

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 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 Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve accounts payable checks dated 11/13/24 #71016069 to #71016124 in the amount of \$214,220.16; and ACH in the amount of \$826,239.29; for a total of \$1,040,459.45. Voided checks in the amount of \$1,800.00.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve Consent Agenda as follows:

Receive and place on file the Sheriff's Quarterly Report from July 1, through September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$739,550.

Award bid and authorize the Chair to sign a contract between Linn County Secondary Road Department and Bauer Built Tire to provide tire service starting Jan. 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028.

Approve the 2024 Family Farm Tax Credit Allowances and Disallowances for Linn County and the City of Cedar Rapids.

Jen Musik gave a presentation of the Navigate/Health Solutions Wellness Program updates. She noted that an additional blood panel was added for law enforcement personnel due to their high risk of heart disease and strokes.

Motion by Zumbach, seconded by Rogers to approve second consideration of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 107, Unified Development Code, relating to setbacks, administrative exceptions, and tiny houses as accessory dwelling units.

Sara Bearrows, Budget Director, met with the Board to present FY 26 budget initiatives and guidelines.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., addressed wages and benefits. She stated that contracts are set at 4% for AFSCME and 5% for the County Attorney's. She recommends a placeholder for management and non-bargaining employees at 4%.

Bearrows continued with health insurance at 10% and dental at 0% as place holders. Additional information could be received in December that might bring down the health insurance amount. She recommends no other increases other than utilities, postage, etc. The Offer process is for new positions or new initiatives. The public budget forum is set for 5:00 p.m. on November 25<sup>th</sup> with the Board's decision on November 26<sup>th</sup>. She continued to explain the impacts on the budget due to HF718 which is largely dependent on the valuation growth of the county.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt stated that taking into consideration the years of work by Sara Bearrows and Dawn Jindrich looking into the budgets and years of a AAA bond rating, Linn County is held as an example across the State of Iowa for excellent budget decisions and she is comfortable moving forward with recommended guidelines.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., presented a Resolution approving the contract and performance and/or payment bonds for the Linn County Secondary Road Headquarters Project. The lowest responsible bidder is Larson Construction. Time is of the essence so that they can get started yet this fall.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to adopt Resolution 2024-11-176  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT AND PERFORMANCE AND/OR PAYMENT BONDS FOR THE LINN COUNTY SECONDARY ROAD HEADQUARTERS PROJECT  
WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors ("Board") on November 12, 2024, awarded a contract for the Linn County Secondary Road Headquarters Project ("Project") to Larson Construction Company, Inc. ("Contractor"), and fixed the amount of the performance and/or payment bonds required for the Project; and, WHEREAS, the Contractor duly signed the contract for the Project, and the contract appears to be in proper form; and,  
WHEREAS, the Contractor filed satisfactory performance and/or payment bonds in the amount fixed by the Board. BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED the Board hereby approves the aforementioned contract and performance and/or payment bonds, authorizes the Board chairperson to execute said contract, declares the contract and performance and/or payment bonds binding upon the parties thereto, and authorizes the Board chairperson to execute a Notice to Proceed

Ashley Balius, General Assistance, presented a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Cedar Rapids, Housing Fund for Linn County, Waypoint Services, and Willis Dady Emergency Shelter for the operation of the Linn County Winter Weather Shelter effective November 15, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt commented on a meeting she attended at the Juvenile Detention Center, noting the reduction of youth. Where are they going? She appreciates the work that Balias is doing and it really means that they have the opportunity to be a part of saving people's lives in Linn County. She is proud to be a part of it and recognized Supervisors Zumbach, Rogers and staff Darrin Gage.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Cedar Rapids, Housing Fund for Linn County, Waypoint Services, and Willis Dady Emergency Shelter for the operation of the Linn County Winter Weather Shelter effective November 15, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

Discussion: Supervisor Rogers asked about last year's average census and Balias responded that the average was around 70-75 and the highest was 110.

VOTE: All Aye

Supervisor Rogers explained that he placed a letter on the agenda for discussion today in the interest of full transparency. He is the Chairman of the Area Ambulance Authority and authored a letter to the city of Marion regarding a recently commissioned EMS study. The letter outlines their concerns and objections about a potential separate 9-1-1 system.

Supervisor Zumbach asked about the impact of the two new emergency rooms in Marion and housing of Area Ambulance.

Rogers explained that the study has not been made public, but that it is more about learning what the study has to say and create dialogue with Marion leaders.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to recess at 10:40 a.m. and reconvene at 1:00 p.m. to canvass the votes for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

There was a tie for Buffalo Township Trustee between Jeffrey McGovern and Edward Duke Dusheck. Supervisor Zumbach drew a name from a hat and declared Edward Duke Dusheck the winner.

Adjournment at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED BY:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors