

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 10:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Running-Marquardt, Vice Chairperson Rogers and Supervisor Zumbach. Board members voting “AYE” unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve minutes of September 18, 2024 as printed.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve claim dated 9/20/24 for payroll check #63000025 in the amt. of \$11,807.39 and claims for accounts payable - checks dated 9/23/2024 #71015626 to 71015627 in the amount of \$72,100.85.

Mae Hingtgen, CEO of East Central Region, presented updates from the Mental Health/Disability Services (MHDS) of the East Central Region on the Health and Human Services (HHS) Behavioral Health Districts and the MHDS of the East Central Region applying to be the Administrative Services Organization. She presented the Behavioral Health District map (Linn County is in Dist. 7).

Amber McNamara, Comm. Relations Manager, gave a presentation by the Cedar Rapids Public Library regarding updated plans for the new Westside Library Project. The groundbreaking is scheduled for October 18th at 10:00 a.m. with completion the fall of 2026.

Jo Ann Beer, Fairfax Mayor, presented a letter of support for the application from the City of Fairfax to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Surface Repair Program. She explained that the surface of this high-speed railroad crossing has caused risk to vehicles and actually resulted in a semi getting caught up on the crossing. If funds are approved, the IDOT and the Union Pacific will each pay for 20% of the repair.

Motion by Zumbach, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support for the application from the City of Fairfax to the Iowa Department of Transportation's Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Surface Repair Program.

Discussion: Chairperson Running-Marquardt stated that Linn County has had a good partnership with Fairfax and she is proud to support a project like this.

VOTE: All Aye

Mike Tertinger, Planning & Development, presented a proposed Temporary Use Permit, case PTU24-0011, request by Jacob & Cassandra Kubik, owners, to operate the Pine Hill Farm Harvest Time Festival on September 28 and 29, 2024, located at 4022 Campfire Road, Walker, Iowa. He stated that they continue to navigate through what an ag. experience means and does not mean. Planning & Development has determined that a lot of the events being held during this festival falls outside of the ag. experience with 40 vendors, 2 food trucks and a bounce house. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve Employment Change Roster (payroll authorizations) as follows:

FACILITIES

Sr Facilities Wrkr	Jared Samuelson	Step increase/contract 10/17/24 18C \$27.31 – 18D \$28.38
Custodian	Nazriet Zeremariam	Step increase/contract 10/18/24 10D \$21.22 + \$.25 – 10E \$22.84 + \$.25

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Collections & Acctg Spec	Melissa Prochaska	Termination/resignation 09/19/24
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The Board discussed filing a vacancy for an unexpired term on the Linn County Board of Health.

Supervisor Rogers stated that board member Karl Cassell is moving, therefore leaving a vacancy of an unexpired term. Among the applicants is former Supervisor Linda Langston who has had previous experience being on the Board of Health as well as had national experience on public health care issues through NACO. He stated that her strengths (among many) is her ability to build systems and as presented today with the new MH/DS Behavioral Health Districts, that same model will be applied to Public Health Boards and Districts. She can help Linn County Public Health transition into whatever that new system may be. She is also great at collaborating and helping to identify any blind spots. He enthusiastically endorses Linda Langston.

Supervisor Zumbach stated that he had lengthy conversations with both applicants. His conversation with Linda Langston went a little differently. He stated that they have two definite problems at Public Health, and one is a cultural problem (the number of staff that have left is significant). On that topic, Langston will be outstanding. The other issue is what Supervisor Rogers addressed and that is the alignment with the State. This Board of Supervisors has a unique situation where they can take two years to figure out what is needed and have the rails greased. After talking to Langston, there is another opening in January, and she is open to perhaps looking for someone that would be outstanding in that area. He plans to support Langston's nomination today.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt stated that she also had conversations about this position and believes that Linda Langston has some absolute strengths that will help lead the Public Health Board moving forward and the transition. Because of all of her experience within the county, Langston will make an excellent fit as well working with the Director and the Public Health Board.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to appoint Linda Langston to fill the unexpired term of Karl Cassell, term ending 12 /31/2025.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to go into a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for governmental bodies possession or continued receipt of federal funds, and Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(k) to discuss information contained in records in the custody of a governmental body that are confidential records pursuant to Iowa Code Section 22.7(50).

VOTE: Running-Marquardt – Aye Rogers – Aye Zumbach – Aye

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to go out of closed session.

VOTE: Running-Marquardt – Aye Rogers – Aye Zumbach – Aye

Adjournment at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED BY:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors