

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020 8:05 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center.  
Present: Chairperson Rogers, Vice Chairperson Oleson and Supervisor Walker. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

The Board met with Elected Officials and Department Heads via conference call.

COVID 19 UPDATE:

- Steve Estenson, Risk Manager - Employee temperature taking is going well. Received another shipment of thermometers and will be distributed. Four county employees tested positive and contact tracing went into effect. The Board Support Team will meet to discuss reopening and what that will look like. The consensus is to explore opening in some type of phase. Linn County's FEMA application for reimbursement has been accepted. The Iowa Dept. of Public Health provided information in March about how to cope with anxiety. He encourages employees to continue to educate themselves and ask questions.
- Garth Fagerbakke, Facilities Mgr. - Teamsters union donated 200 empty plastic bottles with pumps and are available for departments to fill with sanitizer. Facilities has also received large dispensers with alcohol based hand sanitizer and are going up throughout county buildings. The custodial staff continues to work extra hours to sanitize. The HVAC systems have been set to bring in more outdoor air. Masks should be arriving at any time. He continues to research new and different ways to sanitize surfaces (UVs lights). The Sheriff's Office owns two Clorox 360 machines and Facilities has one with one more on order. Keeping the sanitizing product on hand has been a challenge.
- Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir. - 632 cases in Linn County with 36 deaths.

County Attorney Jerry Vander Sanden asked if capitol/remodeling projects will be put on hold given the present circumstances. Darrin Gage will talk to him after the meeting.

Chairperson Rogers discussed the Governor's proclamation releasing 77 counties with restrictions. Discussion continued regarding how it could look when county buildings do open to the public.

Les Beck, Planning & Development, referred to a previous email that had been sent asking for feedback and asked if anything was put together.

Darrin Gage stated that he will resend the email, noting that the Board's Support Team is moving toward a FAQ document to offer guidance. They will begin that process at their meeting today. Chairperson Rogers noted that there are other obstacles with employees coming back to work such as childcare issues. Lisa Powell, HR Dir., stated that the county has addressed the child care issue and right now Federal law allows for 2/3 pay to stay home. Employees can also use the MOU's that were negotiated with the union and she does not anticipate adding to those leave supports.

Supervisor Walker also stated that since there is talk of Linn County at some point becoming a Test Iowa site, Public Health is looking to second year epidemiologist students to assist their staff. Powell stated that she does not anticipate any issues with that. Discussion continued regarding the out of state travel policy that is still in effect through May 31 (self-isolate for two weeks).

Col. Stuelke reported that employees at the Correctional Center are required to wear masks. They recommend that inmates do the same. The Sheriff provides all masks.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir., reported that campgrounds are closed and they are anticipating that it will change May 15. They are developing best practices and working with state parks and a consortium of other counties.

Adjournment at 8:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors