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 to discuss County-related issues including:

- Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir., gave an update for the GovSense project.
- Rhonda Betsworth, Deputy Auditor, gave an update for the Ceridian project (new timekeeping system).
- Jindrich advised the Board that Linn County was awarded all of the Care Act funding that they applied for. Budget discussions continued.
- Betsworth advised the Board that Auditor Miller applied for a grant for elections which was awarded (private) $700,000.

The group discussed Linn County’s response, protocols, and procedures for response to a COVID-19 outbreak in a Linn County building or department as follows:

- Joi Alexander, Communications Dir., stated that it is important for county employees to model their behavior when representing Linn County when a mask was not being worn in a store where masks were mandated. The public is watching and it goes back to Linn County’s branding and reputation.
- The Board will be extending the Teleworking Policy through March 31, 2021.
- Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir., stated that Test Iowa is preferred as it is a higher standard compared to rapid testing.
- Lisa Powell, HR Dir., highlighted updates that the Board will be approving tomorrow in the COVID-19 Paid Leave Summary, Travel Restrictions and Teleworking Policy.
- Be responsible during holiday gatherings and be mindful of others.

The Board received updates from the following Department Heads:

- David Thielen, LCCS Executive Dir. – Thanked the Board for allowing staff to work from home; LCCS Strategic Plan ending in June 2021; upcoming staff retirements; keeping close tabs on the status of Options; enrollment increasing at Child Development; working with LAP-AID to fund home repairs for low income home owners for General Assistance; Ryan White operating from home; Home Health is back to resuming home services; 17 direct support staff have returned to work for Options; construction is winding down for the Access Center; began implementation of the detention screening tool from the state at Juvenile Detention; joint grant to replace outdoor playground equipment and developing work plans for ECI/DECAT; working on evaluating direct reports; next steps for VA Director positon.
- Dennis Goemaat, Conservation Dir. – projects have slowed due to Derecho and COVID. Wapsi shelter near completion; bids in for trail; Morgan Creek Park Redevelopment project on hold; Pinicon Ridge dam modification (developing final plans); contractors on board for wetland work; Hwy 100 trail; slowing getting parks and trails reopened after Aug. 10 storm; possible salvage harvest on woodlands; COVID – geographic separation helps his department; Conservation Board appreciative of Board of Supervisors meeting with them; and the Conservation Board has been approached about a solar array near the Duane Arnold Energy plant (talking about long term leases).
- Pramod Dwivedi, Health Department Dir. – budget is under expenditure dollars; spent over $30,000 related to COVID-19 work (to be reimbursed by FEMA); restarting strategic planning; solar array near the Duane Arnold Energy plant (talking about long term leases).
- Jon Gallagher, Soil Conservation – recently had a COVID outbreak in their small Jones County field office (was in the process of getting moved back to Marion); NRCS and Linn County staff wrapped up conservation plans; anticipate active CRP sign up’s this fall; water quality incentive program; Indian Creek watershed; and emergency watershed protection program. Interested in the availability of chip/shredding material.
- Phil Lowder, IT Dir. – Helpdesk tickets; budget update; continuing to monitor system to keep it secure; Auditor Miller informed his office of some elections requirements regarding .gov pages; working on new software systems; upgrading security appliances; grant money used to identify some additional security items related to the Election.
- Jason Siebrecht, GIS Mgr., presented PowerPoint regarding modules they have been working on behind the scenes with the Derecho and COVID.

Adjournment at 10:17 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors