BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
FORTY-SECOND MEETING, 2026 SESSION (42)
OCTOBER 13, 2026

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Boardroom with Chairperson Merten presiding, and the following other members present: Hartman and Snyder (virtually), and Auditor Susan Lloyd as clerk for the meeting. Absent: Croker and Ringgenberg.

Unless otherwise indicated, all the following **motions** offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Hartman, Merten, and Snyder. Nays: none. Abstentions: none.

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

Secondary Road Report: Motor grader has been pulling in the edge rut and using the retriever. They have been hauling limestone and graveling roads. They are still mowing, and they have worked on a few crossroad pipes. Engineer Bret Wilkinson stated that they are caught up with their driveway list, and have had a few tile repairs, but not many. Phase 2—Wilkinson is waiting for the paint contractor to come in and paint the centerlines on the asphalt patch and the stop bars on the railroad tracks and the 70th Ave. stop bars, along with M36 needs centerlines painted. Phase 3---the update meeting will be on October 19 with the DOT. N14 and Business 71---Wilkinson stated that he is still having cross section and quantities discussion with the contractor. Wilkinson stated that they still plan on the box culvert project on Business 71 to be done in November. Wilkinson stated that they placed dust control on the road by Albert City, and that the City, Coop, and ethanol plant all chipped in for the dust control. Wilkinson stated that he has been asked by Rembrandt for dust control to the west side of town for a mile.

Sheriff Kory Elston and Jailer Alyson Sievers presented information to the Board regarding an online work schedule for their entire office. Elston stated that every employee would have the application and could see who is working and who isn't, making it easier to call employees in to cover a shift. The cost is $5 per month per person, and they were figuring 60 employees, which would cost $300 per month. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve the Sheriff's request to purchase **"When I Work" software** to be used in all of his departments at a cost of $300 per month. 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 10/6/2026 as presented, and accept the following **reports:** None. Carried.

Denny Graesing, representing the City of Linn Grove, came in to request that the county consider changing some **speed limits** both directions, in and out of Linn Grove. Graesing shared the history of the road that goes through the City of Linn Grove and stated that the southbound traffic is coming into town too fast, at 60 mph, not slowing down, and there are a lot of walkers, so the city is concerned about safety. Engineer Bret Wilkinson was present for the discussion, and stated that it might be better to slow traffic down in 10 mph increments, 45 mph to 35 mph to 25 mph. Graesing stated that the city has purchased a flashing sign for the 25 mph prior to the bridge, and asked if the county could put up an amber solar flashing light on the south side. Wilkinson stated that the cost of an amber solar flashing light is about $600. Wilkinson suggested that a couple members of the Board, himself, and Graesing go look at where to place the speed limit changes, get some measurements and then he would prepare a resolution for the 10/20/26 board meeting.

Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen requested that the Board allow the Auditor's Office to shred the 2024 General Election records, which is allowed by Code, 22 months after a Federal Election. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve **disposing of the 2024 General Election** materials, which is allowed by Code 22 months after a Federal Election, and to notify both political party chairs. Carried.

Election Deputy Karla Ahrendsen presented the FY'26 Annual Urban Renewal Report for the Board to approve. Motion by Hartman, second by Merten, to accept the County's **FY'26 Annual Urban Renewal Report** and authorize the Chair to sign. Carried.

County Attorney Paul Allen was present for his appointment. Motion by Hartman, second by Merten, to go into **closed session** (at 9:52 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: Hartman, Merten, Snyder. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to go out of **closed session** at 10:17 a.m. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Hartman, second by Snyder, to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. until Tuesday, October 20 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.