



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Dina Eldridge, Housing Services Senior Operations Manager, Community Services Consortium (CSC); Liesl Eckert, Housing Services Manager, Community Services Consortium (CSC); Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator; Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster; Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer; 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. Commissioner Roger Nyquist, Chair was present, as well as, Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer and Marsha Meyer, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners. Will Tucker, Vice-Chair and Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger both participated telephonically.

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 November 18, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the November 18, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reports of Staff and Committees: There were no reports of staff and committees.

7. Presentation – Continuum of Care for Tri-Cities - Pegge McGuire, Executive Director, Community Services Consortium (CSC).

Ms. McGuire was not present for the meeting. Dina Eldridge, Housing Services Senior Operations Manager and Liesl Eckert, Housing Services Manager, Community Services Consortium (CSC) made the presentation on Ms. McGuire's behalf.

Ms. Eldridge introduced Ms. Eckert and stated that she had been charged with helping Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties create their own homeless coordination body known as Continuum of Care (COC). She stated that there had been discussions about creating the counties own governance and leaving the 26-county State COC which included these three counties. Ms. Eldridge stated that notice had been given to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and to the Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (ROCC) regarding the intention of the three counties to create their own COC. Several months ago, they started working with technical assistants to help set up the governance to do that. Ms. Eldridge stated that, today, they were before the Board to give an update on that process. She then asked Ms. Eckert to provide the Board with additional information and to review the handout that was provided to the Board. A copy of the handout is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Ms. Eckert reminded the Board of what Continuum of Care was about. She explained that it was a cross-sector planning body responsible for coordinating and implementing a comprehensive system to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness in a geographic region. She stated that, if the planning body met the requirements of HUD, it would enable them to apply for federal COC funding. Ms. Eckert stated that, currently, Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties were part of the Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (ROCC) but had broad support across the tri-county region to become their own COC. She stated that by mid-July, 2025 she expected they would be accepted by HUD as a governing region.

Commissioner Tucker asked Ms. Eckert if, today, there was a request for action by the Board. Ms. Eckert stated, no, it was just to update the Board and to let them know they were close to getting approval.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that, when the time came, what did Ms. Eckert anticipate the request or action of the Board would be. Ms. Eckert stated that, so far, it had been for community support for creating the COC with the three counties but, in the future, they may be asked for funding but she did not have a specific request at this time. Commissioner Nyquist stated that it would be a question of timing and the financial disposition of the County and stated, as a preamble message, that the Board agreed with what CSC was doing and encouraged Ms. Eckert to continue to explore the COC but there were no promises from the County; they would encourage and be supportive. Commissioner Nyquist stated that, for the Board, start-up funding was a completely different proposition than an expected annual allocation. Ms. Eckert stated that, if the legislature makes a decision to continue the Linn Mac Funding, they would ask the Board to support any legislative action and the continuation of emergency order funds that have been really important to providing additional shelter and outreach for folks in

Linn County. She stated it was also a way for the Board to be supportive in order to continue to have those funds come to Linn County. Ms. Eckert stated that CSC had asked the same request of the other counties in the tri-county region.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that, conceptually, the Board was very supportive of the reorganization that could leverage outside funds to come into our area. He supported and encouraged Ms. Eckert to continue to move forward as she had been doing.

Commissioner Tucker stated that it was sad to not have Pegge McGuire present as it was to be her last presentation before the Board. She has led CSC well and he had enjoyed his relationship with her and the organization. He stated that Ms. Eckert had done a great job with the presentation.

8. Health Department – Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator.

Mr. Noble provided background information regarding the following items.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-394 approving a Contract for Services between Lowes and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-394. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Resolution & Order 2024-396 approving a Contract for Services between Platt and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-396.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if there was a plan in place to maintain the generators. Mr. Noble stated that the home generators would be connected to natural gas lines. Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, clarified that the funds for the generators did not come from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Resolution & Order 2024-397 approving a Grant Agreement for the Linn County Crisis Stabilization Center Development Grant between Intercommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO) and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-397. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Mink provided background information regarding this item.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-393 approving an Amendment to a State Funded Local Project Program Agreement for the Sand Ridge Road; Butte Creek Bridge Project between State of Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-393.

Commissioner Tucker noted that there was a substantial increase, almost five times the amount than it initially was, so he asked what had changed. Mr. Mink stated that the first part was for preliminary engineering and the second part was for the construction engineering and the construction of the bridge.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Treasurer's Office – Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer.

A. Order 2024-395 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the Health Fund, \$100,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2024-395. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Order 2024-398 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the Grants Fund, \$15,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2024-398.

Commissioner Nyquist thanked Scott Schuler from KRKT Radio for his work in helping to make it possible for Linn County to have the Pastega Lights at the Fair/Expo Center which compliments Storybook Land. It's an opportunity for people, locally, to celebrate the holiday season. Linn County was happy to be able to continue the tradition in the Mid-Willamette Valley.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

12. 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.

13. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars.


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

15. Announcements: Commissioner Nyquist announced that there would be an Elected Officials meeting from Noon to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center in Conference Room 4.


16. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): There was no one present from the public wishing to use this forum neither in person or telephonically.


17. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m. by unanimous consent.


The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 10, 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 12-10-2024