

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 9:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

The Board received updates from the following Elected Officials:

Sheriff Brian Gardner – US Marshall Service contract is progressing (will start housing prisoners sometime after February 1st); they had 74 Deputy Sheriff applications and 16 showed up for testing; and having good luck with Detention Officer's working at the Jail.

Discussion continued regarding deputies leaving Linn County employment to join other law enforcement agencies. Sheriff Gardner stated that it is not happening as often since they have changed to civilian officers at the Jail.

Discussion also continued regarding the radio communication system and possible revenue generated from other communities. Sheriff Gardner stated as Chairperson of the E911 Board, they have been communicating with entities that this is coming.

Atty. Nick Maybanks – recap of changes he has made in his 3 years as County Atty. as follows: gone paperless and staying on top of technology, implemented regular listening sessions, built relationships with law enforcement agencies, in a good place with Courthouse staff as the Courthouse evolves, implemented policies to focus on violent crime, opened his line of communication with the Board of Supervisors. Maybanks continued with November and December statistics and his goal to focus on the back log of district court cases (starting with sexual abuse cases); focusing on decreasing recidivism, he is making sure that his office provides more training and mentoring; he'd like to expand their diversion programs; looking to fund some positions with the Opioid Settlement money; two new employees started this week and a new attorney starts in two weeks resulting in strong morale being fully staffed.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt expressed her sincere appreciation of Maybanks' open lines of communication and gave an example of a recent situation. She also invited Maybanks to provide feedback in preparation of an update by the Dir. of the Sixth Dist. Ia. Dept. of Corrections on Jan. 22nd

Chairperson Rogers stated that he has really enjoyed watching Maybanks in his leadership position and he doesn't envy him on the types of cases that he has to litigate. He stated that the Board interfaces with the Civil Division and how much they value the incredible work they do on behalf of the Board. They have been faced with a lot of new terrain (utility solar, wind turbines and workers comp.) and noted that they are an incredibly talented group of attorneys, and he is appreciative of their work as well as those at the Courthouse.

Recorder Carolyn Siebrecht – Recorder's office went live on 9/3/24 with a new land management software program (overall, things are going great). One component that they are excited about is Property Fraud Alert (PFA) which is a notification system freely available to the public that sends an alert if a document is recorded under the registered name. They plan to roll out an awareness push next month; one retirement this month and hope to have the position filled by the end of February; Facilities removed their boat letriever; revenue statistics, the Recorder's Assoc. is presenting legislation this month to raise recording fees \$5 per page which will go into the general fund effective January 2026; and off-road vehicle & vessel renewals:

Auditor Todd Taylor – After replacing someone that served 17 years, the first thing he did was to rehire all of his deputies. Real Estate - the Valuation Report was completed on January 2nd (before Polk & Johnson County) showing overall taxable growth of 4.27%. Accounting Serv. - W-2's will be available electronically this week and paper copies will be available by 1/31/25; 1099's are also in process and will be mailed on schedule and by the deadline. Elections - there is a Lisbon School Physical Plan Equipment Levy election on March 4th with the canvass on March 11th.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that she has known Taylor for 30 plus years and she is excited for all he is bringing to the Auditor's Office as well as the county as a whole and welcomed him with great sincerity.

Supervisor Rogers stated that he and Taylor's staff are excited to have him. There is quite the learning curve, but he knows that Taylor is up for the challenge. He recalled when he first met the Taylor's and his different working relationships beginning in 1999. He is proud that he is at Linn County now and appreciates the energy, passion and open mindedness. When there is leadership that has been in place for quite some time, staff can exhale in terms of the new Elected Official keeping deputies, reviewing processes and not making radical changes. The Board believes in every single employee and deputy who have demonstrated over the years and throughout their career to be really incredible individuals.

Supervisor Meisheid stated that she too is excited to work with Taylor and her first experience with him was through a text message from Taylor about a sign location that they shared. He said a thousand words in one picture on how they can work together.

Adjournment at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TODD E. TAYLOR, Linn County Auditor
By: Rebecca Shoop, Deputy Auditor

APPROVED BY:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors