The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center.

Present: Chairperson Rogers and Vice Chairperson Oleson. Absent: Supervisor Walker (other county business). Board members voting “AYE” unless otherwise noted.

Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

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

Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir., gave an update on the GovSense project noting a delayed go live date which is now September 1st.

Rhonda Betsworth, Deputy Auditor, gave an update on CeridSense project noting that clocks have been received and go live is scheduled for October 1st.

The Board discussed school opening/partial opening/closing, and its impact on employees. Chairperson Rogers added that the Board Support Team has met regarding this issue. They are figuring approximately 50 employees would be impacted at a cost of $400,000.

Steve Estenson, Risk Mgr., on behalf of the Employee Development Committee, discussed training opportunities for online/zoom interactions with departments.

Sharon Gonzalez, Treasurer, gave an update on Q-matic and the issues she is currently experiencing.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to approve minutes of July 22, 2020 as printed.

The Board heard updates from the following Department Heads:

David Thielen, LCCS Executive Dir. - budget update; Child & Youth Development: received two new grants; Family Service Workers are doing porch meetings; applied for stipend funds through DHS; issues with new playground and refrigeration; General Assistance: overflow shelter has shifted to cooling center; Ryan White: did a pickup for food cards for their clients; examining potential of covering phones for clients and expanding data package coverage; Home Health: staff continue limited service; Options: recalled eight from furlough; starting first phase of reopening; Access Center: three weeks behind schedule; working with five organizations to create a policy and procedures document; Juvenile Detention: community based programming has restarted; received $5,000 grant; East Central Region: Governor allocated $30 million for mental health regions but not sure how it is going to look; LCCS: construction is wrapping up.

Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. - construction activity has picked up; Wapsi Scenic Overlook is in progress; Cedar Valley Trail paving due to let in September; Morgan Creek Park redevelopment is getting back on track (late start); management plans are getting closer; Pinicon Ridge Dam Modification has online video option to view opening; signage project; all programs are operating at some level; reopened Wickiup Hill for appointment only; Squaw Creek will be renamed.

Pramod Dwivedi, Health Department Dir. - unspent money from ECICOG due to COVID; economic downturn and doing the best they can to contain and control spread of disease in the community; drastic growth in cases recently; remain open for business with a focus on immunizations; investigating STI’s; Public Health should be in front line of pandemic; read statement issued by the Board of Health.

Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation - difficult to work with their clientele due to COVID; program updates; Conservation Reserve Program signup; completing field visits; Indian Creek Watershed soil analysis; busy with rain garden project; Central City water retention project; Center Point application and review of sites; outreach continues for Eastern Iowa Airport regarding a grant; potential grant application from ECICOG; storm water runoff in subdivisions and street flooding; nine weed commissioner complaints; worked with Secondary Road Manager regarding long term maintenance to eliminate noxious weeds.

Phil Lowder, IT Dir. - Helpdesk statistics, budget update; three staff vacancies (in process of making offer and interviewing others); KPI’s; open projects; patches and hot fixes; conversion work on a number of projects; security monitoring; working to cut down on levels of spam received in mailbox (replacing current product).

Adjournment at 9:54 a.m.