

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 22, 2026

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA in Conference Room 3A/3B.

PRESENT: Aron Brecht- HACAP
Alora Kraus- Feed Iowa First
Hailee Sandberg- At-Large
Jacqueline Montoya-LCPH
Drew Erickson- Rodale Institute
Eva Donnelly- ISU Extension
Brittany Rohling- Grand Living
Leland Freie- Sustainable Iowa Land Trust
Jennifer Hook- CRCSD
Emmaly Renshaw- IVRCD
Mariah Andrews- Prairiewoods

ABSENT: Sarah Blais- Iowa Ceramics Center
Camron Tolley-GSCU
Stephanie Schrader- City of Cedar Rapids
Kim Guardado-HACAP
Gina Mobley- New Pioneer
Aaron Tarchinski- Horizons

OTHERS

PRESENT: Cassidy Flory
Britt Nielsen
Ashley Balus
Sami Scheetz

STAFF: Mike Tertinger- Senior Planner
Amy Speed-Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Renshaw, seconded by Rohling, to approve the March 25, 2026, minutes. All members present voted yes.

Public Comments:

Introductions for new member, Jennifer Hook

Budget Update:

Tertinger stated the balance is \$1,750.00. Resets on July 1 to \$4,000.00

Old Business:

FSC representation at SILT Fest:

Erickson stated that if anyone is interested in running the table to please email Tertinger, himself and Sandberg. He would like to see two people. Please brainstorm and send an email for any ideas of what could be passed out: stickers, brochures, etc

Strategic Plan Work Session:

Council spent the rest of the time discussing the new mission, vision and values statements. The following were agreed upon:

Mission: We connect people across sectors to renew and strengthen Linn County's food system through education, investment, and leadership.

Vision: Local food is within reach for everyone.

Values:

Education & Engagement

Partnership & Cooperation

Community Driven

Economic Development

Health & Wellness

Sustainability

New Business:

None

Open Discussion:

Next step is to discuss the work plan.

Next Meeting: May 27, 2026- Location TBD-review all documents prior and bring ideas for the roadmap.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Drew Erickson, Chair