

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 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.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve minutes of August 11, 2025 as printed.

The Board heard updates from the following Elected Officials:

Brad Ketels, County Engineer – discussed FY26 budget allocations; progress update on new Headquarters building with a hopeful completion date of May 2026; MidAmerican Pipeline project expected to be completed this fall; Covington Road Bridge replacement project expected to be completed by early October; working on agreement with QTS Data Center due to the usage of the roads (specifically Maple Grove Rd), also working with Quarry on an agreement.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt requests that Ketels keep the Board up to date with the contracts as they need to be signed by next week.

Ketels continued with his update: work continues on the bridge at 76th Ave and Tissel Hollow; N Center Point Rd bridge project expected to be completed by October; Roadside crew conducted a controlled burn of the prairie plantings in the center of the roundabouts along County Home Rd. and trimmed roadside vegetation.

Carter Baldwin, LIFTS Dir. – staffing update, 3 of 5 positions have been recently filled; waiting to hear back from HHS on Medicaid waiver application; updated radios.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt offered to have one of the Supervisors contact HHS about the pending Medicaid waiver application.

Baldwin continued with his update: community outreach efforts, recently gave a presentation at the annual Iowa Public Transportation Association (IPTA) conference, will be attending the Marion High School Mental Health and Disability Resource Fair in September.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy and Administration – no current vacancies, went over policy improvement and creation progress; working with the Auditor's Office on the travel policy; discussed Redemption of Tax Sale Certificates.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that a citizen reached out about buying back their debt on a sold property and requested that a policy be created outlining how to move forward on that issue.

Gage continued on with his update: requests for competitive quotation procedure and the state law requirements for bidders; gave an overview on current training offerings noting that Linn County applied to hold training sessions from the Iowa Public Information Board.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt inquired if leeway is being given for the 90 day grace period since there is no defined process and Boards were recently filled on July 1.

Supervisor Meisheid expressed appreciation for Gage's work into bringing these training sessions to Linn County.

Gage continued: current construction project at the Winter Weather Shelter with construction expected to be completed by October.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt asked if there was room in the ARPA budget to stub in hookups for a washer and dryer at the shelter.

Gage discussed the Courthouse renovation project which is expected to be completed by September in the hopes for the 100 year celebration; meeting with West Bertram Fire Department regarding automatic aid with Marion Fire, Mount Vernon & Cedar Rapids Fire Departments.

Supervisor Meisheid thanked the fire departments for working together to bring down 911 response times.

Supervisors Scheetz and Running-Marquardt thanked both Gage and Supervisor Meisheid for their work on this project.

Gage continued: Economic and Community Development Grant applications were recently received and further discussion will be held at a future meeting.

Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir. – too early to determine any fiscal year budget issues; fully staffed; carry-over requests should be handed in soon; currently preparing for the FY25 audit with Eide Bailly; set quarterly goal for LC3.

Lisa Powell, Human Resources Dir. – Belong and Involvement Group (BIG) meeting to discuss action plans for improving recruitment and retention; GAPM Survey going out to employees this fall.

Powell continued: upcoming assimilation workshops; FY25 HR budget finished under budget; finished the recent job description update project; upcoming compensation survey; Metro Studios has started filming for upcoming Linn County commercials; annual Health & Safety Fair scheduled for Thursday, September 18th; flex benefit plan recently changed due to a retirement with former vendor; wellness program is at the highest it has ever been at 85%; EAP benefits have increased and gave explanation of what EAP is.

Adjournment at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TODD E. TAYLOR, Linn County Auditor
Ana Brunscheen, Executive Assistant

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors