

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025 9:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Rogers (left meeting at 10:00 a.m.), Vice Chairperson Meisheid and Supervisor Running-Marquardt. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Meisheid to approve minutes of January 24 & 27, 2025 as printed.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Exec. Dir. – budget is on target; working on rewrite of the General Assistance code; Winter Weather Shelter continues to operate (numbers are lower this year); Landlord & Tenant Initiative launched in December with 23 landlords; the Director of ECI/DECAT has been appointed to the State of Iowa design team for the regionalization of those programs; Juvenile Detention Center continues to make progress on hiring and the census has continued to be high; continue to address security concerns; the Ryan White program has received notice of intent to award the contract for the next fiscal year; the Shared Vision five year grant is coming up (will be applying again); awaiting the State Voluntary Preschool approval; Wraparound services grant they applied for children at the center has been scrapped by the State to use those funds for other initiatives by the Governor; East Central Region has many unknowns; and listed his meetings and activities. Discussion continued regarding unknowns concerning the pause in Federal Grants and how that will affect several programs.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. – list of projects that are on hold mostly due to weather conditions as well as completed projects; new Asst. Ranger has started law enforcement training; Next Era Energy donated an all-terrain wheelchair; a luminary hike was held Nov. 15 at Morgan Creek Park and hazard tree removal is underway; and distribution of the Conservation Board's Annual Report.

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Dept. Dir. – there is high anxiety regarding the pause in Federal funding which has massive implications (he has not received official word yet); Key Performance Indicators; air monitoring; clinic visits; reportable infection investigations; My Care Community; food & aquatic safety inspections; Onsite wastewater systems, water testing and well permits; Public Health annual report for year four of reaccreditation was submitted; and Common Health Coalition.

Dustin Peterson, Veteran Affairs Dir. – budget is on track; five family's received county assistance to relieve financial burdens brought on by unexpected life events; served 68 total veterans in December 2024; speaking engagements at two nursing homes; Cedar Valley Veterans Network activities; subcommittee meetings he attended as well as other events; and House Study Bills that concern him; report on customer satisfaction surveys; and in December 2024, 3,583 veterans in Linn County received \$6,664,475 in federal benefits. He also does not foresee the pause in Federal grants to be an issue.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt noted that Victoria Wims, Auditor's Office staff, has gone above and beyond regarding veterans that were going to lose their homes during the holiday seasons. His office and the Auditor's office stepped up to ensure veterans were served. She also hears from several people about Kim Pasker in his office and how she also goes above and beyond.

Phil Lowder, I.T. Dir. – budget is on track; Key Performance Indicators; and cybersecurity statistics and long-term security goals.

Adjournment at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED BY:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson

& BRANDY MEISHEID, Vice Chair
Board of Supervisors