

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025 10:57 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center for a joint meeting with the Linn County Conservation Board. Present: Chairperson Meisheid, Vice Chairperson Running-Marquardt and Supervisor Scheetz and Conservation Board members, Dennis Goemaat and Daniel Gibbins.

Larry Weber, Dir. of the University of Iowa IIHR-Hydrosience and Engineering Dept., gave a PowerPoint presentation with updates on the Iowa Water Quality Network. He explained that money that supported the sensor network for years has been decreasing since 2023 when a bill was signed to reallocate funds. The Polk County Board of Supervisors voted to approve \$200,000 in funding to support the sensor network last week (will need about \$600,000 per year to continue operating). State funding that has supported the network will end in July 2026 and without another source of funding the researchers will have to remove nearly all the sensors around the state.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that the Board will look at the county's budget and see what they can do as they do not have ARPA funding remaining to designate for the sensor network. She did suggest the possibility of the county's Conservation bond.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir., added that the best way forward is for Weber to send both the Board of Supervisors and the Conservation Board a formal proposal to be reviewed.

Supervisor Scheetz suggested requesting financial support from companies that are building data centers in the region and Weber said that has been on his radar.

Chairperson Meisheid added that Supervisor Scheetz' suggestion is brilliant. They need to look at their budget and it will also allow time to look into the bond as well. She feels a continuation of this conversation is warranted and thanked Weber for the timeline.

Adjournment at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors