

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021 8:00 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.

The Board met with Elected Officials and Department Heads to discuss County-related issues including:

Ray Brown, United Way, Jo Dillon and Cheryl Kinnaird, Iowa Shares, gave presentations to the Board for the employee contribution program.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., gave an update on the ARPA fund distribution process (explained to the Board on October 20th) noting that the application process opens tomorrow and the deadline is noon on January 7, 2022 for round one. He clarified that water, sewer and broadband projects could be eligible if they qualify under DNR or EPA revolving loan funds.

The Board of Supervisors gave an update on Linn County's Strategic Plan.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., distributed the Strategic Plan working document and explained.

Public Comment: Chris Kivett-Berry clarified regarding childcare grants that United Way approved \$80,000 but the balance of \$300k was distributed to counties other than Linn.

Ben Rogers, Supervisor, praised Kivett-Berry for her work ethic and years of service with her impending retirement.

Stacey Walker, Supervisor, echoed Roger's sentiments.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Executive Dir. - Chris Kivett-Berry's last day is November 10th; Amy Grunewaldt started a week ago; General Assistance: emergency rental assistance program (over a million has been advocated out); Juvenile Detention: Tanager Place received a grant for a full time counselor; met with Director Garcia to discuss detention center fund that was cut; Access Center: services are 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; received \$115,000 from ECR; Per Mar will be on site soon in two shifts; Child & Youth Development: vandalism continues and adding lighting on the playground; Ryan White: approved funding for an additional case manager position; serving 194 clients with 12 new languages represented; Options: recalled the Clerk Typist and two Direct Support Staff to help with programming needs (two retirements); 108 clients currently; East Central Region: working on 28E; Home Health: compliance review on November 3rd.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. - trying to complete projects before the weather turns; construction updates on the various trails; master plan signage; planning stages for campground; Pinicon Ridge Dam plans continue to move forward; Buffalo Creek Park improvements; good camping levels this year but closing this Sunday; tree planting with Alliant Energy; held annual Wickiup Hill Fall Fest.

Nicole Kehres, Veterans Affairs Dir. - Fall School and State Commissioner training in Des Moines; Veteran's to start paying back any VA debt; updates from Home Based Iowa; Homes from Hero's program; VA Caregiver program; Iowa Veteran's cemetery; changes for license plates; VA monies increasing 5.9%; various outreach opportunities.

Phil Lowder, IT Dir. - budget update; two job vacancies; phone dialing changes went into effect Monday; October is National Cyber Security month; pushed out major Window's update; patches; switched to dot gov.

Tamara Marcus, Sustainability Program Mgr. - close to being able to release the application for the Community Sustainability Council; meeting with several city and county governments across the state for the Iowa Sustainable Working Group; AmeriCorp members are up and running; engagement and outreach efforts; speaking on Dept. of Energy panel today; working with Charlie Nichols on utility solar ordinance; serving on the hiring committee for Public Health and Facilities; continues to meet with Ashley Balius regarding housing needs in the county.

Adjournment at 9:53 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors