

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 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.

Motion by Scheetz, seconded by Meisheid to approve claims dated 06/05/26 for payroll deduction Check Nos. 71021466 to 71021468 in the amount of \$500.00, ACH in the amount of \$24,137.76, an EFT wire in the amount of \$30,099.35 and a Ceridian ER Funds Trust Wire in the amount of \$2,407,648.65, for a total of \$2,462,385.76.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded Scheetz to open public hearing on a request to change the rural land use map designation of 68.45 acres, located in the 6800 and 6900 blocks of Tower Terrace Road, Cedar Rapids, Iowa from the Metro Urban Service Area (MUSA) to Rural Residential Development 2-Acre Area (RRD2).

Mike Tertinger, Planning & Development, stated that the two public hearings on today's agenda run concurrently with each other. He presented a PowerPoint highlighting the following: both cases meet requirements, conform with Linn County's Comprehensive Plan and development design requirements have been met. The Planning & Zoning Commission also recommended for approval. Planning & Development does have some concerns regarding the adjoining property owner and the Sportsman Club. There are significant flood plain issues noting that flood plain permits were approved and are possibly going through FEMA. They are recommending approval for both cases. Proof of publication was presented. One letter has been received opposing the project.

Supervisor Scheetz asked if other than blocking the project, is there anything the neighbors are asking for and Tertinger responded no.

Jason Stone, Hall & Hall Engineers, stated that he is working with the developer on the project. Typically, the 100-year flood plain is the most concerning. The basements will be elevated to a minimum of 2 feet if not more. They will be working with the DNR and FEMA on it. He noted that flood insurance could still be required.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt explained that 20 years ago they had issues with 100-year flood plains.

Jamie Buresh, B & K Companies, stated that he can answer any questions they may have. They would like to start this as soon as possible.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt advised that it can get incredibly difficult with the 100- and 500-year flood plains and insurance. They do not want to put people into positions where there is flooding.

Supervisor Meisheid added that she appreciates the letter of concern they received as she has her own concerns about access to the north side of Otter Creek.

Tertinger will discuss with the property owner how to proceed. They are working with Conservation as well and he will follow up with Meisheid.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to close public hearing.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to open a public hearing on a 23 lot Preliminary Plat of Otter Creek Reserve First Addition, located in the 6800 and 6900 blocks of Tower Terrace Road, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Tertinger had nothing further to add at this time as the PowerPoint he just presented also included information relating to this public hearing.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to close public hearing.

Brent Oleson, Treasurer, presented a Resolution Abating Property Taxes Deemed Impractical to Collect. He worked with the Finance Dir. to come up with the two attached lists and asked for the Board's approval.

Supervisors Scheetz and Meisheid thanked Deputy Finger for reviewing this with them and they have no issues approving it.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt added that the list included properties for flood control, green space, deceased, etc. and all of them seem fair and reasonable for approval.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Cara Matteson, Sustainability Dir., presented a subaward between Trees Forever and Linn County for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Tree Planting Grant in the amount of \$27,840. They received an award through the IDNR and are looking to subaward those funds to Trees Forever. Trees Forever will plant trees on Linn County properties. This did go out for bid and Trees Forever came in the lowest.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt stated that she appreciates their partnership with Trees Forever.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Jessie Black, Admin. Spec., presented an agreement between Linn County and the Iowa Department for the Blind Business Enterprise Program to provide vending services in five (5) County buildings. She gave background noting that Purchasing previously handled this agreement. This agreement is a formality to ensure they are compliant and why they are signing a new 5-year agreement. Legal has reviewed the agreement. Black also explained why food trucks are not allowed to be in the parking lot of the Public Service Center.

Discussion continued regarding food trucks and if there is a way to allow them. Black will look into it.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Public Comment: John Lee, 2510 Sisley Grove Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids, stated that he is speaking about the proposed Morgan Valley Center. He discussed the price of adding stronger controls for nitrogen oxide and whose costs matter. They do not know what this will cost the rate payers. Alliant has argued that it gets handled later in a separate process, but big decisions have already been made when later comes around. They are asking a simple question, if the cost to the ratepayer is later why is the cost of cleaner air an immediate one. How are farmland and farming families affected by this? He respects union labor and trades people but Google and QTS are bringing in workers that are not local. Projects do not happen one at a time. A lot of residents feel this is moving fast and the harder questions always get pushed off until later. He is asking this Board as they are already a party before the case in the IUC to use the seat they have at the table and ask the County Attorney to insist that the cost and need for this plant gets reviewed before, not after. They should make sure air quality and pollution questions get weighed. Many people share the same concerns, but some people are not willing to stand at the podium to talk.

Sonja Hadenfeldt, 7471 Benton Linn Rd., Fairfax, stated that she spoke last week and lives 1 ½ miles from the proposed Morgan Valley Power Plant. She highlighted the negative impacts on wildlife and natural habitats. Iowa's water quality is in desperate need, and this is threatening the already fragile eco systems. The constant noise generation affects wildlife, and the light pollution affects bird migration and production. Gas powered plants contribute to greenhouse gases and global warming along with extreme weather events. Alliant claims to take the environment seriously, but the keyword is reduce. Polluting the environment will create some level of harm. She is asking the Board to reject the application for this project so the City of Cedar Rapids and surrounding areas can have a good impact on the people that live here, the environment and the direct effect these decisions have on this power plant.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve payroll authorizations (detail is available upon request).

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to amend the agenda item to remove the one-year term for reappointments.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to reappoint, as amended, the following individuals to the Linn County Sustainability & Resiliency Advisory Committee ending December 31, 2026:
Emmanuel B. Mussamba, Jo Ann Beer, Laura Barr, Terry Chostner, Tina Lenton, Cheryl Jontz, Rachel Cadena, Josh Henik, John Zakrasek, Bob Greene, A. Grant Nordby.

Adjournment at 10:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors