



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Ric Lentz, Lieutenant Emergency Services, Linn County Sheriff's Office; Emerson Marsh, Emergency Management Recovery Coordinator, Linn County Sheriff's Office; Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services, Linn County Sheriff's Office; Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator; Dr. Adam Brady, Linn County Health Officer (*via telephone*); Shane Sanderson, Linn County Public Health Program Manager; Justin Thomas, Linn County Alcohol and Drug Program Manager; Erik Anderson, Emergency Preparedness Manager, Linn County Public Health Department; Kris Barnes, Linn County Fair and Expo Director; Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Torri Lynn, Linn County Juvenile Department Director; Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster; Rachel Adamec, Linn County Real Property Program Manager; Breeanna Oxford, Linn County Deputy Treasurer; Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County; Ron Edwards; Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer and Shayla Escudero, Reporter for *Democrat-Herald*.

1, 2, 3. At 9:30 a.m. Chair Nyquist called the meeting to order. The flag salute and roll call followed. Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Chair; Will Tucker, Vice-Chair and Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger were present, as well as, Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer and Marsha Meyer, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of the January 9, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the January 9, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Resolution & Order 2024-025 approving an Emergency Declaration for winter snow and ice storm.

Ric Lentz, Lieutenant Emergency Services, Linn County Sheriff's Office, provided background information regarding this matter. Commissioner Tucker asked if there were any damages to County roads or damages in other cities. Lieutenant Lentz stated that, at this point, he did not have any hard numbers; the cities have ten days to submit their summaries. He stated that, if the County meets the threshold, any revenue would help with the impact of the storm damage but the State needed to meet their threshold which includes the 36 counties. Lieutenant Lentz stated that having this Emergency Declaration would help get money back for any damages incurred. Commissioner Tucker asked Lieutenant Lentz about power outages across the County and he responded that power had been restored to the County.

Action - Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-025.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he, typically, was not big on declaring an emergency; however, this was an extraordinary event and he would approve the declaration. Commissioner Sprenger asked Lieutenant Lentz what the potential downfall would be if the Board did not sign the Emergency Declaration and Lieutenant Lentz stated that he was not aware of any downfalls.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Tucker thanked Lieutenant Lentz for his extraordinary team and he replied that the Linn County Road Department did a lot to help the Sheriff's Office during this emergency.

7. Sheriff's Office – Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff.

Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services, Linn County Sheriff's Office presented the following item on behalf of Sheriff Duncan.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-022 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement for Communication Use Lease between the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-022. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Board of Health – Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator.

A. Communicable Disease and Vital Statistics Reports – Dr. Adam Brady, Linn County Health Officer (*via telephone*).

Dr. Brady provided the Board with an overview of the Communicable Disease and Vital Statistics Reports for December, 2023. Copies of the reports are on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Commissioner Sprenger asked Dr. Brady about his comments relating to COVID deaths when the report indicated there were zero COVID cases. Dr. Brady clarified that COVID cases were no longer being reported but when the cause of death is due to COVID the physicians are listing it on the death certificates. Since COVID is no longer reported, it is no longer reported on the Communicable Disease Report.

B. Environmental Health Monthly Activity Report – Shane Sanderson, Linn County Public Health Program Manager.

Mr. Sanderson provided the Board with an overview of the Environmental Health Monthly Activity Report for December, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Commissioner Tucker asked Mr. Sanderson if there had been any complaints about solid waste pickup during the ice storm and Mr. Sanderson replied that his office hadn't received any complaints. There was a short discussion about there being complaints from citizens in the Peoria Road and Colorado Lake area wanting yard waste pickup; however, the majority of citizens in that area do not want yard waste pickup.

C. Alcohol & Drug Department Update – Justin Thomas, Linn County Alcohol and Drug Program Manager.

Mr. Thomas provided the Board with an Alcohol & Drug Department Update for the month of December, 2023.

Mr. Thomas discussed that his department provides services through bulk therapy and drug screening. He noted the need for detox and care centers; there is nothing locally but there are centers in Salem and Eugene which makes transportation a struggle. There was discussion regarding the effect of Measure 110 and how that had impacted his program and services.

Commissioner Tucker asked about the detox centers and where the County was on that matter. Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, stated that the more it is talked about the more questions there are. He stated that he could not state when they would have a white paper available regarding this matter but, when they have all the information and facts, they would put together a report for the Board's review. Mr. Thomas stated that the Linn County Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee had also been looking into this issue as well. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that it was a great decision to flow all Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) funding to the Alcohol and Drug Program and asked Mr. Thomas if he would be willing, knowing the resources he gets for the program and the discussion about detox centers, to take some of his funding from his budget to fund a sobering center given the number of people his department is seeing and knowing the tight resources the County has. Mr. Thomas replied that there were a lot of players in the community and his department was only certified to do outpatient care.

Commissioner Nyquist thanked Mr. Thomas for the work his department does; it is most challenging with the problems that they face but is incredibly meaningful.

D. Resolution & Order 2024-004 approving a Student Affiliation Agreement between Oregon State University and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-004. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Resolution & Order 2024-015 approving a Grant Agreement between the State of Oregon and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-015. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Resolution & Order 2024-020 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Oregon, Oregon Health Authority and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-020. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Resolution & Order 2024-021 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between Portland State University and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-021. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Reports of Staff and Committees:

A. Fair/Expo Update – Kris Barnes, Linn County Fair and Expo Director.

Mr. Barnes provided the Board with a Fair/Expo Update for the month of December, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Commissioner Nyquist asked Mr. Barnes about the receivables coming in after 90 days. He asked Mr. Barnes about implementing a policy where they received 50 percent of the cost up front when booking the event. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Nyquist asked Mr. Barnes, at his next update before the Board, to provide them with a policy regarding the Fair/Expo receivables for events. Commissioner Sprenger asked if the current contract was detailed in regard to the timeline for payment and Mr. Barnes replied it was clear that payment is due 30-days from invoice; however, some events aren't able to pay until they've had the event as they use the income from the event to pay Fair/Expo. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Tucker stated that he didn't like the risk and that Mr. Barnes needed to take another look at the current policy.

Lastly, Mr. Barnes stated that there was weather damage to the R.V. facilities and a pipe froze in the Cascade warm-up arena; they have flooding and standing water. There was discussion regarding how to handle the clean-up.

B. Planning and Building Department Update – Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Department Director.

Mr. Wills provided the Board with a Planning and Building Department Update for the month of December, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Mr. Wills mentioned that there were no new wildfire grant applications or grant checks issued for December, 2023 and reported that there would be no Planning Commission meeting or Public Hearings to come before the Board for January, 2024.

C. Juvenile Department Update – Torri Lynn, Linn County Juvenile Department Director.

Mr. Lynn provided the Board with a Juvenile Department Update for the month of December, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Mr. Lynn gave an update on juvenile detention; probation referrals and work crews. He also stated that he has had opportunities to meet with the co-chairs of the Measure 110 Committee and has met with some Representatives to discuss juvenile issues. He stated that the information was well received and there was an understanding that youth are different than adults. Mr. Lynn was hopeful that something would come out of the upcoming legislative session that would encourage youth to get into treatment.

Commissioner Tucker thanked Mr. Lynn for getting youth into the Oregon Fire Marshall grant program; and, hopefully, with them earning \$1,100 each, it would change their lives and help them move forward.

10. Road Department – Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-024 approving a traffic control regulation on certain Linn County roads (Crabtree Drive) County Road No. 0007A and (Cold Springs Road) County Road No. 0650, No Parking.

There was discussion held in regard to the congestion and safety issues at this intersection.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-024.

Commissioner Sprenger stated that there were a lot of semi-trucks trying to make it around that corner safely. Commissioner Nyquist noted that they have established “no parking” areas in the past and people just parked in riskier places. Mr. Mink stated that, with establishing no parking in this area, it would give the Sheriff’s Office the ability for enforcement; it is difficult now as there is no code to enforce that area without a specific regulation. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Sprenger stated that she had been involved with the meetings regarding this area and she would endorse this action.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Property Management – Rachel Adamec, Linn County Real Property Program Manager.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-023 approving a Mutual Lease Termination Agreement with Lazarus 3D, Inc. for office space located at 421 Water Ave, NE, Albany, OR 97321.

Ms. Adamec provided background information regarding the Termination Agreement for the tenant at the Wheelhouse. She also stated that this document would give Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, authority to sign any future lease agreements or lease termination agreements for this property.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-023. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Treasurer’s Office – Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer.

Breeanna Oxford, Linn County Deputy Treasurer, presented this item on behalf of Ms. Hawkins.

A. Order 2024-017 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant with the General Grants Fund, \$20,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2024-017. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Correspondence: There was no correspondence to come before the Board.

14. Special Orders:

A. Personnel Action Forms.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to accept the Personnel Action Forms list as Exhibit 1. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars. Commissioner Tucker stated that both he and Commissioner Sprenger were scheduled to attend, via zoom, a Mid-Willamette Jobs Council meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

16. New Business: There was no new business to come before the Board.

17. Announcements: There was no announcements.

18. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): There was no one present from the public wishing to use this forum telephonically.

Ron Edwards, 875 Lebanite Drive, Lebanon, OR, 97355. Mr. Edwards indicated that he needed about 15 minutes to present to the Board the documents that he had with him today.

Commissioner Nyquist asked, if it pleased the Board, to take a two-minute recess before hearing from Mr. Edwards.

Commissioner Nyquist recessed the regular Board meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Commissioner Nyquist reconvened the regular Board meeting at 10:52 a.m.

Mr. Edwards provided a packet to each Board member containing 30-pages or more regarding the Green Peter Dam. He then provided the Board with a short explanation of each document. Copies of the documents are on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Commissioner Tucker stated that there was an ongoing study of hydropower and he would like to bring forth a letter from the Board opposing that study and stating they should not continue the study in the Linn County areas as those dams have been online for a long time. Foster Dam was available during the recent ice storm; however, Green Peter was not available. Commissioner Tucker stated that those dams were built for

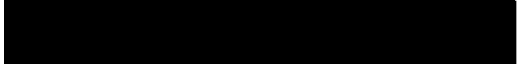
flood and power generation and have filled the void in our network. He thanked Mr. Edwards for the information he provided to the Board.

19. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m. by unanimous consent.


The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

 Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Marsha Meyer

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Roger Nyquist, Chair


William C. Tucker, Vice Chair


Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 1-30-2024