

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 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.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Exec. Dir., FY25 expenditures and income are below budget expectations; recent uptick in assistance applications as a result of SNAP benefits being delayed; Winter Weather Shelter is now open; discussed continuing challenges from transitioning from HHS to ECR; Ryan White program is in the middle of open enrollment and ensuring that clients have insurance coverage; staffing at Juvenile Detention continues to be a challenge; Mental Health Access Center (MHAC) recently met with Johnson County Supervisors to share their processes and funding information.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir., parks are readying for the upcoming changing weather; Morgan Creek Trail from 42nd St. to the Cedar River is now complete and open for use; shared updates on various projects including the Pinicon Ridge Mountain Bike Trail, Morgan Creek Park Wetland, and Morgan Creek Park Lodge; discussed popularity of recent events.

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Dept. Dir., discussed vaccination and community outreach projects; unable to find a viable candidate for Environmental Public Health Division Manager position so Public Health is forfeiting the position, instead restoring funding for their department and reinstating funding for a Resource Coordinator position, which was surrendered two budget cycles ago; food assistance is in high demand; met with the Health and Human Services Dir. to discuss legislative actions, contractual agreements, and the DOGE report; presentation from Anne Carter on Promoting Mental Health and Removing Barriers project.

Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation Dept. Head, discussed survey work and meeting with landowners; trying to wrap up projects before the frost causes challenges; shared effects of the recent shutdown and moving their office to the Jean Oxley Building temporarily; this has been a good cover crop year between the weather and use of the program; met with Eastern Iowa Airport regarding their crop ground to look at opportunities for a proposed wetland system on site; recently had two public service announcements asking farmers to put off fall tillage until the spring, and received positive feedback from the public.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Gallagher for his invaluable leadership in all of these projects.

Dustin Peterson, Veteran Services Dir., discussed FY26 budget utilization; served 141 local veterans in October 2025; drastically reduced wait time for veterans who call in looking for assistance; shared highlights from recent Cedar Valley Veterans Network event; next career networking event is December 3, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at Big Grove Brewery in Cedar Rapids; a commissioner has been selected to fill the vacant seat for the remainder of the term ending on June 30, 2026; working with a Cedar Falls veteran to establish a Veterans Network in that area; temporary SNAP assistance has concluded.

Adjournment at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRANDY Z. MEISHEID, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors