

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 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 June 1, 2022 as printed.

Tom Hardecopf, LIFTS Dir., presented a contract between the City of Cedar Rapids (CR Transit) and Linn County for FY23 ADA complementary transportation effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$904,296. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Jody Bridgewater, East Central Region staff, presented a contract between Linn County Community Services and the MH/DS of the East Central Region for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for the actual expenses incurred on the Linn County MHDS Fund balance in the amount of \$434,557.01. These funds must be expended by the end of June.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve contract between Linn County Community Services and the MH/DS of the East Central Region for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for the actual expenses incurred on the Linn County MHDS Fund balance in the amount of \$434,557.01.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to open a public hearing for consideration of conveyance by gift of real estate owned by Linn County described as Hull's 3rd Out Lot C N 1' S 59' Lot 9 & N 1' S 59' W 24' Lot 10, Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa.

Proof of publication was presented. There were no oral or written objections.

Brent Oleson, Deputy Dir. of Policy & Comm. Relations, stated that this is a small lot by Coopers Mill and the County is conveying property back to the city of Cedar Rapids.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to close public hearing.

Supervisor Walker presented information regarding the following agenda item:  
First consideration of an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the code of ordinances, Linn County, Iowa by adding thereto a new Article III pertaining to the prohibition within the unincorporated areas of the county of any efforts to change sexual orientation or gender identity with minors, including conversion and reparative therapy.

Supervisor Walker stated that this issue of conversion therapy was brought to his attention over a year ago from some interest groups in Linn County. There was some thinking that perhaps Linn County would join a larger coalition of municipalities that would take the same action. This was brought back to his attention and he made a commitment to the group that he would bring it before the Board for a vote, with or without participating cities. He stated that this would prohibit organizations in participating in conversion therapy in the unincorporated area of Linn County.

Brent Oleson stated that the second reading will be on Wednesday and final reading on Monday. The county's Civil Division has reviewed document and it will go into effect upon publication.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve upon first consideration of an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the code of ordinances, Linn County, Iowa by adding thereto a new Article III pertaining to the prohibition within the unincorporated areas of the county of any efforts to change sexual orientation or gender identity with minors, including conversion and reparative therapy.

Discussion: Supervisor Zumbach stated that this issue did not come from anyone in Linn County; it came from a person in Des Moines. He stated that this is so far out of the realm of being a County Supervisor and he will not be supporting it. He encouraged Supervisor Walker to run for an office higher than County Supervisor to address issues like this.

VOTE: Rogers and Walker - Aye Zumbach - Nay

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve and authorize Chair to sign, retroactive to June 2, 2022, a letter to the Honorable Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, asking her to veto HF 2497, which includes a provision to establish a two-year moratorium on the issuance of new gaming licenses.

Discussion: Supervisor Walker stated that he understands why this Board and other city councils in Linn County are encouraging the Governor to veto the moratorium but it feels to him like they are standing in a gap of a select group of individuals who have a high interest in the casino being built. He stated that there are other legislative issues that they should be hammering the legislature for (one in particular is legislators debating automatic weapons to go deer hunting). They should spend their political capital advocating for issues like that.

Supervisor Zumbach stated that by sending the letter is simply asking the Governor to deny the moratorium and let the gambling license panel do what they were meant to do.

VOTE: All Aye

Public Comment:

Wendy Hartman, Cedar Rapids, asked if there is a formal job description for County Supervisor that can be found on the county's website. She also asked if there is a Code of Ethics that the County Supervisors adhere to. Regarding the conversion therapy proposal, she wondered if in light of recent changes at Linn Mar, she believes that beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade that children can pursue their own gender and not allow their parents to be a part of that. She is curious that if the conversion therapy is denied in unincorporated Linn County, how would a child proceed that wants the conversion therapy.

Supervisor Rogers stated that this is only for the rural unincorporated area of Linn County and if a child advocated for the therapy, they can go to any other community that does not have a similar ordinance. Other municipalities do not have the ordinance. This is a proactive measure. With regard to job descriptions, they are in the Code of Iowa (he will send her the link). With regard to a Code of Ethics, they belong to different groups that have trainings on ethics.

Mark Banowitz, 2188 Ivanhoe Rd., Ely, corrected Supervisor Walker in that automatic weapons are not used for hunting (illegal in Iowa to use). With regard to the Ordinance today, as Supervisors they are telling licensed professionals what they can talk to people about. That is overstepping as Supervisors as they are saying they know more than the professionals do. He read the ordinance a half a dozen times. Supervisors are not qualified to tell someone how to run their practice. That is so far beyond local government. He also stated that there is no problem in the unincorporated areas, so why are they putting a law in effect. Putting a law in affect with no relevance of what is going on (what areas are there problems?). In referencing the Constitution, he stated that this is beyond what their forefathers had in mind.

Rachel Cadena, Marion, spoke regarding the conversion therapy. She echoes what Mr. Banowitz said noting that the Board is overstepping their bounds, which has happened a lot over the last two years. How can a government tell a doctor what to do or tell a parent what they can and cannot do? She stated that she has been a child advocate her whole life, she got the Governor's award for her work she was on the state board so she will always advocate for kids. She will fight against every bit of this.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve Employment Change Roster (payroll authorizations).

FACILITIES

Custodian	Gizele Niyindaje	End of probation 07/16/22 10A \$18.01 = \$ .25 – 10B \$18.59 + \$ .25
Custodian	Judith Adoma	Termination/resignation 06/17/22
Custodian	Celestin Ndagije	New hire – PT 06/13/22 10A \$17.61 + \$ .25 20 hrs/wk Replaces B. Tjarks

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Sheriff	Chelsea Behel	Bid from Correctional Center to Patrol 05/28/22 D5 \$35.59 – D5 \$35.19
Sergeant	Todd Egli	Transfer from Patrol to Investigations 06/04/22
Deputy Sheriff	Travis Rhone	New hire – FT 06/13/22 DB \$29.31
Senior Account Clerk	Samantha Dighton	End of probation 06/21/22 55A \$19.48 – 55B \$20.44

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Intake Technician	Cynthia Merritt	End of probation 06/21/22 55A \$19.48 – 55B \$20.44
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PUBLIC HEALTH

Sr Public	Sadie Nolan	Promotion 06/04/22 39E \$36.41 – 40D \$37.22 New position
Sr Public Hlth Nurse	Alicia Steines	Promotion 06/04/22 39E \$36.41 – 40D \$37.22 New position

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve Claims for AP checks #7100725 - #7100725 in the amt. of \$65.00.

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Adjournment at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor

By: Rebecca Shoop, Deputy Auditor

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors