

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026 9:03 A.M.

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

Vice Chairperson Scheetz called the meeting to order.

Motion by Scheetz, seconded by Meisheid to approve minutes of February 26, 27 & March 4, 2026 as printed.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

Brad Ketels, County Engineer – working on GAPM metrics; budget update; spring newsletter will be distributed March 18th; Secondary Road Headquarters update including May move in date; three vacancies; recognition of their Engineering Team; Matsell Park Rd., Rosedale Rd., and Upper Boulder Rd. Bridge Replacement Projects under construction; crews focusing on tree removal efforts now that winter is winding down.

Cara Matteson, Sustainability Dir. – will be requesting a spring amendment in addition to the Iowa Tree Planting Grant agreement; Iowa Geologic Survey Projects are underway; working on the beginning of a foundational water level project; working with collaborative internal partners on logistics of an on road structure project; highlighted meetings she attended in February; upcoming Spring Conference on April 16th at the Indian Creek Nature Center; budget update.

Supervisor Meisheid added that this is an important time to highlight that water is important to Linn County, pre and post Google. This is something that is important to the Board and thanked Matteson for her work on this.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt added that she really appreciates all of Matteson's hard work countywide. It is critical to keep it all together and to keep water as a priority moving forward.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy and Admin. – stated that Gary Landhauser, Emergent Architecture, and Elections Dept. staff are present for the master planning for a new Elections building. This was a conceptual space needs analysis to determine where on Linn County's property a building would best be sited. This is not a package that is ready to go out for bid.

Landhauser gave a PowerPoint presentation of the master planning for a new Elections building.

Discussion took place regarding the ever-changing Election laws and the how the existing buildings were designed at the time; space needs; funding; parking questions and whether the building could be utilized by other county staff.

Supervisor Meisheid highlighted the space needs due to equipment.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that this is a great example of government efficiency working to secure the vote and uphold the integrity of the Elections Dept. They need to determine the best way to move forward, noting that this is Linn County's land and not a purchase of additional land. They do the best they can within the budget and constraints they have.

Sara Bearrows, Finance Dir., and Karen Heiderscheid, Deputy Finance Dir., staffing update; Heiderscheid's recent promotion (not backfilling her position); no findings in single audit; upcoming information on Moody's rating; Conservation bond issuance in the works; quarterly goal setting; upcoming budget meetings on April 1st.

Adjournment at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

SAMI SCHEETZ, Vice Chairperson
Board of Supervisors