

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017 9:00 A.M.

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

Chairperson Oleson called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chad Abernathy, 357 Woodland Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, CR stated that he
is commenting on the vacation of High Woods Road. It is a piece of an old gravel road
that the City of Center Point eliminated at the north end of 380. He owns the land on
both sides and is requesting a vacation to eliminate that road so he can farm across
the north side and to eliminate unwanted and unsolicited traffic. The goal is to take
the road off the books for the county.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Houser to approve minutes of March 8, 2017 as printed.

Linn County Main Street Program Directors Jennifer Pruden, Stacey College, Brooke
Prouty and Joe Jennison provided an update to the Board. Pruden highlighted that they
have 29 new businesses, their websites have been updated and they created a public
relations campaign. They will also be receiving a partnership award and invited Board
members to attend the gala in Des Moines. They are requesting funding in the amount
of \$50,000.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to open public hearing to vacate a portion of
High Woods Road located in Section 21 & 22-85-8. Proof of publication was presented.

Steve Gannon, County Engineer, explained that this is a short stretch of road that was
cut off by the interstate. The family asked for a vacation and his department stands
behind it. The only comment received was from Centurylink regarding their utility
getting to the houses. He stated that the county's interest as a road is taken care
of with the vacation but the county's other interest will need to be cleared up with a
Quit Claim Deed (underlying title by the county for 40 feet).

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

Britt Hutchins, Purchasing Dir., met with the Board to discuss New Position/Vacancy
Form changing a full-time (40 hrs./week) to a part-time (30 hrs./week) position for
the mail route driver in the purchasing department. He stated that this will be for
the benefit of the county. The Board will approve Wednesday.

Steve Tucker, Finance Dir., presented a contract with RW Baird to provide underwriting
services on proposed general obligation bond issuance. The public hearing will take
place in about two weeks and once it is approved they will start the bonding process
hopefully by the end of the fiscal year. They need an underwriter to purchase the
bonds from the county and sell to investor's. RW Baird has been used for many years
and they are the reason the county has a Aaa bond rating. The Board will approve
Wednesday.

Chairperson Oleson stated that they will be closing on the property (Dow's property)
in April and he has dealt with numerous inquiries since the county is not keeping all
of the land. This is a work in progress and he appreciates all the work that has been
put into it.

The Board discussed resolution directing Linn County Courthouse staff, Sheriff's
Department, and other County or State personnel to maintain security screenings at
Courthouse entryway for weapons and contraband, and to draft addendum procedures and
practices due to HF517. Also present: Sheriff Gardner and Carroll Edmondson, Court
Administrator.

Chairperson Oleson stated that HF517 passed the Iowa House and he wants to know how
the Board should approach this.

Carroll Edmondson stated that his preference is that no guns are allowed in the
courthouses at all.

Sheriff Gardner stated that they can continue to have security in the same form it
exists right now but the projected law gives gun owners the ability to sue the county
if they have been adversely affected by a firearm ban and the county would be liable
for the court fees. Their current security works very well for them.

Chairperson Oleson suggested that Gardner, Edmondson, Bob Hruska (County Attorney) and
a Board member get together and prepare a response. They need to advise the public of
the policy.

Supervisor Walker stated that his perspective is not to accommodate the legislation
but empower the Sheriff's Office to continue to keep people safe and then deal with
what happens afterward.

Gardner suggested that a broader group of people get together to see what other
counties in Iowa are doing.

The Board discussed amending proposed FY 2018 County budget and increasing levy tax rate \$0.03 (\$318,000) due to Rep. Ken Rizer's HF516 (voter I.D.) which has unfunded mandate/tax increase for election equipment. Also present: Dawn Jindrich, Budget Dir., Joel Miller, Auditor and Travis Weipert, Johnson County Auditor.

Chairperson Oleson stated that he is concerned about this bill due to concerns raised from Auditor Miller for essentially a tax increase. He feels that it is totally unnecessary and asked Miller to explain further.

Auditor Miller stated that he has been meeting with legislators regarding this unfunded mandate for Linn County. Linn County did not purchase E-pollbooks for the 86 precincts (Johnson County did) because they have a very efficient operation. 42 ballots were not able to be cured due to lack of id (not having an id is a problem in Linn County). There are 30,000 registered voters that didn't vote in November, 2016 and another 20,000 that aren't even registered to vote. He spoke to Sen. Roby Smith about SF474 (companion bill) and plans to meet with other Senators as well to discuss concerns with legislation on the senate side. Implementation of the use of E-pollbooks would force the county to buy more than \$300,000 in new equipment that could cost an additional \$75,000 a year in maintenance. He added that the problem spreading the cost over multiple years is that they are missing out on an opportunity to educate the public.

Chairperson Oleson stated that Rep. Rizer takes the bulk of the responsibility for the "Rizer Tax". The county levy could be pushed up by as much as three cents and he asked if the budget should be amended now.

Dawn Jindrich stated that the budget has to be certified by March 15th and they are not allowed to increase the tax levy rate after the budget has been published so it is too late for changes for FY18.

Supervisor Walker asked how the "Rizer Tax" will affect the county's budget and Jindrich responded that the FY19 budget will start out with the presumption of a three percent increase. They will have to use the fund balance if they need to spend \$300,000 this year.

Discussion continued regarding additional costs to the county such as post-election audits to be completed in 20 days and overtime required.

Auditor Travis Weipert stated that he concurs with Miller. The large counties in the state will be audited over and over again. His biggest concern is the first time someone is turned away from the polls it will be the county being sued not the legislators.

Supervisor Walker asked about any subgroups who might be disenfranchised and Miller responded that they alluded to minorities and low income of whom might not meet the photo id requirements.

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to approve Employment Change Roster (Payroll Authorizations) as follows:

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Elections Office Coord Nathan Schnell Bid Award 3/20/17 56C \$20.78 30 hrs/week

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Universal Clerk Jennifer Hebert New employee 3/27/17 56A \$18.72/hr Repl D. Brodsack
Universal Clerk Melissa Higginbotham Bid Award 3/27/17 55B \$18.26-56B \$19.68
Universal Clerk Lylelene Svoboda Termination/no longer needed to fill in 3/01/17

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Sr Facilities Worker Mark Lukes Corrected effective date/shift change 2/27/17
18E \$24.99-19E \$24.99+\$.25
Custodian Dorlisa Smith End of Probation 2/07/17 10A \$15.73+\$.25-10B
\$16.24+\$.25

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Sheriff Matthew Schefers Bid award/trf to Patrol 3/19/17 D-5 \$30.50+\$.25-
D-5 \$30.50
Deputy Sheriff Kevin Eliason Bid award/trf to Correctional Center 3/19/17
D-6 \$31.42-D-6 \$31.42+\$.25
Senior Account Clerk Melissa Higginbotham Bid award to Motor Vehicle 3/24/17

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Targeted Case Manager Jason Scott Termination/resignation 3/10/17
Targeted Case Manager Ramon Gauna Termination/resignation 3/10/17

JUVENILE DETENTION

Youth Counselor Lexi Lindner Termination/temp assignment ended 3/01/17
Cook Allison Williams Step increase 4/18/17 54B \$16.95-54C \$17.91
Juv Det Instructor Jennifer Mayer Step increase 4/01/17 36B \$22.46-36C \$23.63
Youth Counselor Frank Aidoo Step increase 4/10/17 36B \$22.46+\$.25-36C \$23.63+
\$.25
Youth Counselor Sean Watson Step increase 4/03/17 36B \$22.46+\$.25-36C \$23.63+
\$.25
Youth Counselor Roxanne Howard Step increase/contract 4/10/17 36B \$22.46+\$.25-36C
\$23.63+\$.25

PUBLIC HEALTH

PH Epidemiologist	Amy Hockett	Step increase 3/16/17 40C \$31.56-40D \$33.25
Envirn Health Spec	Vildana Tinjic	Step increase 3/9/17 39C \$29.30-39D \$30.82

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Admin Secretary Conf	Vonda Flint	Promotion 3/14/17 55E \$21.39-57C \$22.46+\$.25
		Repl M. Fuessley

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to approve Claims #70594506-#70594536 in the amt. of \$2,065,668.13 and ACH in the amt. of \$32,591.39.

Motion by Rogers, seconded by Houser to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation, pursuant to Code of Iowa 21.5(1)(c)

VOTE: Houser - Aye Oleson - Aye Walker - Aye Rogers - Aye

Motion by Houser, seconded by Rogers to go out of closed session.

VOTE: Houser - Aye Oleson - Aye Walker - Aye Rogers - Aye

Adjournment at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor
By: Amanda Hoy, Executive Assistant

Approved by:

BRENT OLESON, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors