

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026 10:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Running-Marquardt called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Circe Stumbo, 3839 Cottage Grove Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, expressed her appreciation for the importance of the water study for the data centers as well as her appreciation for the new ordinance that was created and passed. The ordinance is unique. She is hopeful that they will see reports around the economic impact of data centers as there is a lot of interest in what she feels will be a short-term impact for jobs and other things. Stumbo is curious about the positions that will be from their community that are hired. The Gazette had an article Sunday that talked about how often those positions are not only short lived but folks coming to the community from external areas.

Ayla Boylen, 3106 E Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, stated that the UN has now published a study claiming that they are at a global water bankruptcy that will harm billions of people. Globally there are human impacts on their water, and it will be very difficult to come back from. She urges the Board to take this very seriously as they move forward. She asked them to also look past short-term impacts with a large influx of jobs for a year or two. She supports union jobs, but Elected Officials are able to support them without long term sacrifices. There is no such thing as closed loop system in the case she keeps hearing used. Boylen explained the process of water that is then being contaminated with anticorrosives and then the blow down. Iowa's water quality is already scary without the added influx of chemicals. Water treatment facilities are not able to filter out the chemicals. She asked the Board to consider personal testimonies from people in other communities that have been impacted by data centers. Do the short-term impacts outweigh the long-lasting impacts of these decisions. Boylen hopes the Board will be motivated by more than the economic impact. These data centers care about one thing only and that is money.

NellMarie Barrios, resident of Cedar Rapids, voiced her concerns in opposition for data centers in their community. Many of them are deeply uncomfortable with their presence in their community. Multiple communities have reported being negatively impacted by data centers built in their areas and they do not want to be next. She gave examples of other states and negative impacts due to the noise levels of data centers as well as issues of extremely low water pressure and sediment buildup. She appreciates the county's attempts to minimize the impacts to the community with the ordinance and studies being done, it doesn't give comfort knowing that 40 wells were already illegally drilled on one of the data center sites. How many more corners will be cut in the future as a fine does not reverse the damage that was already done. They have treated their planet poorly already and she hopes they can make up for that and not disrespect it further with data centers being built.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve minutes of February 25, 2026 as printed.

Motion by Scheetz, seconded by Meisheid to approve accounts payable checks dated 03/04/26 #71020609 to 71020711 in the amount of \$336,340.92; and ACH in the amount of \$2,312,364.37; for a total of \$2,648,705.29 and voids totaling \$1,487.73.

Motion by Scheetz, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve segregated claim for Brandy Meisheid in the amount of \$60.00 (travel reimbursement).

VOTE: Running-Marquardt & Scheetz – Aye Meisheid - Abstain

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve Consent Agenda as follows:

Receive and place on file Linn County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Resolution 2026-3-34

A RESOLUTION TO AWARD AND AUTHORIZE ENGINEERS TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR THE ROADSIDE CUTTING PROJEC

WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes the M-ROADSIDE CUTTING(26), hereafter referred to as "the project" is in the best interest of Linn County, Iowa, and the residents thereof. The project is defined as roadside tree and brush cutting and stump treatment in various locations throughout Linn County; and

WHEREAS, the Board has sought appropriate professional guidance for the concept and planning for the project and followed the steps as required by the Code of Iowa for notifications, hearings, and bidding/letting; and

WHEREAS, The Board finds this resolution appropriate and necessary to protect, preserve, and improve the rights, privileges, property, peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of Linn County and its citizens, all as provided for in and permitted by section 331.301 of the Code of Iowa; and IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by Board to accept the bid from S2 Construction LLC in the amount of \$219,437 and awards the associated contract(s) to the same;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed. If any part of this resolution is adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such

adjudication shall not affect the validity of the resolution or action of The Board as a whole or any part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its approval as provided by law; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Linn County Board of Supervisors, that after receiving the necessary contract documents, including but not limited to, the contractor's bond and certificate of insurance, Bradley J. Ketels, Garret A. Reddish or Jon L. Larson, the County Engineer or Assistant County Engineer for Linn County, Iowa, be and is hereby designated, authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the contracts in connection with the afore awarded construction project let on 2/24/2026.

Resolution 2026-3-35
A RESOLUTION TO AWARD AND AUTHORIZE ENGINEERS TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR THE ROADSIDE SPRAYING PROJECT
WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors, hereafter referred to as "the Board", believes the M-ROADSIDE SPRAYING(26), hereafter referred to as "the project" is in the best interest of Linn County, Iowa, and the residents thereof. The project is defined as roadside tree and brush herbicide spraying in various locations throughout Linn County; and
WHEREAS, the Board has sought appropriate professional guidance for the concept and planning for the project and followed the steps as required by the Code of Iowa for notifications, hearings, and bidding/letting; and
WHEREAS, The Board finds this resolution appropriate and necessary to protect, preserve, and improve the rights, privileges, property, peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of Linn County and its citizens, all as provided for in and permitted by section 331.301 of the Code of Iowa; and
IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by Board to accept the bid from B & W Control Specialist Inc in the amount of \$64,999.94 and awards the associated contract(s) to the same;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed. If any part of this resolution is adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the resolution or action of The Board as a whole or any part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its approval as provided by law; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Linn County Board of Supervisors, that after receiving the necessary contract documents, including but not limited to, the contractor's bond and certificate of insurance, Bradley J. Ketels, Garret A. Reddish or Jon L. Larson, the County Engineer or Assistant County Engineer for Linn County, Iowa, be and is hereby designated, authorized, and empowered on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of said County to execute the contracts in connection with the afore awarded construction project let on 2/24/2026.

Resolution 2026-3-36
AUTHORIZE ROAD CLOSURES FOR CONSTRUCTION
WHEREAS, construction work will begin on various Linn County projects, and
WHEREAS, projects on the following list are expected to be under construction during 2026

PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
BROS-C057(168)—8J-57	Bridge replacement on Rosedale Rd over Indian Creek.
FM-C057(179)—55-57	Bridge replacement on Covington Rd Over Lone Tree Creek.
FM-C057(178)—55-57	Bridge replacement on Hills Mill Rd over Buffalo Creek.
BROS-C057(177)—8J-57	Bridge replacement on Burlingham Rd over Buffalo Creek.
BROS-C057(180)—8J-57	Bridge replacement on Red Bridge Rd over Buffalo Creek.
M-BRIDGE 2177 REHAB(26)	Bridge rehab on Cupola Rd over East Otter Creek.
M-BRIDGE 813 REHAB(26)	Bridge rehab on Bettys Grove Rd over East Branch Blue Creek.
M-BRIDGE 623 REHAB(26)	Bridge rehab on Sutliff Rd over Spring Creek.
M-BRIDGE 517 REHAB(26)	Bridge rehab on McNamara Rd over unnamed tributary.
L-BRIDGE 1007(26)	Bridge replacement on Upper Boulder Rd over tributary to Silver Creek.
M-CMP 1033(26)	Culvert replacement on Spanish Rd between Vista Rd and Wright Brothers Blvd.
M-CMP 2417(26)	Culvert replacement on Blue Creek Rd between Mills Rd and West Blue Rd.
M-CMP 1932(26)	Culvert replacement on Palisades Access Rd at intersection with Banner Valley Rd.
M-CMP 644(26)	Culvert replacement on Mills Rd between both legs of Blue Creek Rd.
M-CMP 1784506(26)	Culvert replacement on Whittier Rd between County Home Rd and Hodgins Rd.
M-CMP 1651(26)	Culvert replacement on Burt Rd between Old Ferry Rd and Dead End.
M-RCB 1092(26)	Culvert replacement on Merritt Rd between Alderman Rd and Matsell Park Rd.
M-ORS 1540(26)	Culvert replacement on Coggon Rd between Dix Rd and Seven Hills Rd.
M-HEINS RD(26)	Grading project on Heins Rd from N Center Point to the east for 650 ft.
M-HMA PATCHING(26)	HMA pavement repairs on various roads throughout Linn County.
L-LAKESIDE RD(26)	HMA paving on Lakeside Rd and 30 th St Dr.
M-TWIN KNOLLS REPAIR(26)	HMA paving on various roads within the Twin Knolls subdivision.
M-DERECHO ROAD REPAIR(26)	HMA paving on various roads within the Twin Knolls subdivision and various roads off Beverly Rd.
LOST-S 31 ST ST(26)	Full road reconstruction and PCC Paving of S 31 st from 22 nd St to Hwy 100.

M-376745K(26)	Railroad surface improvement at CRANDIC crossing on Wright Brothers Blvd at Hwy 151.
FM-TSF-C057(169)—5B-57	Roundabout installation at the intersection of Covington Rd and Ellis Rd.
M-ROADSIDE CUTTING(26)	Vegetation control on various roads throughout Linn County.
M-Midway Rd	Regrading from E. Otter Rd to C Ave Ext.
M-Fishel Rd	Regrading from Alice Rd to E. Otter Rd.
M-Ross Rd	Regrading from Covington Rd to Dead End.
M-Old Ferry Rd	Regrading from Ross Rd to Dead End.
M-Burt Rd	Regrading from Old Ferry Rd to Dead End.
M-Linn Ridge Rd	Regrading from Linn Grove Rd to Springville Rd.
M-Valley View Dr	Regrading from Lincoln Heights Dr to Savannah Ct SE.
M-Linn Ridge Rd	Regrading from 835 Linn Ridge Rd to 927 Linn Ridge Rd.
M-Campbell Rd	Regrading from Secrist to Dead End.
M-Elbow Creek Rd	Regrading from Campbell Rd to Crossroad culvert #2125 west of 842 Elbow Creek Rd.
M-Hills Mill Rd	Regrading from Edgerly Rd to Buffalo Valley Ln.
M-Hills Mill Rd	Regrading from Buffalo Valley Ln to Upper Boulder Rd.
M-Buffalo Valley Ln	Regrading from Hills Mill Rd to Dead End.
M-Red Bridge Rd	Regrading from Whitney Rd to Wagner Rd.
M-Pering Ridge Rd	Regrading from Hutchinson Rd to Castle Ln.
M-Castle Ln	Regrading from Pering Ridge Rd to Dead End.
M-Central City Rd	Regrading from Alice Rd to Boundary Ave.
M-Rolling Acres Rd	Regrading from 4617 Main St to Bice Rd.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Linn County Board of Supervisors hereby authorize the above roads and/or portions thereof, to be closed to public travel during the construction period, and further authorize and direct the County Engineer to post appropriate signs, when and as necessary to protect both the work and the traveling public, in accordance with Chapter 306 of the Code of Iowa and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign revision 0.2 of the 2026 Secondary Road Five-Year Construction Program with the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). The project modifications for S 31st Street were changed from PCC overlay to full reconstruction and PCC paving of the road for an increased amount of \$200,000.

Approve purchase order PO863 to Liftnow Automotive in the amount of \$22,748.75 for a Mattei Blade air compressor for the new Secondary Road Headquarters.

Approve purchase order PO864 to Liftnow Automotive in the amount of \$87,520.65 for a Challenger Lifts mobile column lift for the new Secondary Road Headquarters.

Approve purchase order PO865 to Liftnow Automotive in the amount of \$32,660.17 for a Challenger symmetric two post lift for the new Secondary Road Headquarters.

Approve purchase order PO868 to Iowa Appliance Center Inc in the amount of \$10,070 for Frigidaire and Danby appliances for the new Secondary Road Headquarters.

Approve purchase order PO869 to RoadVista in the amount of \$16,857 for a RoadVista Pavement Marking Retroreflectometer for the Secondary Road Department.

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Amendment to the Protective Program Contract between the Iowa Department of Human Services and Linn County Board of Supervisors. The amount is not to exceed \$24,799.54 for the duration of the contract, July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. DCAT4-25-018.

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir., gave an update on the Linn County water balance study for potential data center sites in unincorporated Linn County. Google has communicated their intent to ask the city of Palo to annex currently unincorporated land near the Duane Arnold Energy Center for a proposed data center project. That would move the project out of the county's jurisdiction. Google last year agreed to cover the cost of the water balance study, but they will no longer fund the study since the site isn't within the county's jurisdiction.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt added that Google has decided to bypass the protections that were put in place in the ordinance and move forward under Palo's jurisdiction. They took this process seriously from day one and they invested significant time and resources to create an ordinance with strong protections for their residents. They were not trying to block this project, but they did believe in working together in a transparent manner. They asked for curtailment plans because they care about where their water comes from and goes downstream and pushed Google to pay their fair share. She is proud of all the work that was put into this.

Supervisor Scheetz stated that he feels really proud that they were going to be able to go to the public and say they fought for what's in there and these bare minimum requirements that their residents told them over and over they expect of these projects. He assumes that Google is doing what they have done

across the country looking for less regulations and to pay more to their shareholders. The entire community relies on the water, and it will have regional impacts. It's unfortunate that a \$4 trillion company is basically always looking out for its own bottom line, and he thinks the public can be the judge. He encouraged Palo to stay strong and follow the plan Linn County laid out. They were pro-growth and pro community in their ordinance.

Supervisor Meisheid thanked staff for the months of work to get to this point. She represents district 3 which is a lot of their small towns. Meisheid tends to be a little more sentimental toward small towns trying to survive. Palo has seen an opportunity, and she doesn't necessarily want to fault them or do that, but she hopes between Palo and the county and any other community that might consider data centers in the future to start looking at what regional approach looks like. She encouraged Palo to consider a similar approach.

Sara Bearrows, Finance Dir., presented a Resolution setting the date for the sale of General Obligation Land and Water Legacy Bonds, Series 2026A, and authorizing the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith. This stems from the 2016 ballot language for the \$40 million Land and Water Legacy Bonds. This is the 5th issuance and there is about \$5 million remaining.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Bearrows for her work on this and the explanation of the process.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to adopt Resolution 2026-3-37 and to authorize the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith.

Resolution setting date for the sale of General Obligation Land and Water Legacy Bonds, Series 2026A and authorizing the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith

WHEREAS, pursuant to a special election held on November 8, 2016, voters in Linn County, Iowa (the "County"), authorized the Board of Supervisors (the "Board") of the County to enter into one or more loan agreements (the "Loan Agreements") and issue general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding \$40,000,000 for water and land conservation and park and outdoor recreation purposes (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the County intends to use a portion of its authority with respect to the Loan Agreements to enter into a Loan Agreement (the "Series 2026A Loan Agreement") and to issue General Obligation Land and Water Legacy Bonds, Series 2026A (the "Bonds") in evidence of its obligations thereunder; and WHEREAS, a Preliminary Official Statement (the "P.O.S.") has been prepared by Dorsey & Whitney LLP (the "Disclosure Counsel"), as bond and disclosure counsel to the County, to facilitate the sale of the Bonds in evidence of the County's obligations under the Loan Agreement, and it is now necessary to make provision for the approval of the P.O.S. and to authorize its use by D.A. Davidson & Co., as municipal advisor (the "Municipal Advisor") to the County; and

WHEREAS, it is now necessary to set the date for the sale of the Bonds and to authorize the Municipal Advisor to facilitate such sale;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Linn County, Iowa, as follows:

The County staff is hereby authorized to take such action as shall be deemed necessary and appropriate, with the assistance of the Municipal Advisor and Disclosure Counsel, to prepare the P.O.S. describing the Bonds and providing for the terms and conditions of their sale, and all action heretofore taken in this regard is hereby ratified and approved.

The use by the Municipal Advisor of the P.O.S. relating to the Bonds in substantially the form as has been presented to and considered by the County is hereby approved, and the Municipal Advisor, together with Disclosure Counsel, is hereby authorized to prepare and use a final Official Statement for the Bonds substantially in the form of the P.O.S. but with such changes therein as are required to conform the same to the terms of the Bonds and the resolution, when adopted, providing for the sale and issuance of the Bonds. The County Auditor or their designees are hereby authorized and directed to execute a final Official Statement for the Bonds, if requested by the Municipal Advisor or Disclosure Counsel. The P.O.S. as of its date is deemed final by the County within the meaning of Rule 15(c)(2)-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Sealed bids for the purchase of the Bonds shall be received and canvassed on behalf of the County until 11:00 o'clock a.m. on March 17, 2026, and the County shall meet on March 18, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center for the purpose of considering such bids received and considering and passing a resolution providing for the award of the Bonds, and the Municipal Advisor is hereby authorized and directed to disseminate the notice of said sale, in compliance with the Internal Revenue Service regulations governing "Issue Price" determinations, such notice to minimally contain information regarding Establishment of Issue Price set forth in the "Terms of Offering" attached to the P.O.S. and to be in such form as the Municipal Advisor may deem to be appropriate. The County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said sale, as provided by Chapter 75 of the Code of Iowa, in substantially the form attached to this Resolution.

Pursuant to Section 75.14 of the Code of Iowa, the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the use of electronic bidding procedures for the sale of the Bonds through PARITY and hereby finds and determines that the PARITY competitive bidding system will provide reasonable security and maintain the integrity of the competitive bidding process and will facilitate the delivery of bids by interested parties under the circumstances of this bond sale.

All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval, as provided by law.

Bearrows also discussed setting a public hearing for Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the Formal Board Room at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd Street S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the fiscal year 2027 budget statement. She noted that this has to be separate from other Board meetings.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to set a public hearing for Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the Formal Board Room at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd Street S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for the fiscal year 2027 budget statement.

Public Comment: Jay Vavra, Save CR Heritage, stated that they are an all-volunteer non-profit and advocate for the preservation of historic resources in Cedar Rapids and Linn County. He thanked the Board for the grant that was provided to them last year for the west side renewal project. He highlighted the project with that building including the economic development impact for Linn County and Cedar Rapids. They are hoping to open their new location this summer and invited Board members and anyone else to the grand opening.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to enter into a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to discuss one draft ordinance and two draft economic development agreements as authorized by state law to be kept as a confidential record pursuant to Iowa Code 22.7(65).

VOTE: Meisheid – Aye Running-Marquardt – Aye Scheetz – Aye

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to go out of closed session.

VOTE: Meisheid – Aye Running-Marquardt – Aye Scheetz – Aye

Adjournment at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors