

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 9:00 A.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 (other County business). Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Running-Marquardt called the meeting to order.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

Brad Ketels, Co. Engineer – improving GAPM metrics; annual spring meeting on Friday, May 15th; discussed budget, including a breakdown of the new headquarters' costs; one current personnel vacancy; project updates including: Matsell Park Road bridge, Rosedale Road bridge, Covington Road bridge, subdivision asphalt paving, Bettys Grove Road bridge and McNamara Road bridge; Operations is very busy; roadside spring burning underway.

Carter Baldwin, LIFTS Dir. – one full time and one part time vacancy; budget update including discussing the Medicaid Waiver program; City of Cedar Rapids Fare Free Transit Study continues to advance with findings expected by August 2026; ECI contract coming up with no changes for next year.

Cara Matteson, Sustainability Dir. – tracking water level trends has begun; looking to establish public-facing groundwater level network which would be funded by the Conservation Board water bond; upcoming vulnerable mapping exercise, groundwater pollution mapping and geological survey.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt pointed out how those will be beneficial to help local communities prioritize water projects.

Matteson continued by sharing a project update for On Road Structure; new Watershed Coordinator for MCWMA (Middle Cedar Watershed Management Authority); Small Scale Growing & Farming Discussion at the ISU Linn County Extension in Hiawatha on May 28th at 6 p.m.; budget update.

Sara Bearrows, Finance Dir. – no personnel vacancies; department budget looks good, amending for upcoming retirement payout; restructure of GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) fees; Public Budget Amendment meeting tomorrow, May 13th; explanation of possible upcoming budget amendment requests from County departments; Property Tax legislation overview and impacts the County may feel; LC3 quarterly goal update.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt thanked Bearrows, noting that she took over a huge job, for the leadership she has shown on the UCC (Urban County Coalition) calls that significantly impact in a positive way for all the other counties involved.

Adjournment at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors