

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022 11:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center.  
Present: Chairperson Rogers, Vice Chairperson Zumbach and Supervisor Walker. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve minutes of February 14, 2022 as printed.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir. - Learning Institute scheduled and working on the department's mission and vision (working to align with new Strategic Plan). Budget is on target; fully staffed (new Building Inspector hired from out of state and highly qualified); an internal Expectations Agreement for Core Values was developed by a staff member; working with 28E cities re: rental inspections and fees; Code Enforcement Officer approved; goals set for 2022 re: reading blue prints, taking meeting minutes, building leadership skills and certified permit techs. Working with Coggon Solar Developers; NextEra pre-application meeting was held on Feb. 9 and submitting the application this week (3-4 months to review); Historic Preservation grant program accepting applications; Tallgrass Archeology worked on six national register listings at Wickiup and have been added to the National Register of Historical Places; Community Rating System certification was approved (maintained rating); staff is drafting agri. tourism language related to state legislation; zoning permit status can be done online; there is movement on the Dows Farm platting process; and permit volume data (above last year).

Discussion continued regarding future NextEra meetings and possible changes as a result of lessons learned from the Coggon Solar Project. Possible venues were discussed (Palo Community Center, US Cellular Center, Linn County Fairgrounds or Hawkeye Downs) depending on space needs.

The Board expressed their high level of respect, admiration and appreciation for the amount of work that Nichols and his staff have done on the Dows Farm, Coggon and Palo solar projects. They are transformative community projects.

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir. - Working with Lisa Powell and Terry Whitson re: Strategic Plan; budget on track; fully staffed; postage statistics; working with various departments for bids and purchases; asset disposal program; challenges related to the supply chain disruption (vehicles, light equipment and appliances).

Tony Rossetti, Facilities Manager - Thanked the Board for approving two new vehicles for the department; increase in cost of materials; budget is slightly over; spent \$2,400 for the last snow removal; having difficulty filling custodial positions at the Fillmore Building (he will check on the MHAC security company to possibly accompany the custodian when they dump trash); losing a staff member that is pursuing his citizenship; follow-up issues at various county buildings especially the piping at the Courthouse; Fillmore Building Overflow Shelter damage to the building. General plan for moving forward for the department is empowering Sr. Facility Workers to run their building as if it is their business.

Steve Estenson, Risk Management Dir. - Derecho Projects: Debris - FEMA payment is progressing (\$13 million) and explained issues related to project; FEMA vehicle damage and repairs to communication towers; COVID Presidential Declaration data compiled to turn into FEMA; updating training with departments; First Aide CPR is remote for employees; helping with new hire process; no reports of any additional vandalism at the Harris Building; and no injuries from a trail bridge struck by a vehicle.

Adjournment at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor  
By: Rebecca Shoop, Deputy Auditor

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors