

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023 9:00 A.M.

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

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Executive Dir. – budget update; General Assistance: policy changes approved; overflow shelter will be closing March 31<sup>st</sup>; Juvenile Detention: 17-19 youth per day (utilizing four pods); licensing took place two weeks ago; working on school lunch audit; camera replacement will be online soon; Access Center: celebrated its second anniversary two weeks ago; now have part time chemical dependency expert on site; working to open withdrawal management program; outreach to communities outside of Linn County; Director attended NAMI day on the hill; May is Mental Health Awareness month; Options: work is ongoing to redo doors; ECI/Decat: RFP for next years contracts were sent out; Home Health: another staff retirement (trying to restructure).

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. – various park, bike and campground projects; Bird Preserve concept design has been developed; Wanatee mountain bike trails; Wickiup Hill education staff held special programming during spring break; target date for campground opening is April 7<sup>th</sup> (overnight temperatures need to improve); discussing with four Linn County communities to determine how to connect a trail to their communities (long range project).

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Department Dir. – feels that the Mental Health Access Center is a wonderful and needed facility; complete profile of the health status of Linn County residents is in the process of being updated; began meetings for Friends of Linn County Public Health; final draft of strategic plan; Preventing Violence Affecting Young Lives partnership continues; food safety; one childhood lead case investigated; nuisance hoarding case in Palo; septic permits; seven air quality construction permits; four current enforcement and investigations taking place; discussed legislation and regionalization; providing guidance to Corpus Christi-Nueces County Health District; red thread Covid-19 commemoration.

Dustin Peterson, Veterans Affairs Dir. – budget update; updated county Emergency Assistance Policy; services to veterans; claims for benefits (84); 40% increase in customers seeking federal benefits in February, 2023 compared to February, 2022; Veterans Craft Fair in July; distributed last emailed newsletter; three Veteran Service Officers attended District 2 meeting in Dubuque; fully transitioned to Evolv software; 3,134 Linn County veterans received federal benefits.

Phil Lowder, IT Dir. - budget update; one staff vacancy; finished phase 1 of Office365 rollout; phase 2 of SharePoint and group folder sharing; set up blocking feature; HelpDesk sent out email regarding email quarantining; network reconfiguration project; potential issue with phone chargeback fee increased; patch Tuesday statistics.

Tamara Marcus, Sustainability Dir. – final meeting for life cycle cost for Renewable Energy Committee tonight and then final statements ready by the end of March; San Juan Wilderness Trek still accepting applications; Earth month series starts Saturday; held lunch and learn for CSA program; working on internal greenhouse gas inventory; EV (electric vehicle) week for county employees; energy efficiency block grant awarded to Linn County; community gardens across Linn County.

Adjournment at 10:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor  
By: Amanda Hoy, Executive Assistant

APPROVED BY:

LOUIS J. ZUMBACH, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors