

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021 11:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Walker called the meeting to order.

Dawn Schott, Juvenile Detention, presented a Vacancy Form requesting two Male Trackers for Juvenile Detention & Diversion Services. This is a grant funded position. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Schott also presented a request for approval of a new position changing a Clerk Typist position (retiring) to a Secretary position for Juvenile Detention & Diversion Services. Funding will either be a wash or minimal impact to the budget. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Charlie Nichols, Planning & Development Dir., presented a request to carryover \$11,906.00 to Fiscal Year 2022 Historic Preservation budget for replacement of two kiosks on Lincoln Highway that were damaged by the Derecho.

Nichols also discussed the Temporary Use Permit policy. The policy was that an event that was an annual occurrence was not required to come before the Board. Once COVID came into play, the Board asked to review each and every permit to review safety conditions. The consensus of the Board was to go back to the pre-COVID policy.

Nichols also stated that his department is working on a policy to address emergency Temporary Use Permit Board meetings as a result due to an event from a couple weeks ago with a one day notice (tickets had already been sold). Discussion followed regarding a possible disincentive "fee" for last minute events, noting that several county departments need to do their due diligence.

Nichols also presented a resolution setting dates for public hearing and consultation meeting on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment.

Supervisor Rogers stated that he would like to discuss making Juneteenth an additional annually recognized Linn County holiday.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., stated that Linn County has not added a holiday outside of contract negotiations, but it could happen. She noted that there is a percentage of the workforce that must work holidays and there are costs involved. She will do further research.

Brent Oleson, Deputy Dir. of Public Policy & Community Relations, presented the Consulting and Advisory Services Agreement between Linn County and collectively L&L Murphy, Associates and Grant Consulting LLC related to consulting and lobbying services. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Oleson also presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Linn County, Black Hawk County, Dubuque County, Johnson County, and Scott County, collectively known as the Urban County Coalition, related to consulting and lobbying services. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Public Comment:

Joel Miller, County Auditor, stated that she will not be present Wednesday (will be attending an Auditor's convention) when the Board discusses the county seal and wanted to speak on it now. He stated the Code of Iowa states that the County shall have only one official county seal. The county seal was placed on the ballots for the last election in place of the Auditor's signature. In some cases, it was a seal containing the Treasurer. Language has since changed. A seal has been provided to the Board for approval based on the law change.

Brian Mullenbach, 4004 High Woods Rd., Center Point, provided additional information about who MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.) is and their role in the electric utility industry. He also provided context to the importance of four letters in relation to Duane Arnold (Nuclear) shutting down and public information that is viewable/accessible through MISO's webpage. He stated that they need to pause and take time to be sure that they have proper regulations in place to manage energy projects of this scale.

Deb Yates, 2362 Young Rd., Palo, stated that he opposes the proposed solar project near Palo. She was born and raised on a farm and was concerned on the impact on the 7 generation farm. She provided statistics of farmland converted to industrial and wanted to bring attention not just NextEra projects but 3,500 acres from Center Point to Hwy. 30 and right up against metro Cedar Rapids. They are requesting an 18-month moratorium and asked the board to direct Planning & Development to meet with residents to consider their concerns.

Don Whit, 602 Blue Heron Rd., Center Point, stated that an 18-month moratorium will delay putting on line clean energy that could power industrial manufacturing entities that may want to come to the community. The sooner that power is on line, the more

attractive the community is for more jobs. He supports solar for environmental and economic development for jobs. He also stated that those that are opposed are being supported by non-profit organizations.

Sara Alden, 4124 Greens Grove Rd., Center Point, clarified the last speaker's comment. The group of residents that have concerns are all home grown and grass roots. They spend every waking moment of their lives for the last 2-3 months doing research and learning all they can to protect the community. There are lots of them spending their own time and money and there is nothing being paid for by other nonprofit organizations.

Charlie Nichols clarified that the Planning & Zoning Commission would have nothing to do with the moratorium. It is only the Board of Supervisors.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve Employment Change Roster (payroll authorizations) as follows:

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Universal Clerk Michaela Kelly New hire – FT 06/28/21 56A \$20.54; \$20.95 as of 7/1/21 Replaces A. Parvin

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Criminal Prosecutor I Shannon Powers Promotion 07/22/21 \$58,302.00/annually - \$79,563.54/annually Replaces M. Ghadiri

Special Prosecutor Dillan Edwards Termination/resignation 06/19/21

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Family Service MaryAnn Pudar Termination/no longer needed for on-call 06/16/21

Youth Worker Marissa Brandt Step increase/contract 07/15/21 56C \$23.26 – 56D \$24.51

JUVENILE DETENTION

Youth Counselor - Jamie Luneckas Termination/no longer available for on-call 06/18/21

VETERAN AFFAIRS

Income Maintenance Wrkr Phillis Pittman Termination/retirement 07/23/21

PUBLIC HEALTH

Environmental Public Hlth Mgr Shane Dodge Promotion 06/26/21 \$104,412.00/annually - \$110,710.56/annually Replaces J. Hodina

ENGINEERING

Temp Roadway Maint Wrkr Daniel Cook New hire – temporary 06/28/21 \$20.00/hour

The Board recessed at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to open public hearing to establish a Secondary Road Assessment District to improve Wayside Circle with a two-inch asphalt overlay for the entire length of Wayside Circle and four inch patching in three locations and driveway transitions involving concrete driveway panel removal and replacement at a cost of \$118,185.00. The assessment district includes Blair Ridge Estates Addition lots 1-6 and lots 9-16 and Blair Ridge Estates 2nd Addition lots 1-2.

Brad Ketels, County Engineer, gave a background of the age and structure of the affected roads noting that the road could use some patching but is in good shape for being 27 years old. Proof of publication was presented and there were no oral or written objections.

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

The Board concurred that they should proceed with this Secondary Road Assessment District.

Adjournment at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor
By: Rebecca Shoop, Deputy Auditor
and Amanda Hoy, Executive Assistant

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors