

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 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 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve Consent Agenda as follows:

Resolution 2021-1-4 PETITION for SUSPENSION of FISCAL 2021 / ASSESSMENT 2019
PROPERTY TAXES

WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors is this day presented with the attached petitions for suspension of taxes and/or special assessments pursuant to Section 427.8 of the Code of Iowa and;

WHEREAS, the properties for which assessments against these Petitioners are made lie within Linn County and;

WHEREAS, these Petitioners are unable to contribute to the public revenue by reason of age, infirmity, or both.

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 attached petitions be approved for the following Petitioners, parcels, and tax years:

PETITIONER	PARCEL #	TAX YEARS	Special #
Moore, Jackie	11352-54012-00000	2019	
Papke, Erin	14162-02002-00000	2019	

Approve and authorize Chair to sign a 36 month copier lease agreement at \$235.73 per month with Gordon Flesch Company, Inc. for the Risk Department.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve minutes of January 5, 2021 as presented.

Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir., presented the following update on Linn County's response to COVID-19:

- Daily case counts dropping as well as hospital admissions.
- Public Health continues to urge communities to be vigilante in keeping case counts low.
- Vaccines delivered to Linn County from three different companies.
- 5,712 Linn County Health Care workers have been vaccinated.
- Linn County is in Phase 1A for vaccines which is for health care workers and health care facilities.
- Continue to experience a large number of concerns and questions regarding the virus and vaccine.
- Linn County has had 16,966 cases; 2,035 active cases; 26 hospitalized and 246 deaths.

Supervisor Rogers asked if Dwivedi had information on the 14-day trend in order to consider an objective metric while planning to reopen county buildings and can the new strain be inoculated with the current vaccine.

Dwivedi responded that the vaccine will be effective on the new variant and he does not have the data regarding the 14-day trend (that is 2-3 weeks out).

Supervisor Zumbach stated that with the limited number of vaccines, if someone has had COVID, is it better to not take the vaccine at this time.

Dwivedi stated that someone that has had COVID has 90-day immunity so it is a good idea to wait until after that time so that others can benefit from the vaccine.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve upon second consideration for rezoning case JR20-0012, request to rezone property located in the 111 Rosedale Rd. NE NE 18-83-6, from AG (Agricultural) district to RR2 (Rural Residential 2 Acre) district, approximately 22.71 acres, Alan & Julia Mroch Joint Rev Trust, owners & Tim Mroch, petitioners.

Public Comment: Supervisor Rogers received an anonymous and unaddressed piece of correspondence from someone that was watching the swearing in ceremony of the Sheriff and his command staff. This person was displeased that there was no command staff of color and will be contacting media outlets. This has been forwarded to the Sheriff so that he is aware of it.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve Claims and ACH in the amount of \$1,312,735.26.

Board Member Reports - Supervisor Rogers will be doing an interview with a media outlet regarding the county's overflow shelter and talk about our efforts on homelessness.

Supervisor Zumbach thanked staff and colleagues for the warm welcome and he is looking forward to four years of representing Linn County.

Chairperson Walker will be doing an interview regarding elected officials around the state that are interested in bringing legislation to treat marijuana the same way as alcohol. He gave an update on activities of the Sustainability Dept. There is a lot of movement post derecho and the tree loss, which will likely be a multigenerational project to replace them. Tamara Marcus is coordinating with municipalities and townships on that project; working on greenhouse gas inventory; and working with the state government to get some Ameri Corp members to help with this burden. Chairperson Walker is also working on a presentation on the social determinates of health of children that experience trauma.

The Board received and placed on file an anonymous letter that was discussed under board member reports and Chairperson Walker read a letter from LaVonne Carter expressing her gratitude and her positive experience with the LIFTS Dept.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Rogers to make the following appointments:
Katie Vodraska to the Home Health/Ryan White Advisory Committee, term ending 6/30/2024; Dr. Donald Linder as Linn County Medical Examiner, term ending 12/31/2022; Dr. Josh Pruitt, Dr. Jeffrey Curnes, Dr. Arlene Zahn-Houser and Alisha Weber as Deputy Medical Examiners, terms ending 12/31/2022.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Rogers to appoint Supervisor Louis Zumbach to the Cedar Rapids Linn County Solid Waste Agency Board, tem ending 12/31/2023.

Discussion: Chairperson Walker noted that the Board normally makes all of their board and commission appointments at one time and asked if there was a reason for doing this today. Barb Schmitz, Board staff, stated that Karmin McShane requested that it be done as soon as possible.

Vote: All Aye

The Board recessed at 11:37 a.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. to review proposed Fiscal Year 2022 budgets. Present: Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir.; Sara Bearrows, Budget Dir.; Steve Estenson, Risk Manager; Treasurer Sharon Gonzalez and Kelly Geater, Deputy Treasurer.

Risk Management - FY 22 appropriations request meets the Board's guidelines. The reduction in salary/benefits is the result of a change in health insurance elections.

Steve Estenson presented his Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) and the following Offer: Online First Aid/CPR training for Linn County Employees - \$8,000.00 (ongoing).

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve FY 22 Risk Management appropriations in the amount of \$322,351 and revenues of \$320,851.

Discussion: Supervisor Rogers asked about the continuation of being self-insured. Estenson stated that they have determined that the county being self-insured is still the best way to go.

Supervisor Zumbach stated that he applauds Mr. Estenson for coming in under budget. He is also asking for a roll call vote and explained his reasoning. Voting unanimously gives a false sense of telling the department that they are guaranteed the money. He is requesting to be last during the roll call and stated that voting last is simply in the off chance that one of the other two board members would say no, he would then vote yes so that they don't have to start over.

After further discussion and explanation of past practice, a compromise was offered by Chairperson Walker in that they will continue with the normal way of voting ("all those in favor say Aye, all those opposed, say Nay") and then he will leave enough time for a discussion. This was agreeable to everyone.

VOTE: All Aye

Treasurer - FY22 proposed appropriation exceeds the Board's guidelines by \$1,000 due to an increase in overtime. Discussion continued regarding the decrease in investment income.

Treasurer Gonzalez presented the budget narrative and her KPI's. Discussion continued regarding reopening the building to the public. Gonzalez and her management staff are of the opinion that they have "all or nothing", noting the challenges of the previous arrangement when they did reopen for a short time.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve FY 22 Treasurer appropriations in the amount of \$3,600,170 and revenues in the amount of \$2,600,722.

Court Administration - FY22 proposed appropriations budget is under the Board's guidelines by \$66,000 due to the reallocation of \$62,500 for Thomsen West subscriptions to the Attorney's budget and the discontinuance of a subscription for the law library.

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Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve FY22 Court Expense appropriations in the amount of \$32,500.

Revised Conservation - Total revenue is now \$6,160,050.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to approve FY22 Conservation revenue in the amount of \$6,160,050.

Jindrich stated that the valuation growth is in the 2% area and further information will be provided on Friday.

Adjournment at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors