

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JUNE 29, 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 Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve minutes of June 22, 23 & 24, 2026 as printed.

Erin Foster, MHAC Dir., discussed a Mental Health Access Center Provider Agreement between Linn County and Abbe Center for Community Health for various health services for clients of the Mental Health Access Center effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. There are no changes to this contract from the same one last year with the majority of funds being directed towards staff-provided services.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve the Mental Health Access Center Provider Agreement between Linn County and Abbe Center for Community Health for various health services for clients of the Mental Health Access Center effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Todd Taylor, Auditor, and Gail Tenney, Accounting Mgr., presented a Vacancy Form request for a temporary full-time Payroll/Payables Specialist for the Auditor's Accounting Department. This would be a temporary upgrade of an Account Technician in order to cover an FMLA leave period for another employee. The request is within the existing FY27 budget.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to approve a Vacancy Form request for a temporary full-time Payroll/Payables Specialist for the Auditor's Accounting Department.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., discussed a proposed Consulting and Advisory Services Agreement between Linn County and Grant Consulting, LLC for governmental affairs, lobbying, advisory, and related consulting services for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. For 15 years Grant Consulting and L & L Murphy Consulting & Assoc. have provided services to the county, but due to a retirement the agreement will only be with Grant Consulting, LLC going forward. This one-year contract would be \$17,500.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Gage then discussed a proposed Consulting and Advisory Services Agreement between Linn County and Advocacy Cooperative for governmental affairs, lobbying, advisory, and related consulting services for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. This contract would replace the work that L & L Murphy Consulting & Assoc. was doing and is recommended for \$40,000.

Supervisor Scheetz asked Gage to explain why the county is able to sign these agreements without having to go through the typical RFP process. Gage elaborated that professional services such as this are not subject to the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 26.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Gage then discussed a proposed Memorandum of Agreement between Linn County, Black Hawk County, Dubuque County, Johnson County, and Scott County to continue as members of the Urban County Coalition for a one-year period from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, to develop, communicate, and advocate jointly for issues of common interest. This is a \$25,000 annual contract that rolls over automatically unless a county withdraws. There were slight language changes to reflect the updated consulting services agreements. All of the other member counties will need to approve this change as well.

The Board will approve Wednesday.

Public Comment: Jon Lee, 2510 Sisley Grove Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids, followed up from the informational meeting held on June 24th noting that staff had told the Board they were there to 'check a box'. He argues the residents are not a box to check, but the reason that this matters. Lee discussed air monitoring and how one site that was referenced is 90 miles away. Residents asked Alliant to put weather monitoring on site and they declined. He cited federal rules that govern this permit let the agencies (IDNR and Public Health) require a company to collect air and weather data on a site before ever building. The same rules allow for the requirement of monitoring after construction to find out what the plant has done to the air. These agencies are not enacting those requirements but rather are utilizing the company's own modeling and monitors that sit miles away instead. His concerns also lie with the water commitment and cost, noting that the City of Cedar Rapids will not give a clear answer. Lee asked the Board to have the County Attorney press IDNR and Public Health to require site specific testing before and after construction of the Morgan Valley Energy Center and to back the Office of Consumer Advocate's question of whether this plant is really needed and the cost.

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

Adjournment at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors