

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025 9:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Meisheid (arriving at 9:34 a.m. due to other county business), Vice Chairperson Running-Marquardt and Supervisor Scheetz. Board members voting “AYE” unless otherwise noted.

Vice Chairperson Running-Marquardt called the meeting to order.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads.

Charlie Nichols, Planning and Development Dir. - budget is on track; Planning Intern starts in May; Building Div. is working on multiple commercial projects (New Morgan Creek Event Center, Winter Overflow Shelter, new Casey’s in Central City, Secondary Roads headquarters and Cornel’s Kings Chapel stabilization); Spring season has increased permit activity; Historic Preservation Comm. Grant Program is in the review stage; Food Systems Council hosted a food symposium in March; Planning & Zoning Comm. has four openings and Board of Adj. has two openings; Marion Airport Overlay Zoning Dist. - The City of Marion has indicated that they will shut down services June 30th, therefore, Linn County will have the option on whether to continue the Overlay Zoning Dist.; permit statistics; and Nuclear Power Plant tax questions.

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir. - budget is on track; continue meeting with departments to push procuring green/sustainable products; postal summary report; and listed purchasing projects he is working on.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt wanted to publicly congratulate Hutchins for his years of service. He is a huge part of the infrastructure of county departments, and he has built the purchasing and mailroom from nothing. The County is better served because he is a part of it.

Steve Estenson, Risk Management Dir. – working on updating and communicating emergency action plans (weather and fire); worked with county and EMA staff regarding programming led by the State; worked with Facilities Manager re: damages and vandalism at Overflow Shelter (CRPD have been notified); working on surveillance coverage for damage at Public Health; they see more property use requests this time of year; and he was asked to speak on the Leadership Iowa panel on May 1st re: disaster recovery and resilience.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt commended Estenson for being involved in so many things. She had no idea just how much time he spends working with various county departments. He is a true leader and Linn County has benefited from that.

Chairperson Meisheid arrived at this time.

Joi Alexander, Communications Dir. - quarterly goal setting (Boards and Commissions vacancies and appointments); Editorial Calendar; list of current products (Crisis Communications Plan, National Co. Government Month, How-to video for Planning & Development online applications, Secondary Road Dept. communications and Social Media Report); ongoing long term projects (Dept. of Justice website accessibility, Website redesign, Mental Health Access Center campaign & graphics and email signature vendor); and “Contact Us” forms (28 inquiries last month).

Adjournment at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors