

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 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 October 21 & 22, 2025 as printed.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve claims dated 10/24/25 for payroll deduction Check Nos. 71019361 to 71019365 in the amount of \$13,070.37, ACH in the amount of \$63,772.00, an EFT wire in the amount of \$884,019.44 and a Ceridian ER Funds Trust Wire in the amount of \$2,288,895.33, for a total of \$3,249,757.14

Ryan Anderson, Parks & Rec. Dir. for City of Center Point, gave a Presentation in support of their grant application for the fiscal year 2026 Legacy and Community Attraction Fund and highlighted the Wakema Park Renovation project.

Chairperson Meisheid thanked Anderson for his presentation and appreciates everything they do. She is incredibly proud of the city of Center Point.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Anderson for his presentation as well.

Supervisor Scheetz also expressed his appreciation noting that he has played pickleball in some smaller towns and is excited for this project.

Curt Logan, Design Engineer, presented a Road Use Agreement between Linn County and QTS Cedar Rapids, I, LLC, establishing conditions for the use of County roads during the construction and development of a data center campus generally located at 76th Avenue and Edgewood Road SW, Linn County. He explained that road use agreements are to protect and save county roads that get beaten up due to additional traffic. The agreement is for \$4 per truck per route. Construction projects increase traffic with trucks that have heavy loads among other vehicles. The agreement states that they can use the county's roads, but it would cost taxpayers money to fix the roads when the project is done, so they need to pay to use the county's roads. This agreement also increases public safety for everyone.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt added that this agreement is a really great thing. They have had many discussions and meetings regarding it. The agreement should have been signed several months ago before the project started. They are working with QTS on this so in the future both sides will have a better understanding to protect the taxpayer's interest. This agreement in place shows that they care about the quality of life of their residents in Linn County and holds those responsible for any damage that is caused to the county's roads. She looks forward to a better partnership with QTS moving forward. Running-Marquardt added that legal has reviewed this agreement and thanked Logan for all his work on it.

Chairperson Meisheid stated that although they are thrilled to have this agreement signed to protect their assets in their roads, it's not lost on them that paved roads can lead to higher speeds and they've taken some action. They want to ensure that they are assessing the safety of the residents on those roads and the speeds of those trucks, and they will continue to monitor it.

Logan added that they are doing speed studies out there to determine speed limits.

Supervisor Scheetz thanked Supervisor Running-Marquardt and county staff for working diligently on this agreement and putting pressure on them to get this done while QTS staff have taken their time getting this completed. Residents and taxpayers are at the top of their mind and making sure they are taken care of. The county is looking out for the residents and ensuring that private companies aren't taking advantage of them.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign a Road Use Agreement between Linn County and QTS Cedar Rapids, I, LLC, establishing conditions for the use of County roads during the construction and development of a data center campus generally located at 76th Avenue and Edgewood Road SW, Linn County.

Rhonda Betsworth, Deputy Auditor, discussed providing a meal at the annual Township Officer Training not to exceed \$10/attendee (maximum of \$780). The training was held during the day last year and a lot of people could not attend due to other jobs, so they are trying out an evening time this year. They would like to provide some food for those that may be coming straight from work as it is a 1.5-hour training session. The Finance Dir. recommended bringing this to the Board for a review of public purpose.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Betsworth for working with Budget and Finance to ensure this meets the public purpose. Food related purchases do have some gray areas. She expressed her appreciation for the Auditor's Office staff. This serves as a good reminder for the public that the Board

and others are watching things like this. They are doing their best to be good stewards even in cases like this.

Chairperson Meisheid stated that it is tricky with purchasing a meal for training. There are a lot of people that serve on various boards, and they cannot do something for one and not for the others. She is thankful for those who serve on boards and commissions, and she is always advocating for people to serve. Meisheid is supportive and feels this meal is appropriate in this instance.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve providing a meal at the annual Township Officer Training not to exceed \$10/attendee (maximum of \$780).

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir., discussed the use of \$12,520 for data center zoning ordinance review services. He is requesting the funds to hire a 3rd party consultant to review language for data center zoning noting that these are massive projects. They would like to make sure the ordinance is correct the first time as the impact is for decades to come. This does involve 2 consulting services and is to leverage their knowledge. It is an unplanned expense; however, the amount will pay itself back over and over.

Chairperson Meisheid asked where the \$12,520 is coming from and Nichols responded that it is from a pot of money for consulting services that is in the Board's budget. Meisheid continued noting that Linn County wants no stone left unturned as this is new and they want to ensure they are covering all their bases. There are natural resources, neighbors nearby, sound pollution, light pollution, etc. that need to be addressed along with other things they haven't thought of yet. They want to make sure they are doing everything to protect their residents. She appreciates Nichols' work on this.

Supervisor Scheetz echoed Meisheid's comments noting that there are billion-dollar projects and uncharted territory for the county. This is important for the taxpayers, and he is very supportive.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt highlighted an article in the Gazette Sunday regarding water and data centers. An RFP will be going out to complete an assessment and baseline and they asked Google to pay for it. The current data centers are not in unincorporated Linn County. They would like to have the ordinance data center specific as it is not a regular business development and shouldn't fall under ordinances that would cover normal business development. This will be a team effort moving forward and it will be valuable to have other eyes looking at it as well. She thanked all those staff members involved and is very excited to have a model ordinance for Linn County and other counties.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve the use of \$12,520 for data center zoning ordinance review services.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt discussed an Agreement, retroactive to October 22, 2025, by and among the East Central Iowa Workforce Development Board (ECIWDB), the CEO of the ECIWDB, and Kirkwood Community College to establish conflict of interest, organizational firewall, and monitoring and oversight procedures and fiscal and programmatic controls. Board members are statutorily obligated to belong to Boards and Commissions, and she was elected for the ECIWDB. There is no financial burden on them. She noted that legal has reviewed this document.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Scheetz to approve and authorize Supervisor Running-Marquardt to sign an Agreement, retroactive to October 22, 2025, by and among the East Central Iowa Workforce Development Board (ECIWDB), the CEO of the ECIWDB, and Kirkwood Community College to establish conflict of interest, organizational firewall, and monitoring and oversight procedures and fiscal and programmatic controls.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to open public hearing to determine whether Linn County will vacate and convey to unto Ryan S. Stephenson & Rebecca A. Rudnicki whatever interest Linn County may have in a portion of the Original Town of Paris located in the SW 1/4 SW 1/4, Section 20, T. 86N., R. 06W., more particularly described as follows: All that portion of the alley lying between Lot 6 and Lot 7, Fractional Block 1 of said Town of Paris. Said vacated area = 2,178 sf or 0.05 acres more or less, subject to easements and restrictions of record or use.

Curtis Logan, Design Engineer, stated that this is an undeveloped alley and it meets setback requirements. Everyone is in agreement with this vacation. Proof of publication was presented. There were no oral or written objections.

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

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to amend the agenda item from public hearing for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article IV, Plumbing Installation to public hearing for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article V, Plumbing Installation.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to open public hearing for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article V, Plumbing Installation.

Luke Maloney, Building Official, stated that the change is due to going from the 2021 version to the 2024 version to keep in line with the state standards. It also involves the merging of the Appeals Board. Proof of publication was presented. There were no oral or written objections.

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

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve upon First Consideration for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article V, Plumbing Installation.

Maloney also presented First Consideration for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article IV, Mechanical Installation. There have been no oral or written objections.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve upon First Consideration for an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 105, Article IV, Mechanical Installation.

Motion by Meisheid, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve to approve payroll authorizations (detail is available upon request).

Adjournment at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors