

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025 9:07 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Vice Chairperson Running-Marquardt and Supervisor Scheetz. Absent: Chairperson Meisheid (personal business). Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Supervisor Scheetz called the meeting to order.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Executive Dir. – budget update; General Assistance (GA): working on strategic planning for Linn County Food Systems Council; GA service line items are running over budget; Winter Weather Shelter opens November 15th; federal government shutdown will affect their programs; East Central Region Mental Health: difficult to get information out and have been challenges coming out of HHS; ECI/DECAT: waiting on legislation to find out if they are moving to districts; Juvenile Detention: working on security updates for the facility; first Support Team Meeting took place; Access Center: trial run of emergency transportation; working on strategic planning.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. – Morgan Creek Trail project will be complete by the end of the year; Pinicon Ridge Mountain Bike Trail anticipated completion in 2026; Morgan Creek Park Wetland construction to begin in spring of 2026; Grant Wood Trail (Paralta Rd to Springville Rd) bids to be let; Morgan Creek Lodge construction; campgrounds closed last week; tree removal to begin; playground shade shelter at the Morgan Creek playground has been replaced; mountain bike event is scheduled at Pinicon Ridge Park the weekend of October 31st; thanked the Board for the water discussion yesterday.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Goemaat for dedicating his life to Linn County and all the work he leads, including the water quality initiatives. She appreciates his willingness to be a great team player and for the quality of life for people in Linn County.

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Department Dir. – fall vaccination season (call 319-892-6000 to make an appointment at 1020 6th St SE, Cedar Rapids); thanked the Board for participating in the joint Board of Health meeting last week - Supervisor Scheetz thanked Dwivedi for working with him, others, and lobbyists on the legislative priorities; new monitoring site near McKinley STEAM Academy is now operational; identified unpermitted dewatering wells and discharge violations at a data center construction project - Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Dwivedi's staff for their excellent work with that project; Food Safety inspections; childhood blood lead tests were analyzed; Chronic Illness Prevention Management with Healthy Eating and Active Living Workgroup integration; mobile health unit fall 2025 tours are underway; promoting Mental Health and Removing Barriers workgroup; participated in the Stand Down Event; update on measles cases; well water data mapping initiative.

Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation – federal government shutdown closed the building they are housed in and have temporarily relocated to the Sustainability Office; in the process of fall cover crop installation utilizing state incentives; Urban Water Quality Initiative Grant Application is currently open; construction continues on the E Ave urban stormwater oxbow development in cooperation with the City of Cedar Rapids; Abode Construction continues progress towards installation of infiltration based practices on multiple sites within Marion and Cedar Rapids; New Pioneer Co-op is moving forward with plans to renovate existing bio-retention systems and establish native prairie systems at their Center Point Rd location; Hoth Flats Addition to Marion seeks assistance with future underground detention storage and permeable paver system; fall survey work begins for upcoming batch and build; Linn Co-op continues implementation of cover crop batch program; water testing data from 2025 summer testing program has been received.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that the Soil and Water Commissioners have been doing great work for decades and they bring relationship with agriculture to the community. Without Gallagher they would not be half as good, and she sincerely appreciates his work.

Dustin Peterson, Veteran Services Dir. – budget update; three Linn County veterans received county assistance in September; Cedar Valley Veterans Network event held October 1st; staff attended the Springville Iowa American Legion Post 331 open house; setting up a resource table at the Veterans Day Appreciation lunch at CRUSH of Iowa in November; his office has not suffered any repercussions from the government shut down; staff members attended Iowa Dept. of Veterans Affairs training in October; elected to serve as the Iowa Assoc. of Veterans Services 1st Vice Pres.; Governor and IDVA Commandant are concerned with Iowa's ranking compared to other states (used flawed data from the VA); Veteran of the Month has not received the number of nominations that were expected; shared good news story from interaction at the Health and Safety Fair; 3,714 Linn County veterans received federal benefits in August, 2025.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt noted that today is Ron and Don Tyne's (previous Director) birthdays and wishes them both a happy birthday and thanked them for their service to the country and Linn County.

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Charles Struck, Asst. IT Dir. – budget update; one staff vacancy; October was cybersecurity month - highlighted training that was held for various county departments and upcoming training; meeting was held regarding audio/visual issues in board rooms.

Adjournment at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

SAMI SCHEETZ, Supervisor
Board of Supervisors