

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 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.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve minutes of November 20, 2024 as printed.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve claims dated 11/22/24 for payroll deduction checks #71016179 - #71016186 in the amount of \$23,921.75, ACH in the amount of \$56,956.73, an EFT wire in the amount of \$25,679.98 and a Ceridian ER Funds Trust Wire in the amount of \$2,234,448.61, for a total of \$2,341,007.07.

Jon Gallagher, Soil & Water Conservation, presented a grant contract for the Water Quality Initiative Program between Linn County Soil Conservation and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for the Linn County Agriculture and Watershed Sustainability Initiative. The award amount is \$425,500.00.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt stated how very much she appreciated the effort and opportunity on November 12th to go with him along with Soil & Water Conservation Commissioners, farmers to a farm in SE Linn County. It was a good learning experience.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., presented the Telework Policy revisions discussed last week. She noted that this applies to those working from home, not working outside of the office. The policy will be presented at the EO/DH meeting in the morning.

Chairperson Marquardt clarified that they are continuing to allow for remote work for those that it makes sense for, noting that there are exceptions in the policy to address unique circumstances.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve Telework Policy revisions.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to move the following agenda item to Wednesday: Discuss fiscal year 2025 funding requests for the Linn County Legacy and Community Attraction Grant.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to open a public hearing on the plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated total cost for the Linn County Winter Weather Shelter Improvements Project.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., stated that the Winter Shelter is located at 1017 12th AVE SW and the estimate for the safety improvements is \$1.29 million. Proof of publication presented. There were no oral or written objections.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers close public hearing.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to adopt Resolution 2024-11-181
A RESOLUTION GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL AND CONFIRMING THE PLANS,
SPECIFICATIONS, FORM OF CONTRACT, AND ESTIMATED TOTAL COST FOR
THE LINN COUNTY SECONDARY WINTER WEATHER SHELTER
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Linn County, Iowa Board of Supervisors ("Board") on November 4, 2024, approved, in preliminary form, the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated total project cost ("Contract Documents") prepared by Solum Lang Architects ("Architect") for the Linn County Secondary Road Headquarters Project ("Project"); and WHEREAS, Linn County, at the direction of the Board, published a Notice of Public Hearing on the Contract Documents in accordance with Iowa Code Section 331.305 and Iowa Code Chapter 26; and WHEREAS, the Board conducted a public hearing on the Contract Documents on November 25, 2024, in accordance with the published Notice of Public Hearing. BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVE that the Board hereby grants final approval to the Contract Documents referenced in this Resolution and confirms the prior Board action granting preliminary approval to the Contract Documents and finding the Project necessary and desirable.

Gage opened and announced six bids for the Linn County Winter Weather Shelter Improvements Project. The Board referred bid proposals to Linn County staff and the project architect for review and tabulation.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to approve the following Payroll Authorizations:

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Auditor	Joel Miller	Termination/end of term 12/31/24
Auditor	Todd Taylor	New hire – FT 01/01/25 \$135,294.43/annually

Replaces J. Miller

RECORDER'S OFFICE

Recording Specialist	Cassandra Snyder	Step increase/contract 1/30/24 56D \$26.72 – 56E \$28.16
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COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Criminal Prosecutor II	Laurie Craig	Termination/retirement 01/29/25
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FACILITIES

Custodian	Michel Mutungirwa	New hire – PT 11/25/24 10A \$19.20 + \$.25 20 hrs/wk Replaces T. Clark
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Custodian	Jonathan Christensen	New hire – PT 12/09/24 10A \$19.20 + \$.25 20 hrs/wk Replaces V. Niyonzima
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SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Detention Officer	Tanner Anderson	Termination 11/22/24
Cook	Nicholas O'Toole	End of probation 12/03/24 54A \$19.69 – 54B \$20.69

LIFTS Driver	Ron McChane	New hire – FT 12/09/24 55A \$21.24 Replaces W. Dee
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LIFTS Oper. Mgr.	Cameron McKnight	New hire – FT 12/09/24 Gr 25 \$65,527/annually Replaces J. Yuva
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JUVENILE DETENTION

Youth Worker	Christopher Gorman	Correction to name on 11/18/24 11/06/24
Youth Counselor	Miriah Ankney	Termination 11/15/24
Youth Leader	Kristi Powlistha	Resignation from FT position/transfer to on-call 11/27/24

PUBLIC HEALTH

Environ. Health Tech.	Emily Forde	New hire – FT 01/06/25 57A \$24.74 Replaces D. Midcalf
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Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to go into a closed session to discuss pending litigation, pursuant to Code of Iowa 21.5(1)(c).

VOTE:	Running-Marquardt – Aye	Rogers – Aye	Zumbach – Aye
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Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to go out of closed session.

VOTE:	Running-Marquardt – Aye	Rogers – Aye	Zumbach – Aye
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The Board recessed at 10:51 a.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m. to conduct a Public Forum for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Rogers to open Public Forum.

Sara Bearrows, Budget Director, stated that the Public Forum was scheduled this year prior to budget guidelines, objectives and initiatives being approved by the Board (which will be on Wednesday). The budget meetings with departments begin on Monday.

Randy Walker, Cedar Rapids, stated that in lieu of promises made by President Elect Donald Trump about providing for the mentally challenged and homeless, he asked if Linn County has a provision in the budget or thought about helping the homeless with housing or those that are mentally incapable of taking care of themselves. He stated that the religious community offers some halfway housing and feeds the homeless. He'd like to see the County and City interface with people of faith. He also noted that if a casino opens in Cedar Rapids, there will be more homeless.

Supervisor Rogers stated that he appreciates Mr. Walker bringing up the homeless and mentally ill. There is an overflow homeless shelter that just opened in partnership with the city of Cedar Rapids and Willis Dady (Linn County is the main funder). He recognizes that homelessness is on the rise and Linn County has incentivized landlords to rent to at-risk folks. He also stated that Linn County operates the Mental Health Access Center which is an alternative to jail and hospitals. This is a growing community with growing needs and hopefully they can provide critical services and support.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt thanked the public that attended this evening's meeting and those that are listening online. As a county, they are working to the best of their ability to have open conversations and participation in the budget process. She appreciated everyone's time tonight.

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Adjournment at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED BY:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors