board for the County's **2026A Bond issue** and the Preliminary Official Statement. The Board didn't have any questions for Greenway.

9:00 a.m. Board Member Ringgenberg introduced the following resolution entitled "RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFICIAL STATEMENT", and moved that the resolution be adopted. Board Member Snyder seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called and the vote was, Ayes: Croker, Hartman, Merten, Ringgenberg, Snyder. Nays: None. Whereupon, the Chairperson declared the resolution duly adopted as follows:

#2026-06-30-E

RESOLUTION APPROVING OFFICIAL STATEMENT

WHEREAS, in conjunction with its Underwriter, Northland Securities, Inc., the County has caused an Official Statement to be prepared outlining the details of the proposed sale of the Notes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BUENA VISTA COUNTY, STATE OF IOWA:

That the preliminary Official Statement in the form presented to this meeting be and the same hereby is approved as to form and deemed final for purposes of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, subject to such revisions, corrections or modifications as the Chairperson and Auditor, upon the advice of bond counsel and the County's Underwriter, shall determine to be appropriate, and is authorized to be distributed in connection with the offering of the Notes for sale.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June, 2026.

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

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller presented a proposal from McGill Restoration for masonry restoration and exterior treatment services at the courthouse for a cost of \$125,000.00. Keller stated that they plan to start mid-September. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the proposal from **McGill Restoration** for masonry restoration and exterior treatment services at the courthouse for a cost of \$125,000.00. Carried.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller presented a proposal for Otis Service and Repair to furnish and install a new rear entrance on the upper floor of the Courthouse. The proposal is in the amount of \$74,880.00. Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and allow the Chair to sign the proposal of **Otis Service and Repair** to furnish and install a new rear entrance on the upper floor of the Courthouse, in the amount of \$74,880.00. Carried.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller presented a proposal from AAC Remediation for an Asbestos survey of 317 E. 5th St., the Cherry Tree building, for \$1,950.00. The asbestos survey is required to be done before the building can be torn down. Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the proposal of AAC Remediation for an **Asbestos survey** at 317 E. 5th St. Carried.

Bldg/Grounds Supt. Joe Keller gave a **department update**. His department has been busy, and they all have vacations scheduled, with two off now for vacation. Keller has hired 2 new night cleaners for the Engineer's Office, Auditor's Office, DHS, and the VA Office, so he has been working with them on training. The Board thanked Keller, Vance Cords, and Jon Buss for all they do to have the Courthouse and the other buildings looking nice.

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-06-30-A** appropriating funds for FY'27 to departments at 100% per the FY'27 budget. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-06-30-A

WHEREAS, it is desired to make appropriations for each of the different officers and departments for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026, in accordance with section 331.434 (Sec 6) 2026 Code of Iowa,

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

Section 1. The amounts itemized by department or office on the certified County Budget for 2026-27 are hereby appropriated at 100% to the department or office listed in the 2026-27 budget.

Section 2. Subject to the provisions of other county procedures and regulations and applicable state law, the appropriations authorized under Section 1 shall constitute authorization for the department or officer listed to make expenditures or incur obligations from county funds effective July 1, 2026.

Section 3. In accordance with section 331.437 of the 2026 Code of Iowa, no department or officer shall expend, or contract to expend, any money, or incur any liability, or enter into any contract, which by its terms involves the expenditure of money, for any purpose in excess of the amounts appropriated pursuant to their resolution.

Section 4. If at any time during the 2026-27 budget year the Auditor shall ascertain that the available resources of a fund for that year will be less than said fund's total appropriation, she shall immediately so inform the Board and recommend appropriate corrective action.

Section 5. The Auditor shall establish separate accounts for the appropriations authorized in Section 1, each of which account shall indicate the amount of the appropriation, the amount charged thereto, and the unencumbered balance. The Auditor shall report the status of such accounts to the applicable departments and officers monthly during the FY2026-27 budget year. The Auditor shall also provide a summary report of all departments to the Board monthly.

Section 6. All appropriations authorized pursuant to this resolution lapse at the close of business June 30, 2027

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June 2026.

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-06-30-B** authorizing interfund operating transfers from the General and Rural Funds to the Secondary Road Fund, and local option sales tax funds from "Local Option Sales Tax Funds for Secondary Roads" (0019) to the Secondary Road Fund as detailed in the FY'27 budget. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-06-30-B

WHEREAS, it is desired to transfer monies from the General Basic Fund (0001) to the Secondary Road Fund (0020) and to transfer from the Rural Services Basic Fund (0011) to the Secondary Road Fund (0020); and

WHEREAS, said operating transfers are in accordance with section 331.432, 2026 Code of Iowa,

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

Section 1. The sum of \$230,565.00 is ordered transferred from the General Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund with one-half the amount (\$115,282.50) transferred no earlier than July 1, 2026, and the last one-half transferred no earlier than January 1, 2027.

The sum of \$2,502,841.00 (Rural Basic levy) is ordered transferred from the Rural Services Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund (levy) with one-half the amount (\$1,251,420.50) transferred no earlier than July 1, 2026 and the last one-half transferred no earlier than January 1, 2027. The total maximum transfer from the General Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund shall not exceed \$230,565.00 (levy) and the total maximum transfer from the Rural Basic Fund to the Secondary Road Fund shall not exceed \$2,502,841.00 (levy) all for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

Section 3. The total transfer of local option sales tax for Secondary Roads shall be limited to 60% of the total local option sales tax receipts for FY'26 received by the county, estimated for budget purposes at \$550,000.

Section 4. The Auditor is directed to correct her books accordingly and to notify the Treasurer and Engineer of these operating transfers, accompanying the notification with a copy of this resolution and the record of its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June 2026.

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

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-06-30-C** regarding the designation of a portion of the FY'26 General Fund and Rural Fund ending fund balances (June 30, 2026) for the **Drive Trails and County Trail System**. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-06-30-C
Drive Trail & County Trail System
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balances

WHEREAS Buena Vista County included \$73,289.53 of the original \$100,000 in its FY'26 ending fund balances (\$54,967.15-General, \$18,322.38-Rural) for 'signing' for a Drive Trail to the Alta wind-farm and other attractions around the county in connection with Storm Lake's Project Awaysis; and,

WHEREAS the Drive Trail sign project was started, but not completed by June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS Buena Vista County 'pledged' a total of \$400,000 over 8 years for Trails in the county in connection with the Storm Lake Project Awaysis; and,

WHEREAS the FY'14 budget adopted by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors included the last tax asking of \$50,000 for the County Trail System (or 1/8th of total \$400,000) in FY'14; and,

WHEREAS Buena Vista County Trail projects have commenced as of June 30, 2016, with signs

being purchased; and,

WHEREAS the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors wishes to set aside the taxes levied for both the “signing” for the Drive Trail and Trails for expenditure at a later time; and

WHEREAS the funding source amounts approved for both “signing” for the Drive Trails and County Trail System are from the General Basic Fund (75%) and Rural Basic Fund (25%);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUENA VISTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that \$354,967.13 in the FY’26 General Basic ending fund balance, and, \$118,322.40 in the FY’26 Rural Basic ending fund balance, be considered and are hereby unreserved/designated and committed for the “signing” for the Drive Trail and the County Trail System projects associated with Project Awaysis.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June 2026.

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

Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-06-30-D** regarding the designation of a portion of the General Fund ending balance (June 30, 2024) for the **FY’27 Heritage Tour** expenditures. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-06-30-D
BV County Heritage Tours
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balance

WHEREAS Buena Vista County received \$828 in FY’10 to be used for Heritage Tours for schools in Buena Vista County, which were received into the General Fund for expenditure, and

WHEREAS a portion of those funds were not expended in FY’26 and the remainder of those funds may be spent in FY’27,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, that \$242.86 in the General Fund ending fund balance is hereby designated and committed for expenditure on Heritage Tours only.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June 2026.

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

Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign **Resolution #2026-06-30-F** regarding the designation/Commitment of a portion of the General Fund ending balance for additional legal costs beyond FY’26. Carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-06-30-F
BV County Board of Supervisors
Designated/Committed Ending Fund Balance

WHEREAS Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors has unspent funds in their FY’26 budget in the General Basic Fund, that were not expended for legal services, and

WHEREAS the County is currently involved in civil litigation, and

WHEREAS the County will incur additional legal costs beyond FY'26,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors, that \$400,000 in the General Basic ending fund balance is hereby designated and committed for expenditure on legal services for Buena Vista County.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of June 2026.

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

Motion by Hartman, second by Ringgenberg, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Auxiant** Schedule A for plan year 8/1/2026 through 7/31/2027. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve the **Class B Alcohol License** application for Al's Corner Oil, DBA Sparky's One Stop #16. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to reappoint Ron Witham and Paul Sennert to the **Veterans Affairs Commission**, with terms expiring 6/30/2029. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to reappoint Tim Heuton to the **Lincoln Benefitted Fire District Board of Trustees**, with a term expiring 6/30/2029. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m. until Tuesday, July 14 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.