



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
JANUARY 10, 2023**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff; Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services, Linn County Sheriff's Office; Reagan Maudlin, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator; Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Dee Baley-Hyder, Linn County Veterans Services Officer; Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer; Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer; Amber Boedigheimer, Linn County Law Librarian; Marsha Meyer, Senior Commissioners' Administrative Assistant; Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster; Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County; Alyssa Boles, Planning Manager, Linn County Planning and Building Department; Kendra Oliver, City Director for the City of Lebanon; Dawn Mitchell, Executive Director for the Sweet Home Senior Citizen's Home; Rebecca Grizzle, Executive Director for the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce; Joanne McQueary, TAC Committee Member; Alysia Rodgers, Economic Development Catalyst, City of Lebanon; Barry Hoffman, City of Albany Transportation; Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer and Joanna Mann, 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 Courtney Leland, 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 4, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the January 4, 2023 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Sheriff’s Office – Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff.

Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services, Linn County Sheriff’s Office, presented the following item.

A. Resolution & Order 2023-015 approving a Personal Services Contract between NW Clinical Registry and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Captain Franklin stated that this was for temporary nursing staff. Due to a nursing staffing shortage at the jail. This service would provide staffing until the positions could be filled.

Commissioner Sprenger made a comment that this was an unfortunate position all of healthcare was facing and it was considerably worse in jails and the state correction system.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2023-015. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously

7. Special Transportation – Reagan Maudlin, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator.

A. Resolution & Order 2023-024 adopting the 2023-2025 Linn County Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Plan and delegate authority to execute originals.

Ms. Maudlin introduced members present from the Transportation Advisory Committee. Ms. Maudlin expressed that it was an extremely challenging task for the committee members due to a lack of resources and prioritizing resources to keep services going in Linn County.

Ms. Maudlin stated that in a letter from the City of Albany there were a number of complaints in regard to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) not following standards of procedure. Ms. Maudlin was assigned to investigate the complaints within the letter and found that the TAC committee had followed all OAR’s and the specific criteria for consideration for recommendations.

Commissioner Nyquist asked for a description of transportation that was exclusive to a city.

Ms. Maudlin explained that there was a list of priorities taken into consideration for the priority of the funds within a city. While most of the providers have Intercommunity types of services in combination with city only services. The Linn Shuttle is a county sponsored City Shuttle for Sweet Home, Lebanon and Albany area that has been

successful for years but, since the Statewide Transportation Improvement Formula (STIF) started with the service, they have had some successful expansion within the program.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if the recipients of this funding were measuring the cost of the transportation rides.

Ms. Maudlin stated that the money was divided into two different types of funding, population funding and payroll funding, but may not be reflective of all of their services. The range for public transportation was currently \$22-49 per ride. Things taken into consideration for the price variation was the length of the ride, the type of transportation service and the city in which the transportation occurred.

Commissioner Sprenger asked for clarification from Ms. Maudlin regarding the TAC committee and how it worked. Ms. Maudlin clarified that TAC is the Linn County Transportation Advisory Committee and is a required committee by the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) in order to steward funds that come from local and federal dollars that filter through the county. TAC is very diverse right now being made up of eight members from representatives of transportation providers, representatives of low income, representatives of experienced disabilities and representatives from rural communities.

Commissioner Sprenger asked for clarification from Ms. Maudlin about the lack of resources and funding. Ms. Maudlin stated that the lack of resources was always in comparison to demand. When the Statewide Transportation Improvement Formula (STIF) process started, anyone who was interested in accessing these funds were asked to give a presentation of an estimated amount of funds that were needed. The estimated need in the county came to about \$9 million dollars.

Commissioner Tucker stated that he spoke to the Albany City manager, Peter Troedsson, and he felt comfortable with the protest and the recommendation moving forward.

Commissioner Nyquist commented that following the payroll tax issues, House Bill 2017, while he liked some parts of House Bill, he didn't like the payroll tax at all.

Ms. Maudlin stated that transportation was not excluded from the cost of everything increasing. There were severe interruptions with transportation services and the costs per ride looked higher due to COVID, inflation of the economy and lack of services provided throughout the pandemic. The price range per ride was \$22-49 and was an estimate for the last fiscal year of transportation services.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that these were tax payers' dollars not federal money. He wasn't comfortable with the price range and going forward, he hoped the cost would decrease. He needed to see the number of costs per ride go down, the value to the public as well as, the value to the tax payers. He pressed that the Transportation Advisory Committee needed to consider these circumstances moving forward.

Commissioner Tucker calls the motion to move, Commissioner Sprenger seconds the motion. Mr. Darrin Lane corrects the Resolution number, Commissioner Tucker withdraws his motion and recalls the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2023-024.

Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer corrected the resolution number. Commissioner Tucker corrected his motion.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Nyquist recessed the regular Board meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Commissioner Nyquist reconvened the regular Board meeting at 9:58 a.m.

8. Reports of Staff and Committees:

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

Mr. Wills provided the Board with a Planning and Building Update for December, 2022. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

The Wildfire permits for December had not changed. There was a grant for one additional CVS fire hardening grant that paid out \$114,650. The Department of Energy's Program requested \$126,500 and currently \$56,500 has been paid out, leaving \$70,000 in reserve for future payment.

Mr. Wills stated that there were four new Code Enforcement cases and seven closed Code Enforcement cases leaving them right on track with budget.

Commissioner Tucker congratulated Mr. Wills on the amount of closed Code Enforcement cases.

Alyssa Boles, Planning Manager, Linn County Planning and Building Department, presented the following items:

1. Resolution & Order 2022-429 approving a Zoning Map Amendment Application by Robert and Vicki Ward to change the zoning map designation on a portion of a 6.16-acre property.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2022-429. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2022-430 approving an Ordinance amending the Linn County Zoning Map.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2022-430. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Veterans Services Quarterly Update – Dee Baley-Hyder, Linn County Veterans Services Officer.

Ms. Baley-Hyder provided the Board with a Veteran Services Quarterly Update. A copy of her report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Ms. Baley-Hyder presented the recoveries update for the claims filed on behalf of the surviving spouses of Veterans and the Veteran's themselves. The new quarter update from October 1, 2022 to December 1, 2022 with a total of \$333,779. Last year at this time the amount was \$549,793. The difference between the years is due to some big retro's that came in for the surviving spouses last year.

She stated that the effective date for the Patient-Aligned Care Teams (PACT Act) was August 10, 2022. There had been 176,000 Veterans who had applied for the PACT Act across the United States. The Veteran Affairs prioritized the applicants in the order as follows, terminally ill Veterans, claims of cancer, working with the homelessness, the Veterans who are eighty-five years or older, suffering financial hardship and medal of honor or purple heart recipients.

Ms. Baley-Hyder indicated that transportation was going strong for local veterans with encouragement of other community care resources through the VA and her intent was to encourage Veterans to use this medical only transportation through Veteran Services as a last resort.

C. Quarterly Financial Report as of December 31, 2022 – Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer and Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer.

Mr. Palmer provided the Board with a Quarterly Financial Report. A copy of this report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

All categories were up compared to the previous years. The total balance as a County is \$104,326,283, which is a number that had not been seen before in previous years.

Commissioner Nyquist pointed out the change in the Health Department fund balance. Mr. Lane, clarified that they received federal funding throughout COVID and Ms. Hawkins provided that they had a \$7 million dollar carry over balance that needed to be spent by December 31, 2022. They have spent most of the carry over but the remainder would be refunded back to the State for not meeting the expenditure deadline. In the General Fund, there was a negative \$3 million dollars for payment back to the Road Department for the Intermodal Facility.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that the County is in a good place financially but expenditure deadlines needed to be figured out so we aren't losing money. He also

pointed out that spending needed to slow down and Departments should be cautioned against having the expectation toward one-time funds; Since the State and Federal funding were no longer available. Mr. Lane reassured Commissioner Nyquist that this discussion would be held during the Budget kickoff meeting, soon to come.

9. Law Library – Amber Boedigheimer, Linn County Law Librarian.

Ms. Boedigheimer provided background information regarding the following item:

A. Resolution & Order 2023-017 approving an application for the Library Services and Technology Act and granting the Law Librarian authority to apply.

Commissioner Tucker thanked Ms. Boedigheimer for her hard work and dedication in assisting people with their concerns.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2023-017. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Hawkins provided background information regarding the following items:

A. Order 2023-012 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the Grants Fund, \$55,208.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-012. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Order 2023-013 approving the transfer of certain appropriations within the General Fund, \$24,021.

Commissioner Nyquist asked Ms. Hawkins to clarify the extra \$4,021. Ms. Hawkins stated that it was for the Millersburg project for the Road Fund supported by Order 2023-014.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-013. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Order 2023-014 accepting an expenditure of a certain appropriations within the Road Fund, \$4,021.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-014. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Order 2023-020 approving the transfer of certain appropriations within the Road Fund, \$45,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-020. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Order 2023-027 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the Grants Fund, \$53,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-027. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Order 2023-029 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the General Fund, \$215,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Order 2023-029. 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.

B. Resolution 2023-019 reappointing members to the Linn County Fair Board.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2023-019. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars. Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would be out of the office Tuesday January 17, 2022. Commissioner Tucker stated that Ron Wyden would be at a Townhall this week and more than one Commissioner might attend.

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

15. Announcements: There were no announcements.

16. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): Mr. Lane applauded Commissioner Sprenger for the use of the analogy Anti-Icing instead of De-Icer. There was no one else present to come before the Board.

17. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.


Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Courtney Leland

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Roger Nyquist, Chair



William C. Tucker, Vice-Chair



Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 1-31-2023