

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 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.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Zumbach to approve minutes of January 27, 2021 as printed.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Rogers to authorize Shane Dodge to sign a Staffing Agreement between Linn County Public Health and Express Employment Professionals to hire temporary staff to answer vaccine calls retroactive to January 27, 2021.

Discussion: Chairperson Walker stated that this agreement allows Public Health to hire temps. from this agency to work at the COVID call Center.

VOTE: All Aye

Maura Pilcher, Chr. of the Linn County Historic Preservation Commission, presented the Linn County Historic Preservation Commission 2021 Annual Update including post Derecho activity.

Les Beck, Planning & Development Dir., gave an update on the Dows Farm Agri-Community including remaining significant challenges that need to be addressed such as the Derecho damaged barn.

Representatives of Ahmann Companies and Reynolds Urban Design stated that it has been a pleasure working with Les Beck and they are looking forward to implementing these visions.

Discussion continued regarding this complex operation with many moving parts and many entities involved as this is a public/private partnership. The Board encouraged Planning & Development to keep them up to speed on any new developments.

Les Beck presented an agreement between the East Central Iowa Council of Governments, Linn County, and Feed Iowa First for rural recovery projects related to economic recovery and resiliency. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir., presented a request from Benton County Transportation for Linn County to donate two counters, four office chairs plus track and hardware. Per the Board's policy, all county departments were offered the surplus furniture with no value first and he recommends approval. The Board will approve on Wednesday.

Brent Oleson, Deputy Dir. of Policy & Community Relations, presented the Fiscal Year 2021 Witwer Trust Grant funding. He presented a list of applicants that received two or more board member votes. The total amount exceeds the \$80,000 grant dollars by a small amount. He recommends that the Board reduce requests down to \$80,000 by rounding the requests up or down by minimal amounts.

The consensus of the Board was to concur with Oleson's recommendation of rounding the amounts and will approve on Wednesday.

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

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Juvenile Prosecutor I	Nina Sheller	Transfer to Juvenile Division 02/27/21 \$94,240.31/annually
Replaces C. Speth		
Criminal Prosecutor II	Heidi Carmer	Transfer to Criminal Division 02/27/21 \$121,614.03/annually -
\$109,094.94/annually		
Civil Attorney	Cory Speth	Transfer to Civil Division 02/27/21 \$109,094.94/annually -
\$114,545.60/annually	Replaces H. Carmer	

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Senior Planner	Stephanie Lientz	Step increase/contract 02/01/21 39D \$33.82 – 39E \$35.70
----------------	------------------	---

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Sheriff	Barry Buzynski	Termination/resignation 01/22/21
Duty Officer	Elizabeth Smiley-Glover	New hire - FT 02/08/21 011 56A \$20.79 + \$.25

Replaces J. Shook

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Assistant Teacher	Amelia Blackhawk-Casper	New hire - FT Amelia 02/08/21 53A \$16.43
-------------------	-------------------------	---

Replaces. D. Bigley

JUVENILE DETENTIO

Youth Leader	Gretchen Dodge	New hire – temporary, PT on-call 01/25/21 55A \$19.10
--------------	----------------	---

Replaces K. Powlishta

ENGINEERING

Account Technician	Chyenne Wright	Transfer – internal application 02/08/21 55B \$20.04 – 58B \$25.39
--------------------	----------------	--

Replaces B. Ludwig

Road Maintenance Super Kurtis Buckman New hire 02/08/21 \$68,548/annually Replaces G. Anderson

Legislative Update: Supervisor Zumbach attended a virtual meeting on Friday along with Darrin Gage. The Compensation bill was discussed.

The Board recessed at 11:56 a.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.
Also present: Dawn Jindrich, Finance Manager and Sara Bearrows, Budget Dir.

Jindrich stated that this is a breakeven budget. They are able to use Mental Health fund savings to reallocate to the General Fund (which they have done since 1996). This results in an Offer pot of \$240,000. The amount of Offer askings is in the amount of \$1.6 million, which does not include vehicle requests. Their goal is for the Board to determine the levy amount and if they choose to proceed with Offers. They will come back to the Board on Wednesday for final approval on Friday.

It was the consensus of the Board to not eliminate the Offer pot.

Supervisor Zumbach offered the following suggestion:

- Approve two Offers totaling \$138,841 (EMA staff member & Risk Mgt. Training).
- Take out \$150,000 for the Legacy Community Attractions (Freedom Festival, History Center, and Linn County Fair).
- Take out \$50,000 for the SET Task Force.
- Lower the levy by 1.5 cents.
- Give back \$90,000 to Legacy Comm. Attractions & \$13,000 to SET.

Chairperson Walker stated that he didn't know if this is the right time to try to lower the levy rate noting that this is now a time for county services to be robust (fully operational and fully staffed to meet the challenges).

Supervisor Rogers stated that he would need to see how this would affect the groups within the Legacy Community Attractions as well as the SET Task Force and the various Offers.

The Board will discuss further on Wednesday.

Adjournment at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors