Linn County NEWS

Commissioners OK software, fuel tank purchases

ALBANY — In what was surely the shortest meeting of the year so far — less than 10 minutes — Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker approved the purchase of computer system protection software and a new 20,000-gallon fuel tank for the Road Department's Scio division.

IT Director Steve Braaten said his department worked with TracePoint LLC during the recent cyber-attack of the county's computer systems and was well satisfied with its Carbon Black program.

The county will pay $91,700 for a 14-month contract.

Board Chairman Nyquist said, "The ability to not have to negotiate with cyber threats is priceless."

Braaten said Carbon Black is an EDR — Endpoint Detection and Remediation — program that detects malicious software, such as ransomware, and immediately locks a computer or server.

The software then alerts a central station of the malicious code is attempted.

The affected computer remains locked until it is safely returned to its previous state or repaired.

Braaten reported that a central station is currently monitoring all Linn County computers.

Roadmaster Wayne Mink said the new fuel tank has a 5,000-gallon cell to store gasoline and a 15,000-gallon cell to hold diesel.

The cost is $115,969.

The commissioners also approved the completion of the sale of a small piece of tax foreclosed property to Troy Kleinschmit for $1,000.

Commissioners Nyquist and Sprenger also wished fellow Commissioner Tucker a happy 70th birthday.

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