

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022 9:00 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.

The Board heard updates from the following Elected Officials:

Brian Gardner, Sheriff - Waiting on response regarding ARPA funds they requested; Deputy Sheriff hiring process just finished; May 21st is next testing date; continue to have issue with hiring and people not wanting to work seven years in the jail; Steve O'Konek retired from EMA and BJ Dvorak was selected as his replacement effective April 9th.

Discussion continued regarding nursing staff at the jail, the hiring barriers and if working seven years in the jail can be negotiated and the uptick in jail deaths.

Sharon Gonzalez, Treasurer - Another tax season is complete; June 21st is anticipated online tax sale; filled team lead position, interviewing for part time position; thanked the Board for the addition of the Deputy Sheriff in the building in April; continues to push for constituents to utilize the online process.

Supervisor Walker stated that yesterday Steve Estenson noted that people are advocating for removal of the plexiglass screens and asked Gonzalez how the staff in her office feel about the screens. Gonzalez responded that her staff like the screens and the distance it gives them.

Matt Warfield, Deputy Auditor - Introduced Tim Yancey as the new Elections System Manager. Polling place update including ADA compliance.

Joel Miller, Auditor - His office plans to be open 20 days before the election including weekends. Discussion continued regarding absentee ballot mailings due to the Abby Finkenauer challenge.

Chairperson Rogers praised Auditor's Office staff noting how well prepared and resilient they are and it is deeply appreciated.

Miller addressed a possible new election law requiring voter ID numbers or driver's license numbers on absentee ballot affidavit envelopes.

Nick Maybanks, Attorney (via phone) - Case numbers and allocation in felony division; seeing disturbing trends of violent crimes in juvenile division; other case statistics; fully staffed; budget update; office is now paperless and working well with electronic cases.

Adjournment at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors