**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**
**FORTY-FOURTH MEETING, 2026 SESSION (44)**
**OCTOBER 27, 2026**

The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Tuesday, October 27, 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 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 Croker, to approve today's **agenda**. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Winter Maintenance Agreement** with the City of Lakeside. Carried.

Motion by Snyder, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **Winter Maintenance Agreement** with the City of Linn Grove. Carried.

Engineer Bret Wilkinson informed the Board that he was not ready to move forward on the **wheel loader** that he would like to purchase, as he has questions about the oil samples. Wilkinson stated that the wheel loader is a year old and is two sizes bigger than what he currently has. Wilkinson stated that he also has a quote for a new wheel loader, the same size as he currently has. Merten asked what the price difference was between the new machine and the one-year-old machine with 4,000 hours on it. Wilkinson stated that the used machine is $37,000 more than the new wheel loader, due to its larger size. Merten asked about the warranty, and Wilkinson stated that the warranty is 5 years or 5,000 hours, and the used machine has 4,000 hours on already. The Board tabled any action on purchasing a wheel loader until next week.

**Secondary Road Report**: They have been hauling gravel, working on tile repairs, and working on driveways. They are also working on the speed limits at Linn Grove. Engineer Wilkinson stated that the painter should be here this week, and working on the asphalt patch on 80th Ave., the intersections on 70th Ave. and 80th Ave., and extending no passing zones where needed. Phase 3—there have been emails on the State's right-of-way purchases. N14—PCI has been crushing concrete out of the roadbed, and they hope to start the culvert on the north end soon. Bridge #95—they are driving piles.

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

Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve the **minutes** from 10/20/2026 as corrected, and accept the following **reports:** Treasurer's Quarterly Report-ending 9/30/26, and Recorder's Report of Fees Collected-July-Sept, 2026. Carried.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson reviewed the 2026 Weed Commissioner's Report. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the **2026 Weed Commissioner's Report**. Carried.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson gave a department update. Weed Department: They are done spraying along the state roads. They are caught up with the noxious weed, with only two roads left to spray. The brush control is done in the southwest quarter this year. Conservation: The Massop Trust is donating to the county a piece of land for conservation. The parcel of land is located across from Bel Aire Access at the Storm Lake Outlet. There will be a dedication of this property, to be

called Massop Legacy Park, on Thursday, October 29, at 3:00 p.m. across from Bel Aire Access at the Storm Lake Outlet, the approximate address is 1509 Mallard Ave. Johnson stated that the appraised value of this parcel is $70,600, and the Massop Family would like a signed Form 8283, for their donation. Motion by Hartman, second by Croker, to authorize the Auditor to sign Form 8283, when it is ready, for the donation of land to Conservation for **Massop Legacy Park**. Carried.

Conservation Director/Weed Commissioner Greg Johnson continued with his **updates**. Linn Grove Dam—For FEMA DR#4796, $1.7M has been obligated for repairs. For FEMA DR#4421, Johnson and the Conservation Board are requesting arbitration, as they said that FEMA should use current reasonable costs. Johnson stated that estimates for the Linn Grove Dam is $3.9M and $6.9M for the park. FEMA has the Dam at $3.1M and the park at $2.6M. Marina—The pavers are in, and they have until December 1 to finish. They have been working on epoxy, HVAC system, and doors. They received no responses for a 3rd party vendor out there. Johnson also stated that they had their Fall Fun Day with free camping and trick or treaters a while back, with 200-300 people participating. Johnson stated that they will be installing eight new aerators and keeping the older two for spares. Merten informed Johnson that he has received several good comments about the marina. Croker asked what they were calling the marina, and Johnson stated that it will be called Casino Bay Marina, and they will be putting up new signs out there and on Hwy 110.

The Chair opened the public hearing on the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #6.1A-29, the rezoning request of Kenneth Larsen in the SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 22-92-37. Larson is requesting a change to a parcel from ag to commercial, so that he can bottle and sell wine. The Chair asked if there were any questions, and there were none. Motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to close the public hearing. Carried. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve the **2nd Reading of Ordinance #6.1A-29**, the rezoning request of Kenneth Larsen in the SW ¼ SW ¼ Section 22-92-37 and set the 3rd Reading of Ordinance #6.1A-29 for November 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme reviewed work order BV-02-2024 for DD #34 Lat 5, for tile outlet pipe repairs made by Larry Miller Construction, in the amount of $700. Blomme stated that the original estimate was $2,200. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Snyder, to approve work order BV-02-2024 for payment on **DD #34 Lat 5**, payable to Larry Miller Construction, in the amount of $700 for tile outlet pipe repairs in Section 10 of Lincoln Township. Carried.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme reviewed work order BV-04-2024 for DD #34 Lat 4, for surface drainpipe installation by Larry Miller Construction, in the amount of $4,380.50. Motion by Snyder, second by Hartman, to approve work order BV-04-2024 for payment on **DD #34 Lat 4**, for surface drainpipe installation by Larry Miller Construction, in the amount of $4,380.50 in Section 29 of Lincoln Township. Carried.

Drainage Engineer Brian Blomme reviewed invoice #1246 for DD #186 for outlet pipe replacement to McCarty Custom, Inc. in the amount of $1,045.75. Blomme stated that DD #186 outlets to the BV County Conservation oxbow restoration project, south of Hwy 7 in Section 25 of Providence Township. Motion by Ringgenberg, second by Hartman, to approve invoice #1246 for **DD #186** for outlet pipe replacement into the oxbow restoration of BV County Conservation project in Section 25 of Providence Township, payable to McCarty Custom, Inc. in the amount of $1,045.75. Carried.

Motion by Croker, second by Merten, to approve and authorize the execution of the settlement participation agreement in the **Albertsons Companies, Inc. Opioid litigation case once** the document arrives. Carried.

There being no further business, motion by Croker, second by Ringgenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 a.m. until Tuesday, November 3 at 8:30 a.m. for a regular session. Carried.