



LINN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Linn County, Iowa

Wednesday, May 27, 2026 | 4:00 PM
Harris Building | Conference Room 234
1020 6th St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

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Call to Order - Dr. Dustin Arnold, Chair

Dr. Arnold established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Board of Health Present: Dr. Dustin Arnold, Melissa Walker, Linda Langston and Sami Scheetz (virtual)

Linn County Public Health Members Present: Dr. Pramod Dwivedi, Health Director; Clif White, Environmental & Administration Division Manager; Dustin Hinrichs, Environmental Quality Supervisor; Wanda Reiter Kintz, Air Quality Branch Supervisor; Diane Midcalf, Office Manager; Cindy Fiester, Chronic Disease Service Program Coordinator and Becca Orth, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)

Recognize Guests and Staff

Guests Present: Chris Taylor, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and Katie Oatsvall, Horizons

Public Comment: Three Minute Limit per Speaker

None

Approve Agenda*

Motion made to approve agenda as presented

****MSC Langston/Walker**

BOH excused absences

Erica Bernard

Approve Minutes*

April 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve the above minutes as presented

****MSC Walker/Langston**

Presentation - Horizons

Katie Oatsvall, Horizons President & Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Oatsvall presented to the Board

Presentation - Administrative Support

Diane Midcalf, Office Manager

Ms. Midcalf presented to the Board

Report from Board of Health Committees

Finance Committee - Dr. Dustin Arnold and Linda Langston, Committee Co-Chairs

April Financial Statements*

Motion made to approve March 2026 Financial Statement

****MSC Langston/Walker**

Policy and Government Relations Committee - Erica Bernard and Melissa Walker,
Committee Co-Chairs

28E Agreement with DIAL – Adding Jones County*

Motion made to approve the 28E Agreement with DIAL – Adding Jones County

****MSC Walker/Langston**

Variance Request for Septic System Setback Requirement at 2009 Covington Rd Palo*

Motion made to approve the Variance Request for Septic System Setback Requirement at 2009 Covington Rd Palo

****MSC Langston/Walker**

Report from Health Director, Dr. Pramod Dwivedi

Dr. Dwivedi provided a statement related to the Morgan Valley Energy Center:

Linn County Public Health received a draft 80% air quality permit application and modeling protocol for the proposed Morgan Valley Energy Center on May 13, 2026, and both documents are available through the DNR's EASY Air public portal. Staff members are currently beginning the technical review process, including review of the proposed air dispersion modeling approach, and coordinating with the Iowa DNR as part of the collaborative PSD permitting process. In addition, Linn County Public Health has met with Planning and Development staff and the Board of Supervisors to discuss and plan a future public meeting regarding the air permitting process and opportunities for public engagement.

Dr. Dwivedi provided a comment:

The environmental laws that we follow from the EPA and DNR are to protect Public Health. We are a regulatory agency, and this is our job to make sure that the laws are followed.

Ms. Langston provided a comment:

It is not the job of this department as a part of this process to issue opinions. This is a regulatory matter not an opinion-based matter.

It is important that we are clear that this department and any of its staff follow the rules and see that the rules are laid out.

Report from Board of Health Attorney, Lisa Epp

None

Upcoming Meetings

Policy and Government Relations Committee Meeting - June 18, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

Finance Committee Meeting - June 18, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Board of Health Meeting - June 24, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting

****MSC Walker/Langston**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

For questions about meeting accessibility or to request accommodations to attend or to participate in a meeting due to a disability, please contact the Linn County Health Department at 319-892-6000.

*Action Item