

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025 10:00 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.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve minutes of July 30, 2025 as printed.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve claims dated 8/1/25 for payroll deduction Check No's. 71018594 to 71018599 in the amount of \$10,516.39, ACH in the amount of \$22,933.14, an EFT wire in the amount of \$27,950.86 and a Ceridian ER Funds Trust Wire in the amount of \$2,290,378.78, for a total of \$2,351,779.17.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to open public hearing on a request to rezone 3.48 acres located at 3301 Lewis Bottoms Road, Palo, Iowa, from Renewable Energy Overlay in the Agricultural District (RE-AG) to Agricultural (AG).

Mike Tertinger, Planning & Development, stated that there was a typo in the publication and it should be 2.21 acres and not 3.48 acres. The Planning and Zoning Commission along with Planning and Development recommends for approval. Proof of publication was presented. There were no oral or written objections. The existing sliver of property is in the Duane Arnold Solar Project boundary so they are rezoning to remove that overlay to align with the rest of their ag zoned property.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to close public hearing.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to amend the First Consideration of a request to rezone 3.48 acres to 2.21 acres located at 3301 Lewis Bottoms Road, Palo, Iowa, from Renewable Energy Overlay in the Agricultural District (RE-AG) to Agricultural (AG).

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve as amended First Consideration of a request to rezone 2.21 acres located at 3301 Lewis Bottoms Road, Palo, Iowa, from Renewable Energy Overlay in the Agricultural District (RE-AG) to Agricultural (AG).

Tim Carson, Exec. Dir. of East Central Iowa Workforce Development Board, presented a 28E agreement between Linn County and East Central Iowa Local Workforce Development Area regarding the shared liability of the member counties. Carson explained the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) system and how funding passes through to support the entire Workforce Development Area with training and services. This is a joint liability agreement relating to costs that funnel down from the federal government and the CEO Board is responsible for those dollars.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that legal reviewed this document several months ago. The county is statutorily obligated to belong to a region to provide workforce deliverables, and this region does really good things. She added that Carson does an outstanding job as their Director as he has worked through a lot of issues and problems with professionalism and grace. Running-Marquardt noted that Mike Sadler is another member of the board that is in the audience today as well.

Carson gave an overview of the types of services they provide including preparation to enter the workforce with barriers for youth, under employed adults are given proper skills and training, and providing services to help those laid off to find other employment. These are all done in the best interest of building a lifeline to be successful. He added that of the 7 county area for the agreement, 3 have been signed and submitted so far.

Supervisor Scheetz questioned why an amendment was needed and Carson responded that people have changed roles over time and to adjust the timeline as the language in the agreement did not align.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Cara Matteson, Sustainability Dir., discussed the use of \$135,000 to \$150,000 in FY25 carryover funds for 3 separate specific water quality projects. Aquifer vulnerability mapping that will highlight areas of the county based upon various parameters such as groundwater recharge potential, containment risk and typical groundwater usage. Contaminant plume map that will compile known groundwater plumes (bodies of contaminated groundwater) to map the extent of the plumes and any overlapping impacts. Surface water sampling assessment to compile available spatial coverage, summarize water quality factors and provide recommendations for filling any data gaps, among other sustainable management recommendations. These studies were vetted by the county's internal watershed coordination team. She is requesting that rollover funds be approved and included with the fall amendment for FY26.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that these 3 studies will help the county to prioritize and guide their work with scientific data. She also noted that a similar study was done in Johnson County.

Supervisor Scheetz stated that he is excited that the county is able to have more data and research to use as a guide on how best to handle this. He is glad that Running-Marquardt took the lead.

Supervisor Meisheid stated that this is one time money but it's important since this money will guide what they do in the future and will help shape the direction they go. She is excited to move forward.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to authorize the use of \$135,000 to \$150,000 in FY25 carryover funds for water quality projects.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt discussed the development of a Linn County Comprehensive Water Quality Management and Mitigation Plan. She stated that many county departments already do work related to water quality in various capacities including Conservation, Public Health, Planning and Development and Sustainability. When they bring those staff members together in a more standardized fashion and under a shared goal she hopes to break out of the silos and allow for better collaboration and planning moving forward. She is excited to gather the data from the studies and to come up with a comprehensive plan.

Matteson stated that the plan will cover all aspects of water resources including topics related to water quality, available surface and groundwater resources, flooding concerns, aquifer management and more. The plan will be further informed by the data gathered as part of the 3 new water quality studies to be commissioned on the county's behalf. The comprehensive plan will align with the county's goals and identify critical needs to ensure that countywide strategic outcomes are being met. The 3 datasets are examples of the studies that will assist in the process.

Daniel Gibbins, Conservation Deputy Dir., stated that this is really good timing and a great working group. There is public land for Conservation, but the strategic focus will be on all of Linn County. Linn County is well seeded to be a leader with this plan.

Supervisor Scheetz stated that people statewide are asking questions daily and it's important to do all they can at the local level. He is extremely grateful and asked for a timeline. Matteson stated that a loose timeline is 6 months to 1 year for the plan as they must wait for the studies and then build from there.

Supervisor Meisheid extended her appreciation to all the departments that are involved.

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir., discussed carrying over \$9,100 from Planning and Development's FY25 operational budget to FY26 for education and training. He would like to attend two conferences that are out of their normal scope regarding data centers and nuclear power. His office is working on a data center ordinance and also the possibility of the power plant restarting.

Supervisor Meisheid stated that she is supportive of these items as the more Nichols can learn the more they can learn.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve carrying over \$9,100 from Planning and Development's FY25 operational budget to FY26 for education and training.

Daniel Gibbins, Conservation Deputy Dir., presented a resolution Setting a Public Hearing to Dispose of Interest in Real Property and Authorize the Granting of an Electric Line Easement to Interstate Power and Light Company. This is an underground utility agreement for access to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to adopt Resolution 2025-8-120

SET PUBLIC HEARING TO DISPOSE OF INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, is empowered under the authority of §331.361, Code of Iowa, to dispose of the right, title, interest, estate, and claim of Linn County, Iowa, in real property, and

WHEREAS, Notice is Hereby Given: That there is now on file in the Linn County Conservation Department at 10260 Morris Hills Road an electric line easement agreement between Linn County and Interstate Power and Light Company, an Iowa Corporation, for the grant of an easement with respect to property legally described as:

The South Ten (10) feet of Lot 14, AP 372 to the Town of Hiawatha, Linn County, Iowa, as described in the Tax Sale Deed recorded on June 2, 1983, in Book 1849 Page 190 as Document number 18486 in the office of the Recorder in and for Linn County, Iowa. Located in the Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of Section Thirty-Two (32) Township Eighty-Four (84) Range Seven (7) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Linn County, Iowa.

WHEREAS, Interstate Power and Light Company, an Iowa Corporation, desires an easement with respect to the above described real estate for purposes of electric line placement, as described in attached as Exhibit A, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, this date met in lawful session that a public hearing shall be held for the purpose of determining whether Linn County, Iowa, will vacate all interest Linn County, Iowa, may have in the above-described real estate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, this date met in lawful session that a public hearing shall be held for the purpose of determining whether Linn County, Iowa, will grant the above easement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said hearing shall be held August 18, 2025, at 10:00 am, in the formal Board Room on the lower level of the Jean Oxley Linn County Public Service Center, 935 2nd St SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the above stated purpose and that notice of the time and place of said public hearing shall be published in accordance with §331.305, Code of Iowa.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve Employment Change Roster (detail is available upon request).

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to reappoint Brandy Meisheid to the Early Childhood Iowa Board of Directors for a three-year term, ending June 30, 2028.

VOTE: Running-Marquardt & Scheetz – Aye Meisheid – Abstain

Adjournment at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors