

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve minutes of September 26, 2022 as printed.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Exec. Dir. - Rob Lawton training; Budget on track; Juvenile Detention Center is back up to 9 (was down to 3); Mental Health Access Center is working on medical detox component; Child Youth Development fall enrollment is underway; Family Transformation Serv. received vehicles; Ryan White program has more referrals coming in than discharges; OPTIONS Medicare billing simplified; Vendor Fair at Community Services Building for DeCat and ECI.

Chairperson Rogers commended Thielen and his staff for their efforts.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. - Wrapping up construction projects for the season; working on next bond sale and explained projects in detail; Rob Lawton training and customer satisfaction (gave a story involving a bride and her wedding).

Kent Rector, Nature Center Mgr., gave a PowerPoint presentation on the South San Juan 2022 trail whereby they took 8 students on this adventure.

Chairperson Rogers commended Rector and Tamara Marcus for their leadership in this project.

Tamara Marcus, Sustainability Dir. (via phone) - Ely park project; involvement in working groups; Trees Forever Symposium involvement; Equitable Housing Alliance meeting and Energy efficiency joint project with Johnson County.

Supervisor Walker commended Marcus for her involvement to get students to participate in the So. San Juan trail project, noting the value of a project like that. He stated that perhaps they should establish an \$8,000 line item to relieve the pressure to raise funds in the future.

Dustin Peterson, Veterans Affairs Dir. - KPI's; budget update; highlighted services provided to veteran's; attended Five Seasons Stand Down, Fry Fest, Court of Appeals; working with Together Healthy Linn (mental health).

Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation - Indian Creek soil health partnership; offer for open position; anticipate interfacing with City of Cedar Rapids for regional partnership; fall cover crop assistance; Iowa Water Quality initiative; Morgan Creek watershed; urban practices and Derecho funding for Dow's; continue to assist state staff on ongoing construction with Trees Forever corporate campus; Weed Commissioner duties wrapping up for the year; assisting Engineer with design plans for future county shop south of Palo; assisting Target with a sponsorship; Inflation Reduction Act.

Public Comment: Don White, 602 Blue Heron Ct NE, Cedar Rapids, stated that he is speaking on the proposed moratorium for large scale solar. Linn County has the most forward thinking ordinance in the state and possibly the Midwest. He thinks people should know how that ordinance evolved and what work the folks at Linn County put into it. They need solar to electrify their economy and are at a risk for power outages. Elderly people need to stay cool in 100 degree temperatures outside. White feels that the solar projects should have been online 10 years ago and they are way behind schedule. A moratorium will add more delays and years between projects, in his opinion. Developers are already planning things according to the current ordinance and now they will have to wait for the moratorium period. Delays are putting their peak power in jeopardy. The more they delay they set the precedent for other communities to do the same. Solar is beneficial to farmers and could keep farmland in farm communities with more solar farms versus ethanol farms.

Adjournment 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors