

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JULY 20, 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 minutes of July 13, 2026 as printed.

Motion by Scheetz, seconded by Meisheid to approve claims dated 7/17/26 for payroll deduction Check Nos. 71021881 to 71021884 in the amount of \$3,482.90, ACH in the amount of \$93,257.59, an EFT wire in the amount of \$47,811.86 and a Ceridian ER Funds Trust Wire in the amount of \$2,703,260.55, for a total of \$2,847,812.90.

The Board recessed at 10:02 a.m. and reconvened at 10:16 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

Supervisor Meisheid stated that she added this item to the agenda and gave background about the Linn County Large-Scale Data Center Moratorium Implementation Plan. Last week they met with county staff to start talking about the pillars, but they do not have an official plan as of today. It will take some time to get everything together. They are moving forward with the discussion about EU-2 rezoning and they will be accepting comments for the next 30 days with a more formal update coming soon.

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Dev. Dir., stated that they are working on setting up a plan for how to engage all the various stakeholders that want to be involved. Draft code and EU-2 zoning district amendments will not be introduced at this point. They will be going over the moratorium and taking public comments at tonight's Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. They will use questions to guide what type of amendments will be brought forward. He is thinking that all of the requirements they have for EU-3 for data centers will also apply to any data center that is in the EU-2 district that is an accessory for nuclear power. Draft code may come in August, but they want to hear from the public their thoughts, concerns and questions. The public can submit comments to plandev@linncountyiowa.gov.

Supervisor Meisheid wanted to ensure that the public was up to speed where they are currently.

Supervisor Running-Marquardt wanted to emphasize for the public that the 18-month moratorium is still in place. Going forward, they will be gathering information such as the impacts to the environment and water usage. They want the public involved in the discussion and the Board wants to be transparent as well.

Public Comment: Jon Lee, 2510 Sisley Grove Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids, the 3 of them vote on rezoning for Linn County and a big one is coming. Alliant's application was filed on July 15th, and he wants them to be ready. He is asking that they don't approve the application until they have real answers, and he doesn't feel they have the answers right now. Lee read an excerpt from the Unified Development Code (UDC). He referenced paving 160 acres of farm ground, a water use study and signed water use agreements. Alliant is calling it a simple cycle, and their application talks about converting to a future combined cycle. Rezoning is permanent and farm ground is gone, agriculture to industrial doesn't go back, and there hasn't been any air monitoring on site. Lee questioned the Board members if they understand what that means and how do they vote without understanding it. Before Board members vote, they should be able to say 2 things: 1. This won't raise costs for everyday rate payers and 2. No one loses their land to eminent domain because of this project (nowhere in Iowa). If they can't say both, they don't have enough to vote yes. Their own code says it exists to protect private property rights. Big decisions deserve straight answers and this is a big one. Continue to hold the line and don't rezone this farm ground until it's safe and they can promise they've protected the rate payers and people from eminent domain.

Sonja Hadenfeldt, 7471 Benton Linn Rd., Fairfax, is speaking about the rezoning of the 160 acres for the proposed Morgan Valley Power Plant. She is opposed to it. They live in Iowa and it's an ag state and they grow things here. Developing things for industrial would take some of the most fertile ground out of production. It would affect other properties such as farms, parks, green spaces and smaller farmers that do markets. Hadenfeldt cited information regarding pollutants. This will affect wildlife and they don't have a voice to speak. She does wildlife rehab and went on to explain fine particulate matter and the effects on the ecosystem. These all have the ability to alter or change the food chain. Rezoning will also affect plants such as milkweed and produce that is grown. She urges the Supervisors to vote no for the rezoning.

Tracy Meza, 7801 Wieneke Cir., Cedar Rapids, stated that earlier this summer they had to dig a new well on their property for \$25,000. That is not something that can wait for someone to be able to afford it. She is concerned about what will happen if all of this is developed and their wells. There is only so much water and there is an end to it. She would like to see that not happen anytime soon at her well which isn't even close to being paid for yet. People in the country have different concerns than those that live in the city. The Linn County Supervisors are working for the county and Meza asked them to please remember the residents of the county that have different issues than those that live in Cedar Rapids.

Cindy Anderson, resident of Fairfax, stated that Board members are charged with being land stewards of Linn County. They should take into consideration everybody, every business and all the information given to them to make an informed decision. She is in support of the moratorium, but she is not in support of rezoning the land for the proposed Morgan Valley Power Plant. Anderson has questions that she still doesn't have the answers to. She asked various questions regarding industrial wastewater, composition that is discharged, testing and safeguards. Their land is not an unlimited resource, and neither is their water. If they don't do everything to protect it, they are failing. The Board members represent certain areas of the county but are still land stewards for the entire county. She referenced "Exhibit E" that Alliant submitted last minute with no forewarning to anyone. It is closer to the 2.25-mile setback to where she lives. Anderson appreciates the time they are taking to listen to people's concerns. Stewardship is the Supervisors job.

Christina Akers, read and submitted a "Declaration of Violation" for the record.

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to enter into a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to discuss two draft economic development agreements as authorized by state law to be kept as a confidential record pursuant to Iowa Code 22.7(8) and 22.7(65).

VOTE: Scheetz – Aye Running-Marquardt – Aye Meisheid - Aye

Motion by Running-Marquardt, seconded by Scheetz to go out of closed session.

VOTE: Scheetz – Aye Running-Marquardt – Aye Meisheid - Aye

Adjournment at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors