

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 11:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Walker called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve Consent Agenda as follows:

Approve and authorize Chair to sign a Vacancy Form requesting a Technical Center  
Manager

Receive and place on file Treasurer's (Auto Dept.) Report to the County Auditor  
Receipts and Disbursements for the Month of January, 2021.

Resolution 2021-2-22

A Resolution approving a final plat to be named Hilltop Farm Second Addition.  
The following description is a summary of Resolution No. 2021-2-22 as passed and  
approved by Linn County Board of Supervisors, effective February 24, 2021.  
Hilltop Farm Second Addition (Case # JF20-0007) to Linn County, Iowa, containing  
seven (7) lots, numbered Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 and lettered Lot A, Outlot B and  
Outlot C has been filed for approval, a subdivision of real estate located in the  
SWSW of Section 18, Township 83 North, Range 6 West of the 5th P.M., Linn County,  
Iowa, described as follows: Lot 1, "Auditor's Plat No. 509, Linn County, Iowa"  
except Lot 1, "Hilltop Farm First Addition to Linn County, Iowa". The full text of  
the Resolution may be inspected in the Linn County Auditor's Office located at 935  
Second Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the Linn County website at  
[www.linncounty.org](http://www.linncounty.org).

Resolution 2021-2-23

Resolution approving a one lot final plat to be named Shades Third Addition.  
The following description is a summary of Resolution No. 2021-2-23 as passed and  
approved by Linn County Board of Supervisors, effective February 24, 2021.  
Schades Third Addition (Case # JPS20-0018) to Linn County, Iowa, containing two (2)  
lots, numbered lot 1 and lettered lot A, a subdivision of real estate located in  
the NWNW of Section 4, Township 86 North, Range 8 West of the 5th P.M., Linn  
County, Iowa, described as follows: Commencing at the West Quarter Corner of  
Section 4, Township 86 North, Range 8 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian; thence  
N1°20'12"W along the west line of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 4, a  
distance of 1585.45 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing N1°20'12"W  
along said west line, 228.02 feet; thence S75°45'56"E, 290.67 feet; thence  
S1°20'12"E, 150.00 feet; thence S88°39'48"W 280.00 feet to the point of beginning.  
The full text of the Resolution may be inspected in the Linn County Auditor's  
Office located at 935 Second Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during regular  
business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the Linn County  
website at [www.linncounty.org](http://www.linncounty.org).

Resolution 2021-2-24 to award project FM-C057(150)-55-57, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA)  
resurfacing with milling on Business 30 from Lisbon city limits to Adams Ave in  
Cedar County, to L.L. Pelling Co., Inc. in the amount of \$577,784.06 and authorize  
Bradley J. Ketels to sign the contract documents.

Resolution 2021-2-25 to award project FM-C057(151)-55-57, Reinforced Concrete Box  
(RCB) twin box culvert replacement on Burnett Station Rd over Indian Creek, to  
Peterson Contractor's, Inc. in the amount of \$228,224.50 and authorize Bradley J.  
Ketels to sign the contract documents.

Approve and authorize Chair to sign the Mental Health Access Center construction  
change order number four in the amount of \$32,595.79

Approve and authorize Chair to sign a 28E agreement with the City of Cedar Rapids for  
a culvert and grading project on E Avenue NW from Benton County line to Hwy 100.

Award bid and authorize PO42 for cut stump herbicide to Nutrien Ag Solutions in the  
amount of \$4,631.85.

Award bid and authorize PO43 for herbicides for the spray program to Nutrien Ag  
Solutions in the amount of \$15,906.20.

Award bid and authorize PO44 for herbicides for the spray program to Van Diest Supply  
Co. in the amount of \$15,375.90.

Award bid and authorize chair to sign a contract for land appraisal services to appraise right-of-way adjacent to the Bertram Road bridge replacement project, to Rally Appraisal in the amount of \$2,200.00.

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Approve and authorize Chair to sign 36 month copier lease agreement at \$202.12 per month with Gordon Flesch Company, Inc. for the Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve minutes of Feb. 23, 2021 as printed.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve Claims #71001409-#71001472 in the amt. Of \$313,764.16 and ACH in the amt. of \$408,526.97.

Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir., gave the following update on Linn County's response to COVID-19:

- Receiving a little over 3,000 COVID vaccine doses per week. Continue to ensure 50% will go to 65 year old and older residents.
- Asking residents to be patient. Current demand far exceeds the supply.
- Public Health hosted a two-day vaccine clinic (Saturday & Sunday) for child care providers. Offering second dose on March 6 & 7.
- Planning for Phase 1B Tier 2 (additional information can be found on website).
- Participating in the weekly vaccine meeting with partners.
- Even if vaccinated, urge residents to continue wearing masks, washing hands and social distancing.
- Continue to work with schools with vaccination efforts.
- If received first dose outside of Linn County, the second dose if wanted in Linn County may not be readily available.
- None of Linn County's long-term facilities are reporting an outbreak at this time. This is a huge accomplishment.
- Linn County has had 19,325 positive cases with 1,514 active, 19 hospitalized and 323 deaths.
- Linn County has vaccinated 42,300 individuals and 10,981 have had both doses.

Supervisor Rogers stated that the Board is receiving emails asking what metrics the board is using for the continuation of the mask mandate and continuing to keep buildings closed to the public.

Dwivedi responded that they are looking at the infection rate, how many residents are hospitalized as well as an abundance of caution.

Tricia Kitzmann, Public Health, stated that the CDC is hoping to release some information on when a mask mandate may no longer be needed and an estimation of how much of the population needs to be vaccinated in order to reach Herd immunity.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve upon third and final consideration of Ordinance Amendment #3-2-2021, rezoning case JR20-0003, request of TPC Development, owner, to rezone 37.68 acres located at 4401 Witwer Ln from AG (Agricultural) district to RR2 (Rural Residential 2-Acre) district.

Jon Resler, Asst. County Engineer, presented the Five Year Construction Plan (focusing on bridges, paved and rock roads) and Jerad Kelley, Oper. Supt., presented the 2021 Maintenance Plan for the Secondary Road Department.

Brad Ketels, County Engineer, complimented his staff on a job well done.

Public Comment:

Carolyn Peterson, Cedar Rapids, stated that Supervisors Rogers and Walker, during a public formal meeting last Wednesday, referred to constituents who have different viewpoints from them with disparaging and condescending words and did so in a tone of voice that constitutes macroaggression. She continued to quote what both supervisors said which she said was condescending and macroaggression. She stated that she indicated in an email to them that they need to apologize to those constituents privately and during this meeting. Since they have not apologized, she is compelled to call them out publicly. She also implored them to take the high road as public servants to cease from publicly venting their frustrations with constituents that they disagree with.

Chairperson Walker reminded the public that historically the Board does not respond to public comment in an effort to prevent a back and forth exchange. He also wanted to thank the caller for the respect that she has shown his colleagues on a topic that they certainly disagree on, noting that it takes a lot to participate in public meetings and share their opinions and he respects that.

Supervisor Rogers stated that he will respond and thanked Ms. Peterson for participating in today's meeting. He stated that they have communicated by email back and forth and this is the same conversation they had, and he appreciates her raising this issue. He has told her that he thinks the type of emails they are receiving is not irrelevant and he chose to respond purely with facts and data from research verified by medical professionals. He also said he would not apologize as he did not call anybody out specifically or give a name and he hopes he responded respectfully.

When it comes down to the science, he can be accused of being closed minded and it is not up for debate. He will place those emails on public record.

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Peterson responded that she was not commenting on email responses. She was commenting on the selection of words and the tone of voice during the recorded public meeting last week, which was not acceptable.

Chairperson Walker stated that he will respond as well. One of his deepest fears and concerns for society is that they are in fact living in a world where scientific facts, researchable facts, can be so disparaged and dismissed. This not only applies to the pandemic but also climate change and systemic racism. This relates to a whole host of issues and is an all-out assault on expertise and science. Intellectualism is under assault. He continued to say that this board has never name called or disparaged a resident. They have always existed in the realm of facts and if that upsets certain residents, that says more about the type of society than it does for public officials concerned about the health and safety of residents.

Adjournment 12:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors