

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019 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 Oleson (via phone). 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:

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., stated that Thursday is performance management training and March 11, 12 & 13 are all employee harassment training.

Mikki Scott, Health Solutions, presented the annual health screening results. She highlighted the vision, strategies and plan for future fiscal years.

Garth Fagerbakke, Facilities Mgr., gave a construction update on the Harris Building and the O'Brien Building.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., gave a construction update on the Community Services Building (DHS moving from Iowa Bldg.); Davidson Building (for Elections); new LIFTS building; new Correctional Center entrance; converting Public Health to Mental Health Access Center; and converting Fillmore Building to homeless resource center.

Public Comment: Ben Rogers, Supervisor, stated that he has been receiving complimentary emails from customers who visit the Public Service Center for different reasons. Last night he received a text from his neighbor. He read the text noting that it is good to hear when people have good experiences at Linn County.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to approve minutes of February 25, 2019 as printed.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads:

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. - Focusing on project planning for 2019 and 2020; Prairie Oaks Lodge renovation (air conditioning, windows, etc.); working on gap in Grant Wood Trail; hiring engineering firm to work on county owned wetland property; meeting with potential partners on Linn County Learning Farm (3-5 years); hiring a consultant for Pinicon Ridge Dam mitigation project; RFP's for resource management plans are out (Pinicon Ridge & Squaw Creek); looking at RFP to connect Dows Maniti Trail from Grant Wood Trail through Squaw Creek to Sac & Fox Trail; MPO identified funding for Hwy. 100 trail; working with private company to do some video tours of lodges; Conservation Partners meeting April 4<sup>th</sup>; KPI's reviewed.

Supervisor Rogers left meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Goemaat also reported on progress in ways of outreach to underserved populations in the community.

Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation - The department is allowed to move forward with funding contracts due to the passage of the farm bill (federal programs); expect to use up all EQIP funds; there will be a Conservation Reserve Program but don't know the parameters; assisting with the tax exemption applications for the Slough Bill; the forest reserve eligibility (land classification) change will affect the Slough Bill program; Iowa Partners for Conservation Grant (moving forward expending funds); education and outreach meetings have been rescheduled due to weather; attended Soil Health Conference (ties to strategic mission and goals); and preliminary development of the 2019 green infrastructure conference.

Don Tyne, Veterans Affairs Dir. - the number of federal claims vs. county claims is increasing; the Federal Circuit Court regarding veterans and agent orange could increase the number of claims to file; ruling authorizing blue water veterans exposed to agent orange. KPI's reviewed and Learning Institutes scheduled through May.

Chairperson Walker asked Tyne to contact the Health Department Director regarding Opioid Steering Committee.

Phil Lowder, IT Dir. - Helpdesk statistics; budget on target; 100% staffed (a retirement coming after April 1<sup>st</sup>); KPI's reviewed; Aumentum ticket status; Tyler Project is in the data base conversion piece; security work; back end switching gear; and quarterly Learning Institutes are scheduled.

Supervisor Walker asked Lowder for his involvement with the new Siemens security changes. Lowder indicated that he does not know the timeline and how it is progressing but will be involved.

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Adjournment at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

STACEY WALKER, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors