

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024 9:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Vice Chairperson Rogers and Supervisor Zumbach. Absent: Chairperson Running-Marquardt (personal business). Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Vice Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads:

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir. – The Recorder & Treasurer's Office have training on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month and open at 10:00 a.m. He stated that his office also has monthly trainings and wondered if they should coordinate with those offices or continue as they are. The Board will take that into consideration; budget is on track; fully staffed, Luke Maloney has been appointed to the Iowa+UP Advisory Board; Inspector Elkin has earned two more national certifications; the majority of the office remodel is complete; the Duane Arnold III & IV projects will be submitting an application (will begin the process to hire a consultant to help with document review); Ely Fringe Area Agreement will be presented to the Board on July 22<sup>nd</sup>; staff is partnering with ISU Extension to provide training to Planning & Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment members; and permit data presented.

Vice Chair. Rogers commended Nichols and his staff. He asked if the county will know at what point will they feel that they have allowed enough acreage to be used for utility scale solar.

Nichols responded that they know they have tradeoffs, and they try the best they can to weigh those tradeoffs with the score card. This is a valid and fair question, and it can be looked at through their comprehensive plan.

Supervisor Zumbach stated that they will try to take up as much land in Linn County as they can until someone tells them they have enough land for this use.

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir. – Continue to meet with departments to procure green/sustainable products; fully staffed; 35,000 pieces of mail processed (will drop because Cedar Rapids no longer included); listed bids that he assisted departments; worked with Public Health to find a Vet to aid the county when there is a dog bite (city of Cedar Rapids discontinued assisting with that service).

Luke Fischer, Facilities Dir. – Completed a Building Information Binder; budget on target; fully staffed; working with Correctional Center on isolation cell buildout; Engineering/Secondary Roads Main Shop project design meetings; Conservation Wickiup Hill Geothermal expansion; camera and security updates for Elections; Planning & Development office demo/remodel; Treasurer's Office project is complete; Sheriff's Office Dispatch room cabling, carpet and furniture; MHAC courtyard turf and bike rack installed; LIFTS gutter/down spout change out; Courthouse trip hazard repaired and storm drain repairs; river level action items and Community Services ADA concrete parking. He reviewed county buildings last night and this morning after the storm and found some issues with water.

Vice Chair. Rogers commended Fischer for his talent and expertise.

Joi Alexander, Communications Dir. – Homeless Systems Manager announcement will go out this week; social media strategy; online budget book; hosting a job shadow student tomorrow; crisis communications plan; writing style guide near completion; internal marketing team for the MHAC; Recorder's Office changed hours to match the Treasurer's Office (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month open at 10 a.m.). Discussion followed regarding signage and coordination of departments that change their hours, noting that there is a cascading affect; QR Codes for Planning & Development and Treasurer; EMA must update emergency support function plans (working to coordinate with the city of Cedar Rapids); Engineer/Secondary Roads will have a groundbreaking; and new AV equipment being installed in Boardrooms/Conference rooms (miscommunication with IT).

Vice Chair. Rogers stated that there was discussion yesterday regarding the impending storm and an email that came out from Treasurer Oleson. He asked if departments are being reminded to filter through the Communications Department. Alexander suggested periodic meetings to review policies.

Rogers also commended Alexander and her staff for their continued efforts.

Page 2  
July 16, 2024

Adjournment at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor  
By: Rebecca Shoop, Deputy Auditor

APPROVED BY:

BEN ROGERS, Vice Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors