

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017 10:00 A.M.

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

The meeting was called to order and Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairperson Oleson.

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

Authorize approval of Additional Insurance Allowance Requests for two eligible employees.

Resolution 2017-2-21

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, has developed a policy regulating dust control, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa by that policy annually sets prices for seal coat and dust control palliatives.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Linn County, Iowa this date, meeting in lawful session, and upon recommendation of the Linn County Engineer, does hereby establish the following prices for dust palliative and road surface treatments applied by and through the Linn County Secondary Road Department as listed below:

Calcium Chloride (0.70 gal./ft)	\$0.75 per foot
MC-70 (0.25 gal./sq. yd.)	\$2.50 per foot
MC-3000 Single Seal - 1 st seal (0.30 gal./sq. yd.)	\$5.50 per foot
MC-3000 Single Seal - 2 nd seal (additional)	\$3.00 per foot
Paved Drive Adjustment/Replacement	\$5.00 per square foot

These prices shall remain in effect for the 2017 calendar year.

Award bid and authorize Chair to sign purchase order for crossroad culverts to Contech Construction Products in the amount of \$24,779.16 for the Secondary Road Department.

Authorize chairperson to sign The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances DOT Order No. 1050.2A.

Authorize Chair to sign Release of Mortgage of February 2, 2012, made and executed by the East Central Iowa Council of Governments, in association with Linn County's Single Family New Construction Grant, regarding property commonly known as 4567 Meadow Creek Drive, Palo, Iowa.

Authorize Chair to sign Release of Mortgage of February 3, 2012, made and executed by the East Central Iowa Council of Governments, in association with Linn County's Single Family New Construction Grant, regarding property commonly known as 4550 Dry Creek Lane, Palo, Iowa.

Approve and sign purchase order for traffic paint to Ennis Paint in the amount of \$23,895.30 for the Secondary Road Department.

Approve FY 2017 Rural Library Appropriations, Approve and Authorize Chair to Sign Individual Contracts for Library Services and Authorize Release of Payment to Individual Libraries upon Receipt of their Respective Contracts

Authorize Chair to sign purchase order #5343 for \$20,900.00 to Lynch Ford Chevrolet for a 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan for Options.

Approve Premises Update for the Indian Creek Nature Center for Q Dogs to cater for a Credit Union Assoc. meeting on February 21, 2017.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to approve minutes of February 6, 2017 as printed.

Supervisor Walker presented and read a Proclamation Affirming Support for Religious, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity. He stated that it is important for Linn County to do this in the wake of what is happening nationally and it is important that Linn County does not impose a religious litmus test on anyone who is seeking shelter in this country. He stated that he hopes this Proclamation will encourage other local governments to affirm where they stand.

Supervisor Harris stated that this Proclamation is good and it is timely to restate and affirm the policies of Linn County that have always been in line with this Proclamation.

Supervisor Rogers stated that he is glad that the Board is doing this. This reaffirms that they are a diverse community and are the home to the Mother Mosque, and St. George's church that has a lot of Syrian and Lebanese influence.

Supervisor Houser voiced his support for the Proclamation noting the he would not be here today if his decedents were not accepted into the community.

Chairperson Oleson stated that although he is not a huge fan of Proclamations, he does support this Proclamation because of the uniqueness of Linn County's history, noting Marion has recently elected a Mayor who is of Lebanese decent.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Houser to approve Proclamation Affirming Support for Religious, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity.

The Board recessed for pictures and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Phil Lowder, IT Dir., presented the Thomson Reuters Managed Services Contract for the Aumentum tax system.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Houser to approve contract with Thomson Reuters for Managed Services for the Aumentum tax system in the amount of \$42,700 for the first year and \$37,200/year on-going.

Discussion: Supervisor Walker stated that he met with Deputy Auditor's Shoop and Law this morning. One thing that he suggested is that the county use the Managed Services contract for two years and in the meantime investigate all of the issues that have been discussed in the past with Aumentum to see if it will work the way that they think it will. Perhaps a group represented by the stakeholders should meet to make sure that they have the best possible outcome.

Supervisor Harris stated that they have high hopes for the Managed Services contract.

Vote: All Aye

Les Beck, Planning & Development Dir., presented and explained the Solar Statement and application for SolSmart designation.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Houser to approve Solar Statement and application for SolSmart designation through the Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC) initiative of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Joi Alexander, Communications Mgr., presented the FY 17 Witwer Trust grant funding requests noting that there is an overage in the amount of requests by \$914.00.

After some discussion, the Board agreed to divide the \$914 by the 39 applications, which would result in a reduction of each award and would keep all of the agencies intact.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to reduce equally among all Witwer Trust applicants by a total of \$914.

Discussion: Supervisor Oleson stated that he will support this motion but he does not like it. He stated that he spent a few hours reading through every application including their narratives.

Supervisor Houser stated that he also spent a lot of hours reading them and there are some that he didn't vote to fund because they got funded before and have other methods of getting money. He stated that they all put a lot of effort in those.

VOTE: All Aye

The Board discussed the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

Supervisor Houser suggested looking at Offers that were not funded such as the patrol Deputy Sheriff. They could then take the balance of funds available and put towards the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Economic Development fund. He also stated that they have recently learned that the State will be eliminating the county's backfill (commercial and industrial) and this is not the time to cut their levy rate.

Supervisor Harris stated that they are always short on the Economic Development fund. No matter how much they have they will always be short due to the number of requests. He stated that this is the first that he heard of adding a patrol Deputy Sheriff. He is not able to make a decision on that particular addition right now.

Supervisor Rogers stated that when they knew there was growth in their valuation, they knew they could devote some back to the General Fund and reduce the levy rate while also using funds strategically to improve operations. He is in favor of a 2 cent reduction in the levy rate and anything left over be used to improve operations or leverage additional dollars.

Chairperson Oleson stated that while he agrees with Supervisor Rogers and reducing the levy by 2 cents, he knows that they have made a \$200,000 obligation (along with other communities) to leverage \$4 million from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to send to the IDOT to leverage \$40 million for the Tower Terrace Interchange. He would also like to give non-bargaining unit employees (Management) a 3% increase rather than the 2.5% placeholder that has been put in the budget.

Supervisor Rogers stated that there is also an alternative to funding the MPO and that is the \$200,000 Economic Development fund noting that there is no timeframe given for when the \$200,000 is needed.

Supervisor Walker stated that there are a few proposals among the Supervisors and he would like to know where everyone stands. He stated that it is prudent to keep the levy rate where it is now. He does not want to get into the business of lowering or raising it. There are too many variables and too many future commitments that he does not want to mess with.

Supervisor Harris stated that he is in favor of reducing the levy rate and adding \$50,000 to the CIP.

The Board will discuss and decide on the FY 18 budget on Monday, February 13th.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: Supervisor Walker met with a constituent, attended Accountability Action Committee meeting, mentored at the Boys and Girls Club, attended Rockwell presentation on Black History Month, attended National Academy of Science re: flood efforts, will attend Stonewall meeting this evening and New Bo Market board meeting.

Supervisor Harris attended Veteran Affairs meeting re: office respacing, attended two sessions with Terry Whitson and UCC telecom call.

Supervisor Houser attended statewide Supervisors meeting in Des Moines, attended the AFL-CIO reception and joint meeting with the Farm Bureau.

Supervisor Rogers will be attending Terry Whitson events, ASAC and the Accountability Action Committee meeting.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Darrin Gage, Dir. of Policy & Admin., reported on two major bills (collective bargaining and pre-emption which includes minimum wage).

Motion by Harris, seconded by Rogers to approve the following claims over one year old: Remington Marshbanks - \$40 and Nancy Cleary - \$40.

Motion by Harris, seconded by Rogers to approve ACH in the amt. of \$102,793.82 and Claims #70593874 - #70593962 in the amt. of \$154,416.47.

Chairperson Oleson stated that he wants to hear Auditor Miller's viewpoint on House Study Bill 93 relating, in part, to voter registration and voter identity verification. He has received phone calls from three different auditors and the Board agreed to place this issue on Monday's agenda.

Supervisor Houser stated that he received a call from Brook Gilchrist, 3711 Alice Rd., concerned about road reconstruction on Alice Rd.

Supervisor Walker submitted an email from Pramod Dwivedi expressing his support for today's Proclamation.

Adjournment at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Approved by:

BRENT OLESON, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors