

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Wednesday, September 24, 2025

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM at the Harris Linn County Public Health Building, 1020 6th St SE, Cedar Rapids, IA in the 2nd floor conference room 222.

PRESENT: Aaron Tarchinski-Horizons
Alora Kraus- Feed Iowa First
Hailee Sandberg- ISU Extension
Brittany Rohling- Grand Living
Jacqueline Montoya- LCPH
Gina Mobley- New Pioneer-VIRTUAL
Drew Erickson- Rodale Institute
Mariah Andrews-Prairiemoons-VIRTUAL
Stephanie Schrader- City of Cedar Rapids
Eva Donnelly- ISU Extension-VIRTUAL
Kelly Ridenour-Giurato- United Way

ABSENT: Kim Guardado-HACAP
Karla Hogan- CRCSD
Emmaly Renshaw-IVRCD
Sarah Blais- NewBo City Market

OTHERS

PRESENT: Ashley Balius- Linn County Community Services
Deanna Robinson- ECICOG
Leo Broughton-Resident
Grace Nieland- The Gazette
Sam Tokpa- LCPH Intern

STAFF: Mike Tertinger- Senior Planner
Amy Speed-Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Sandberg and seconded by Rohling, to approve the August 28, 2025, minutes. All members present voted yes.

Public Comments:

Broughton spoke about making some arrangements with the City. He has a meeting on Monday with the park board to talk about using the regenerative system. Erickson to attend and Kraus may as well.

Budget Update:

Tertinger gave the budget update. The balance is \$4,000.00

Old Business:

FARE Grant Video Update: Erickson informed the Council that Chris at HACAP has gotten more footage and some voiceovers. The video should be able to be previewed at the next meeting and then presented to the Board of Supervisors.

FSC Meeting Day/Time Discussion: Erickson relayed that he wants to stick with the 3:00-4:30 PM time slot on the 4th Wednesday of each month and to be in Room 333.

Vegetable Workshop Update: Erickson brought handouts for Council members to pass along. Kraus went over the details again and so far, they have registered 18.

New Business:

Strategic Plan Data Research Update: Robinson presented a power point on the data collected so far. The Council asked some more clarifying questions regarding what does local mean? Discussion was had on gathering numbers for food waste and composting. Ridenour-Giurato mentioned that the DNR has a comprehensive report that is food waste related. Erickson asked Robinson to look into the capacity of Mount Trashmore for composting food waste to keep it from going to the landfill.

Open Discussion: None

Next Meeting:

October 22, 2025- 3:00-4:30 PM

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy Speed", written over a horizontal line.

Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Approved,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Drew Erickson", written over a horizontal line.

Drew Erickson, Chair