The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Vice Chairperson Rogers and Supervisor Kirsten Running-Marquardt. Absent: Chairperson Zumbach (personal business). Board members voting “AYE” unless otherwise noted.

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

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution 2023-4-50 Authorizing the Number of Deputy Auditor Positions
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, is empowered pursuant to Section 331.903, Code of Iowa, to determine the number of deputies, assistants, and clerks for the offices of Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, Sheriff, and County Attorney, and WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa authorized four (4) Deputy Linn County Auditor positions, and WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors approved the position of Accounting Manager for the Auditor's Office on March 13, 2023, and WHEREAS, the Linn County Auditor, Joel D. Miller, is requesting that the Board of Supervisors authorize the reduction of one (1) Deputy Auditor position in the Linn County Auditor’s Office, and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, this date met in lawful session, that the reduction of one (1) Deputy Linn County Auditor position is hereby approved, decreasing the number of authorized Deputy Linn County Auditor positions from four (4) to three (3), for the stated purpose of adding an Accounting Manager position for the Linn County Auditor’s Office.

Resolution 2023-4-51 AN AMENDMENT TO THE LINN COUNTY 2013 RURAL LAND USE MAP
BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, that the following amendment, Case JA23-0002, be made to the Rural Land Use Map of the Linn County Comprehensive Plan, dated July 19, 2013:
Amend the Rural Land Use Map designation from Metro Urban Service Area (MUSA) to Rural Residential Development

Approve and authorize Chair to sign an Agreement between Grant Wood Area Education Agency and Linn County Board of Supervisors to ensure appropriate educational programing for youth residing at the Juvenile Detention Center effective July 1, 2023 through June 20th, 2024.

Authorize Chair to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region of Iowa and Options of Linn County for $30,000 for funding of mental health and disability services per guidelines for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve minutes of April 3, 2023 as printed

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve Claims for AP checks #71010498 - #71010608 in the amt. of $261,312.41 and AP ACH in the amt. of $1,476,208.43, for a total of $1,737, 520.84.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve second consideration for rezoning case JR23-0003, request to rezone property located at 505 Dows Rd, from the Agricultural (Ag) zoning district to the Rural Residential 2-Acre (RR2) zoning district, approximately 9.34 acres, Daniel & Carolyn Thies Trusts, owner.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve second consideration on an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa by amending provisions in Chapter 107, Unified Development Code, relating to accessory dwelling units and updating the use table to include softball fields and other similar uses.

David Thienen, LCCS Dir., presented a Letter of Trespass between Linn County and City of Cedar Rapids Police Department for the Mental Health Access Center (a renewal from last year).

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquardt to approve Letter of Trespass between Linn County and City of Cedar Rapids Police Department for the Mental Health Access Center.

Thienen also presented a Home the Community Based Provider Services agreement between Options of Linn County and Molina Healthcare of Iowa, Inc. for Medicaid services provided at Options of Linn County for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Discussion continued regarding managed care and tiered rates. The Board indicated that if they can do anything to assist with the process to let them know.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Running-Marquart to approve Home the Community Based Provider Services agreement between Options of Linn County and Molina Healthcare of Iowa, Inc. for Medicaid services provided at Options of Linn County for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Public Comment:

Jessica Wiskus, Lisbon, thanked the Board for intervening on the Iowa Utility Board’s (IUB) docket and it is appreciated that they have asserted their right to have a place at the table, so to speak, and that is precisely what she is speaking about today. She is requesting the Board for 20 minutes on their agenda to give fair hearing to a presentation on the research that has informed the citizens of Linn County. She makes this request now because they are concerned about whose voices are being heard with respect to the issue of an ordinance. Wolf Carbon Solutions has received a place at the table, a place on the Board’s agenda. Wolf has been treated with respect by the members of the Board. Wiskus and a group came hat in hand during the public comment period, politely pleading with the Board for their allotted five minutes. They have never been granted equal access when it comes to the all-important effort to communicate information. Never have they been heard in a public forum as Wolf has at the Board meeting; never accorded the same degree of legitimacy that the Board extended to Wolf. They know that the system is stacked against them. While Wolf had a place on the Board’s agenda last week, many of them were working steadfastly to engage with the Iowa State Senate on HF 565. The bill that would have upheld their property rights was killed. The multi-billion dollar corporations that seek to profit by the pipelines had already bent the ear of the legislators. It did not matter that they emailed and spoke to them about their research, sources and analysis. It did not matter that they gently and thoroughly pulled away the layers of maleficient corporate talking points with clear evidence-based analysis. They received no hearing and legislators refused to consider the full weight of the facts before them. She referenced a hearing held by the Iowa House in February and how they were silenced. The powerful, wealthy and well connected told the representatives what was best for Iowa against the judgement of actual Iowans. Her work and research has not been admitted at a public forum. Why should their information about an issue essential to the future of their community not be accorded the same measure of respect that the Board holds out to Wolf. Wolf has a fiduciary responsibility to their private investors and not to Iowans. The Board needs to be mindful of this because it dictates everything that they do. Wolf refuses to wait for PFMSA’s new regulations but the new regulations are important because PFMSA made their grants available only to scientific and academic institutions. Their intention is to replace industry lead regulations with science-based regulations. This was the lesson that PFMSA learned from the accident in Sartalia. Wolf wants in with the old system and that is why Wolf appeared on the Board’s agenda to propose their self-regulating safety measure. That is nothing less than a repeat of the injustice that those with power have waged against the better interest of communities across the country for generations. Let it not happen again in Linn County. The Board has the responsibility to serve the people and the people have spoken. The City of Ely and the College Comm. School board filed objections against Wolf’s proposed carbon pipeline.
Recently 250 families who own property within the corridor have added their names to the list of people saying no to Wolf as filed on the IUB docket on Monday. That is virtually everyone in Putnam and Franklin townships in the affected areas. The community has rejected the project, but they want the Board to understand why. They want their research to be given a fair hearing. They ask to be treated with respect and fairness. In closing, Wiskus asked the Board to please consider her request for 20 minutes on their agenda.

Adjournment at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED BY:

BEN ROGERS, Vice Chairperson
Board of Supervisors