

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 11:00 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 and led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment: Jennifer Dunn, Linn County Fair, stated that she appreciates the Board's support while considering Legacy Grants.

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

Approve and authorize Chair to sign an agreement with Reynolds Urban Design for Dows Farm Phase 3 Master Planning Implementation Services in the amount of \$35,000 plus reimbursable expenses

Approve and authorize Chair to sign a Public Performance Licensing Agreement for Correctional Institutions Agreement between Linn County and SWANK Motion Pictures Inc. in the amount of \$519.

Approve and authorize Chair to sign a contract between Linn County Child & Youth Development Services and Cedar Rapids Community School District in the amount of \$89,451 to operate preschool slots pursuant to the State Voluntary Preschool Program for four year old children.

Approve and authorize Chair to renew a three (3) year lease agreement ending August 31, 2023 with The Jane Boyd Community House at \$1,714 per month for the Iowa Department of Human Services use of what is commonly referred to as the Harambee House.

Approve Indian Creek Nature Center (5300 Otis Rd. SE) Liquor License, noting all conditions have been met.

The Board discussed actions related to the storm of August 10, 2020 as follows:

- The Not to Exceed Intent to Increase Amount document from Ceres Environmental Services has been received and signed (increasing from \$3,000,000.00 to \$6,322,171.56).
- A consultant is coming in to get project worksheets (PW's) ready for disaster related expenses. Adequate reserves will allow for cash flow.
- Secondary Road Department staff continue to monitor where debris needs to be picked up.
- Daily status reports are provided to the Board by Ceres.
- Working on tackling the huge issue of wood chip material as a result of tree debris and running out of space.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to approve the Not to Exceed Intent to Increase Amount document from Ceres Environmental Services (increasing from \$3,000,000.00 to \$6,322,171.56) retroactive to September 1, 2020.

Supervisor Walker stated that he was drawn to a few neighborhoods in Cedar Rapids that won't come back from the storm and others that are under renovations. The residents are temporarily displaced or forced into an incredible hardship to find new housing all together. Nearly every person in the apartment complex along 12th Ave. corridor is at or below the poverty line as well as language barriers or are challenged with English language. This will be adding significantly to the homeless population and/or unstable housing in the coming months. As policy makers, the Board has a role to address the lack of affordable housing in the community.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to approve second consideration on an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Linn County, Iowa, by amending provisions in Chapter 107, Unified Development Code.

Steve Estenson, Risk Manager, presented an Application for Fireworks Permit for Delmar Jellison (applicant) to conduct a display at 506 Linn Drive, Palo, on September 5, 2020. Meets all conditions.

Supervisor Rogers stated that it would be irresponsible for the Board to approve the Fireworks Permit with all of the dry debris that is laying around.

Supervisor Oleson disagreed noting that this is outside of the buffer area of the metro area. Linn County is currently allowing burning in this area through September 30.

Supervisor Walker agreed with Supervisor Rogers stating that they could be endangering the lives of many individuals due to the unprecedented amount of dry debris in the community right now. His position is that he will not vote in favor of any fireworks permits until they have completed the organic debris cleanup process.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to deny Application for Fireworks Permit for Delmar Jellison (applicant) to conduct a display at 506 Linn Drive, Palo, on September 5, 2020, property of Bob Herr (sponsor).

Discussion: Supervisor Oleson stated that he is disappointed with where this is going. This is private property in an area where any one can burn. It will be attended by a few family members and the Palo Fire Chief has signed off and most of Palo has been cleaned up. The Board is micromanaging people's lives.

VOTE: Rogers and Walker - Aye Oleson - Nay

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to approve the following Legacy and Community Attraction grant applications:

- African American Heritage Foundation - \$30,000
- Indian Creek Nature Center - \$25,000
- Linn County Fair Association - \$25,000
- Marion Chamber of Commerce - \$30,000
- The History Center - \$40,000

Motion by Oleson, seconded by Rogers to approve \$20,000 of economic development support for the Marion Public Library this fiscal year with future boards fulfilling the commitment of \$15,000 and \$15,000 in the following years.

Supervisor Oleson left meeting at this time.

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

- The Board of Health and the Board of Supervisors are in favor of a mask mandate.
- 40 contact tracers have been hired
- Linn County has 240 active cases and 14 hospitalized with 94 deaths

Chairperson Rogers is asking that the Governor accept or deny the Board's request for a mask mandate.

Public Comment:

Jason Wright, Exec. Dir. of the History Center, thanked the Board for the allocation approved today.

Rob Cook, 1691 Bilgarie Court NE, asked the Board to force the issue of mandatory masks. He stated that it may not have teeth but it has meaning. It would basically show what Linn County thinks is right.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Rogers to approve Claims #70615449-#70615537 in the amt. of \$163,777.19; #70615448 in the amt. of \$100; ACH in the amt. of \$2,480,581.33 and Area Ambulance in the amt. of \$7,757.50.

The Board recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m. for a joint Zoom public hearing with the City of Bertram for vacating right-of-way on Deer Trail and Road No. 82.

Brad Ketels, County Engineer, explained the request by Steve Dummermuth to vacate the right-of-way. Once it is vacated, any maintenance will be the responsibility of the property owner. Ketels noted that he received a phone call from Keith Kinsey asking for clarification of the vacation.

There were no oral or written objections.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Walker to close public hearing.

Adjournment at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors