

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026 9:00 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.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir. – discussed KPI of procuring green/sustainable products; fully staffed; budget is on track; shared previous month's mailing statistics; discussed recent purchases and bids held for various County departments; maximizing front-end profit on vehicle sales while purchases are under budget; currently in talks regarding storage leases.

Steve Estenson, Risk Mgmt. Dir. – discussed cyber trainings; working on annual insurance renewals; seasonal weather upticks in severe weather incidents; recent severe weather drill went well; working with state counterparts to get FEMA projects closed out.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Estenson and I.T. for their leadership in hosting recent cyber trainings.

Luke Fischer, Facilities Dir. – GAPM survey results discussions underway; continuing to work on KPI involving unassigned tickets; update on various budgets with expected increases and reductions in the spring; meeting with natural gas representatives to go over current pricing and contract; one personnel vacancy; working on closing out Winter Weather Shelter.

Supervisor Meisheid complimented the low number of negative incidents that occurred at the Winter Weather Shelter over the season. She felt it was down from the previous year.

Fischer continued by discussing multiple pending projects including those that are CIP funded; looking at storage options for MHAC; Phase 1A renovations at Courthouse are underway; Harris Building crosswalk update.

Supervisor Scheetz asked Fischer to keep him updated on the crosswalk as he has heard repeatedly from employees in that building regarding the topic while Supervisor Running-Marquardt requested Fischer work with Purchasing regarding storage leases. Fischer agreed to both.

Fischer continued with giving an update on Secondary Roads' new shop; boiler and chiller replacement updates; gave update on settling issue in front of the Jean Oxley Building; working with HR on work rules.

Joi Alexander, Communications Dir. – update on KPI of increasing website accessibility compliance, including staff trainings; held a Crisis Communication Plan training with every department represented and discussed feedback; online branded apparel store was held; discussed various completed projects.

Supervisors Running-Marquardt and Meisheid discussed the potential for starting a "Name a Plow" program regarding Secondary Roads vehicles, including specific contests for County school districts. Alexander agreed to look into the suggestions.

Alexander continued by sharing that the next State of the County will be May 28th at 3:30 p.m.; discussed "Let's Chat" social media videos her staff is creating with various County departments; provided 2026 Editorial Content Calendar; brand management update.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to remove from the agenda: The Board will enter into a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to discuss two draft agreements as authorized by state law to be kept as a confidential record pursuant to Iowa Code 22.7(65).

Adjournment at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors