

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025 9:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Meisheid called the meeting to order.

The Board heard updates from the following Elected Officials:

Brian Gardner, Sheriff – working with Erin Foster and the Mental Health Access Center trying to streamline the process regarding the ties with the jail; upcoming Deputy Sheriff testing; upcoming retirements this month and next (have been successful hiring Civil Detention Officers); US Marshall count was up yesterday and minimal ICE and Johnson County inmates.

Supervisor Scheetz did a ride along and toured the jail. He thanked Gardner and his staff for the professionalism they carry themselves with.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Gardner for being available even while on vacation. She also appreciates that he attends these update meetings. Gardner and Col. Riniker have been valuable with talks of the nuclear plant coming back online.

Nick Maybanks, County Attorney – caseload statistics including an uptick in cases being referred for financial exploitation and fraud; felony caseloads are getting to a reasonable amount; staff member attended conference for endangered children in Des Moines; disappointing news with the Dept. of Corrections with the East Central Region regarding the pretrial Mental Health Diversion Program that has been in effect for at least 10 years and will end June 30th; wrote letter of support on behalf of legal aide to continue the expungement clinic; received approval for summer intern funding; visited the 18th Street storage facility; their office is receiving lots of open records requests lately (a trend and a drain on their resources).

Supervisor Running-Marquardt questioned if there are any community indicators regarding death and violent crimes and Maybanks responded that partnerships with police departments have helped. She thanked Maybanks for attending these updates noting how important it is for the public and the Board to stay connected.

Dawn Froese, Deputy Recorder – finished office reconfiguration including signs (a lot of positive feedback from their customers); passports continue to trend higher; coordinated with Communications Dept. for property fraud notification (1,200 people signed up); increase in vital records; lots of public records requests.

Supervisor Meisheid highlighted an opportunity for the Recorder's Office to work with the Communications Dept. for passport renewals (didn't realize renewals could be done in their building).

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that there are a lot of reasons why people are getting passports, especially children. Froese and her staff have gone above and beyond to serve the people of Linn County and Running-Marquardt thanked them for their grace and flexibility.

Todd Taylor, Auditor – April 30th was the deadline for all local entity adopted budgets (3 cities had to republish their 2nd hearing); legislation session is not finished yet with some pending bills including the property tax bill; completed the April 29th special election; have hired someone for Deputy Brown's previous position (will start in their office in July).

Supervisor Meisheid expressed her appreciation for pulling off a special election with not a lot of time and professionalism.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt echoes Meisheid's comments. They are fortunate to have an Auditor that was a part of a special election himself years ago. She thanked Taylor for being at the updates this morning. Running-Marquardt would also like to talk more about celebrating Deputy Shoop's tenure and 50 years of service to Linn County as that is important to them.

Supervisor Scheetz apologized to Election's staff for having to work overtime to conduct the recent special election.

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Adjournment at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TODD E. TAYLOR, Linn County Auditor
By: Amanda Brown, Deputy Auditor

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors