

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
THIRTY-SIXTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (36)
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Merten presiding, and the following other members present: Croker, Hartman, Ringgenberg, and 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 Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that the **Pre-Design Agreement with Iowa DOT for Hwy7/70th Ave. intersection** was not available at the time of the meeting, so no action was taken. Wilkinson says he is looking for the agreement to come at the end of September.

Secondary Road Report: They continue with driveways, hauling gravel, and shoulder retrieving along some roads. Contractor is doing crack sealing on M36 down to C25. N14—they are still talking to PCI to see when they can start, and it may be backed up to September 14. They are working on a landowner meeting for the N14 Project. Phase 2—They are still shouldering and doing dirt work, so it will probably be next week before the road opens. Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he is mulling over whether to put down asphalt on 80th Ave. from Hwy 7 since it may be 12-19 months before the State is ready to start their project, and then the asphalt will be ripped up. Wilkinson estimates the cost to lay the asphalt down would be \$100,000. Wilkinson stated that he will try and get an estimate from the company and when they could do it.

Env Health/Zoning Director Ben Mueggenberg presented a 28E Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and IDNR, on well permits. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **28E Agreement**, between the Board of Supervisors and IA DNR, on well permits. Carried.

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

Motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to approve the **minutes** from 8/25/2026 as presented, and accept the following **reports**: July BV County Solid Waste Commission Agency minutes and August BV County Safety minutes. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to **abate taxes** on Parcel #1403210011 in Storm Lake, the former Cherry Corner Agency building at 315 E. 5th St. Carried.

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to terminate the deferred compensation plan with **Empower** since there currently is a zero balance and Empower wants to charge the county \$1,500 to update the plan, and to authorize the Auditor to sign the termination request. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Snyder, to set a public hearing for a FY'27 BV County **budget amendment**, for September 29, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve and to authorize the Chair to sign the **fireworks permit** for Doug DeRoos, 5673 50th Ave., Alta, IA to be held on September 4, 2026. Carried.

Chairman Merten, informed the other members of the Board about a meeting last Thursday, with the three Auditors, Drainage Clerks, a supervisor representative from each of the three counties, and Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme and Drainage Watchman Eric Yunginger to discuss funding of the BV, Calhoun, and Sac Drainage Fund. Merten informed the Board that each county was going to bring a request back to their respective Boards to take action on increasing the hourly rate charged for work done to drainage districts. The current hourly rate charged for services is \$120 per hour. Motion by Snyder, second by Ringgenberg, to approve increasing the hourly rate charged by the **Drainage Department** for work they do on drainage districts from \$120 per hour to \$150 per hour, effective August 1, 2026. Carried.

Public Health Administrator Tracy Gotto informed the Board that he met with the Opioid Committee to present information about a program he developed, which is a Drug Disposal Program and education, and would like to use some Opioid Funds to pay for education and containers to dispose of old prescription drugs. Gotto stated that this type of program is working well in Sac County. Gotto informed the Board that the Opioid Committee was in favor of allowing up to \$25,786 of Opioid Funds for this project. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Croker, to allow Public Health to use up to \$25,786 of **Opioid Funds** for the Drug Disposal and Education Program. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. until Tuesday, September 8 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.