

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026 1:30 P.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Running-Marquardt and Vice Chairperson Scheetz. Absent: Supervisor Meisheid (personal business). Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted. Also present: Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir.; Sara Bearrows, Budget Dir.; Kristen Huffman, C.R. Service Area Manager; Todd Taylor, Auditor; Rhonda Betsworth, Deputy Auditor; Brad Ketels, Engineer; and Nichole Brown, Financial Analyst.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt called the meeting to order to review the proposed fiscal year 2027 budget for State Welfare, Auditor, and Engineer.

State Welfare – Bearrows stated that the budget is under the Board of Supervisors guidelines by \$5,300 due to a reduction in the telephone chargeback.

Huffman gave a summary of her department's statistics, accomplishments and changes within the past year. Huffman will email department statistics to Bearrows who will incorporate those as a KPI (Key Performance Indicator) going forward.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve State Welfare's FY27 preliminary appropriations in the amount of \$291,957 and revenues in the amount of \$96,345.

Auditor – Bearrows stated that the administration budget meets the Board of Supervisors guidelines. The FY27 elections budget is compared to the FY23 actual budget and is under guidelines by \$60,085 due to changes in contract labor. There are no local elections budgeted in FY27.

Betsworth highlighted numbers in her department's budget including staffing, elections, and revenue that is generated from procurement cards, liquor licenses, and potential election fees.

Taylor then presented his department's KPI.

Supervisors Running-Marquardt and Scheetz both expressed appreciation to Taylor, Betsworth, and their entire team noting that they do a lot of work behind the scenes for the county.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve Auditor's FY27 preliminary appropriations in the amount of \$3,375,416 and revenues in the amount of \$46,500.

Engineer – Jindrich stated that the budget meets guidelines. The Engineer has their own funds so they are allowed to make decisions on cuts to conform to the revenues that they have.

Brown gave an overview of her department's budget highlighting challenges, grants and construction expenditures.

Ketels discussed planned new equipment and the KPI for his department.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt commended both Ketels and Brown on the work that their department does with all the variables that are thrown at them. Running-Marquardt has received many compliments from citizens on the work that the Engineer's Department does.

Supervisor Scheetz thanked both Brown and Ketels for walking the Board through this very intense budget. He has also heard very kind words regarding the Engineer Department's work and employees.

Jindrich added there was an excellent audit recently and Brown did a great job with record keeping.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve Engineer's FY27 preliminary appropriations in the amount of \$26,234,540 and revenues in the amount of \$17,844,830.

Adjournment at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors