

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 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:

David Thielen, LCCS Exec. Dir. – budget overview; General Assistance still seeing a high level of need; Disability Access Point employees transitioning to new employee of record next month; Early Childhood Iowa funded 12 separate contracts totaling over one million dollars; DECAT program contracts ending with majority of programs picked up by the state; Juvenile Detention licensing update; discussed contracts for Detention and the Access Center; Home Health and Options work rules approved; new LCCS board members.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. – Morgan Creek Lodge planning an open house soon; Pinicon Ridge Mountain Bike Trail projected to be finished by August; Morgan Creek Park Wetland project update; five wetland projects have been completed this spring; discussed invasive species control including an IDNR Forest Resiliency grant that was awarded; Grant Wood Trail project slated to start this fall; continuing to work towards a cashless reservation system for campsites; campground reservations for next season are expected to begin on August 3rd; Conservation Board reviewed fees for next year and approved working with some community partners on local water quality projects; discussed the Office of Outdoor Recreation established by the Governor; Linn County Fair week begins this week; campgrounds have been very busy.

Supervisor Meisheid shared negative feedback she has received from citizens regarding the cashless reservation system for the county campgrounds of which Goemaat acknowledged the concerns.

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Dept. Dir. – thanked the Board for approving the recent Air Quality ordinance amendments; budget update; third cycle of National Public Health Accreditation launching; strategic planning process beginning August 11th; Guiding Team formed as a result of GAPM survey; Public Health Systems Alignment townhall update; discussed various community meetings including the upcoming Morgan Valley Energy Center meeting; shared May statistics and inspections; Ambient Air Monitoring numbers reviewed; laboratory operations overview including expected maintenance.

Dustin Peterson, Veteran Services Dir. – budget update; provided statistics on veterans served in May; Cedar Valley Veterans Network next career networking event scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on July 1st at Big Grove Brewery in Cedar Rapids; recent training to maintain national accreditation; Iowa Assoc. of Veteran Services was 1 of only 5 states invited for a round table discussion with the Deputy Secretary of VA; discussed recent Iowa Dept. of Veterans Affairs meeting; working with Communications on a more user friendly and informative website; drafting a formal policy governing the use of donated funds; first Reps with Vets event on July 2nd at the Veterans Memorial Building gym; have doubled the amount of money received monthly by Linn County Veterans since the PACT Act.

Supervisor Scheetz congratulated Peterson on becoming president of the Iowa Assoc. of County Veteran Services, noting that it's great for the entire state to have his leadership in the organization. He thanked him for all his legislative work publicly and behind the scenes and that veterans across the state benefited from his advocacy.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt added that several legislators across the state have praised Peterson's professionalism and communication skills. He is an amazing leader who can talk to everyone across the aisle which casts positive ripple effects. She thanked him for his leadership, advocacy, and always putting veterans first.

Phil Lowder, I.T. Dir. – budget update; two staff vacancies; KPIs tracking positively; phone update almost complete with only the Treasurer's Office left to complete; discussed supply chain issues and cost increases; GIS staff is presenting at a national conference next month.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt requested Lowder look into how he can provide cybersecurity training to staff who have not yet received it, particularly those who work second and third shifts.

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Adjournment at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors