

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020 8:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center.
Present: Chairperson Rogers, Vice Chairperson Oleson (12:00 meeting) and Supervisor Walker (via phone). 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:

Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir. - COVID-19 updates: Performed 324 tests at Test Iowa on Friday for a total of 1469 (receiving better information now). Linn County has 936 cases with 74 deaths. Listed reopening guidance on the Public Health website. The CDC Foundation is providing additional contact tracers and more of the Public Health staff are returning to their normal operations within the department.

The Board discussed the re-opening of certain county buildings to the public.

Chairperson Rogers stated that Linn County along with the cities of Cedar Rapids, Marion, Hiawatha and some smaller municipalities meet weekly (by zoom) and are discussing reopening. Linn County has set a target date of June 15 to reopen facilities to the public. They will do a phase in approach of employees as well as purchasing directional signage, markers on the floors for 6 ft. distancing, enhanced cleaning and restricting the number of customers in the building at one time. The Board of Supervisors will require anyone entering the building to wear a mask and all staff will be required to wear masks as well (2 masks per employee will be provided by Linn County). If conditions change where there is a spike in numbers and the June 15 is not a safe date, it can be changed.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., stated that Elected Officials and Department Heads submitted well over 100 items of input for the Board Support Team to consider. A document has been prepared placing items in categories. Each office space has been audited for social distancing, furniture location and enhanced cleaning protocols are in place. Many departments with a lot of transactions will move to appointment only. The Treasurer has expanded their Q-Matic system for mobile ticketing and appointment scheduling. Security guards have been hired and will help with appointment check in.

Lisa Powell, HR Dir., stated that she is recommending that the Board extend the telework agreement through August 31st and then revisit.

County Attorney Jerry Vander Sanden asked about the roles of the security guards and will they be located at the Courthouse. Will there be temperature kiosks?

Gage stated that security guards have been hired for three Linn County buildings (Public Service Center; Harris Building; Community Services Building). They are looking at temperature scanners which run \$2,800/piece. Discussions need to occur with the Sheriff regarding deputy sheriffs that are assigned to the Courthouse and the Juvenile Justice Center. They are still working through details.

Les Beck, Planning & Development Dir., asked when the results of the office audit will be available and Gage stated that feedback is being provided as soon as it is completed.

Becky Shoop, Deputy Auditor, asked for more clarification regarding appointments and will there be a consistent message.

Gage stated that the recommendation is to require appointments.

Supervisor Walker encouraged Elected Officials and Department Heads to be proactive and get questions to the Board Support Team.

Dawn Jindrich, Finance Dir., gave an update regarding the GovSense/Ceridian software projects.

The Board recessed at 8:30 a.m. and reconvened at 12:00 p.m.

Motion by Oleson, seconded by Walker to approve minutes of May 20, 2020 as printed.

Pramod Dwivedi, Public Health Dir., repeated his COVID-19 update from the 8:00 a.m. meeting.

Dawn Jindrich gave a COVID-19 Budget Update. She stated that they should have the additional cost for the Recorder and Planning & Development to use the Treasurer's Q-Matic for appointments.

The Board discussed the proposed Ordinance Regulating the Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles and Off-Road Vehicles in Linn County, Iowa.

Supervisor Oleson stated that two items were added as a result of feedback from the two public hearings held in March. 1) Operators and passengers 18 years of age and under must wear an ATV safety helmet; and 2) An operator 18 years of age and under

shall be required to take and pass an IDNR approved ATV Education Course and must carry a valid safety certificate while operating the vehicle as proof. He added that this is a product of a lot of collaboration and should be workable for the public that has been asking for this for quite some time.

Motion by Oleson, seconded by walker to approve first reading of the Ordinance Regulating the Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles and Off-Road Vehicles in Linn County, Iowa.

Discussion: Supervisor Walker thanked Supervisor Oleson for spearheading this effort and setting up a number of opportunities for public input and for all of the individuals who provided their input. He stated that there were a number of individuals that had a lot of concerns, voiced opinions in opposition and then those on the other side that were very, very supportive of this. He has had a chance to review the language and over the course of a couple months, he got several questions answered. He is grateful to Supervisor Oleson for being responsive to minors wearing helmets and minors completing a training/certification to operate outside of privately owned land. Walker asked if the enforcement section is the maximum allowed by law and he would like to have that answer by tomorrow (prior to second consideration).

Supervisor Oleson stated that Asst. County Atty. Lisa Epp researched the state code and regulations for that language but will double check before the second reading.

Supervisor Walker also stated that someone suggested designating county parks and trails for these vehicles, which is a future conversation.

Chairperson Rogers stated that he does appreciate the amendments that were made; however, he is still left with the fundamental question. Will it make public road systems more safe, equally safe, or less safe? He thinks it will make road systems less safe. The machines are designed to be off road and are not compatible for public roadways. He will be voting against it but appreciates all of the work put into this issue.

VOTE: Oleson - Aye Walker - Aye Rogers - Nay

The Board discussed a proposed contract between Linn County and Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC) to provide COVID-19 response and related social and behavioral health services for vulnerable Linn County populations to include refugees. The Board will approve tomorrow.

Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., presented a contract to extend lease agreement between Linn County and Willis Dady Homeless Services for a portion of the Fillmore Building. This amendment extends the lease for one more month (June) for the homeless shelter.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Oleson to approve and authorize Chair to sign the Third Amendment to Lease Agreement between Linn County and Willis Dady Homeless Services for a portion of the Fillmore Building.

Gage presented a facemask/face covering policy for Linn County employees and facilities. This has been reviewed by Asst. County Atty. Lisa Epp and will go into effect on June 1. A separate policy will be presented requiring the public to wear masks.

With regard to the times when employees are not required to wear masks, Supervisor Walker wants everyone to think about what members of the public (that are watching) will think when they will be required to wear a mask. Every employee must be prepared to articulate "why" no mask, especially in the direct line of sight of the public.

Motion by Oleson, seconded by Walker to approve Employment Change Roster (payroll authorizations) as follows:

FACILITIES

Custodian Sharmake Abdi Termination/resignation 05/25/20

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Sheriff Matthew Leeper Transfer from Jail to Patrol 05/31/20 D5 \$33.17 + \$.40 - D5 \$33.17

Communications Oper. Sami Boekhoff New hire - FT 06/01/20 Replaces A. Brunscheen

FINANCE & BUDGET

Senior Accountant Mary Wiese New hire - FT 06/01/20 40A \$30.62 Replaces W. Lynn

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Early Childhood Teacher Andria Davis Correction to wage from 05/18/20 roster 05/23/20

53E \$19.80 - 35B \$22.52

Center Aide Diane Rowe Temp Transfer 05/11/20 51B \$14.70 - 54B \$18.20

JUVENILE DETENTION

Youth Leader Keeyon Carter New hire - FT 06/15/20 55A \$18.69 + \$.25 Replaces D. Ciavarelli

PUBLIC HEALTH

Air Quality Engineer Jason Keener Temporary increase in hours ended 05/25/20

Page 3
May 26, 2020

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Oleson to appoint Theresa Lewis to the Food System Council for a term ending 12/31/2024.

Adjournment at 12:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BEN ROGERS, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors