



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
MARCH 21, 2023**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Dr. William Muth, Linn County Health Officer (*via teleconferencing*) Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator; Shane Sanderson, Public Health Program Manager; Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services Division, Linn County Sheriff's Office; Kris Barnes, Linn County Fair and Expo Director; Steve Druckenmiller, Linn County Clerk; Marcie Richey, Linn County Deputy Clerk; Rachel Adamec, Linn County Real Property Program Manager; Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County; Dena Barawis, Office Manager for the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department; Dave Warnack, Willamette National Forest Supervisor; including other members from the Willamette National Forest: Michelle King, Detroit District Ranger; Chris Donaldson, Deputy Fire Staff Officer; Nikki Swanson, Sweet Home District Ranger; Brett Blundon, Disaster Recovery Program Manager; Duane Bishop, Deputy Forest Supervisor. Bret Kizer; Stan Boshart; Tom Herndon; Marci Herndon; 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 and Will Tucker, Vice-Chair were present, as well as, Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer. Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner was excused. Courtney Leland, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners.

4. Approval of Agenda.

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

5. Approval of the March 14, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the March 14, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed.

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

A. Communicable Disease and Vital Statistics Reports – Dr. William Muth, Linn County Health Officer.

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

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 February, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Mr. Sanderson stated that there were two complaints received in February, 2023 and both pertained to RV's disposing waste improperly.

Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator presented the following three items.

C. Resolution & Order 2023-049 approving a Student Affiliation Agreement between Chemeketa Community College and Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-049. The vote was called. The motion passed.

D. Resolution & Order 2023-076 approving an Amendment No. 1 to an Intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Oregon, Oregon Health Authority (Agreement No. 173264) and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-076. The vote was called. The motion passed.

E. Resolution 2023-096 appointing members to the Linn County Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution 2023-096. The vote was called. The motion passed.

7. Sheriff's Office – Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff. Andy Franklin, Captain Support Services Division, Linn County Sheriff's Office presented the following item.

A. Resolution & Order 2023-089 approving a Part-Time Temporary Employment Agreement for a Corrections Deputy.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-089. The vote was called. The motion passed.

8. 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 February, 2023. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

1. Resolution 2023-097 declaring a Service Contract as a Personal Service Contract.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution 2023-097. The vote was called. The motion passed.

9. Parks Department – Brian Carroll, Linn County Parks and Recreation Director. Dena Barawis, Office Manager for Linn County Parks and Recreation presented the following item.

A. Resolution & Order 2023-099 approving a Grant Agreement between the State of Oregon and the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department for construction to the RV waste water disposal facility and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-099. The vote was called. The motion passed.

10. Clerk's Office – Steve Druckenmiller, Linn County Clerk.
(This item was presented before item no. 6 - Board of Health.)

Commissioner Nyquist thanked Mr. Druckenmiller for his service to the County.

A. Resolution & Order 2023-098 approving a Personal Services Contract between Clear Ballot Group, Inc. and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-098. The vote was called. The motion passed.

11. Property Management – Rachel Adamec, Linn County Real Property Program Manager. Ms. Adamec provided the Board with background information regarding the accounts and then opened the sealed bids for account nos. 315628 and 315636. Ms. Adamec stated that the bid covered both accounts and the bid amount was for \$20,110. The property is completely surrounded by Mr. and Mrs. Herndon's property with no legal right of access. At certain times of the year, the property is under water.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to accept the sealed bid. The vote was called. The motion passed.

12. Correspondence: Linn County declared a State of Emergency for the Homelessness issue on March 20, 2023.

13. Special Orders:

A. Personnel Action Forms.

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

B. Approval of a Wrecking License for Hwy 34 Towing & Repair, LLC with a Letter of Understanding.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the Wrecking License. The vote was called. The motion passed.

14. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would be appearing via teleconferencing for Tuesday, March 28, 2023 Commissioner's Board Meeting and Commissioner Tucker stated that on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 there would be a CSC Governing Board Meeting held that more than one Commissioner may attend.

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

16. Announcements: There were no announcements.

17. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): Bret Kizer, long-term Albany resident, stated that he didn't like the direction that our State was headed and wanted to discuss "Greater Idaho." Discussion followed.

18. Willamette National Forest Presentation – Dave Warnack, Willamette National Forest Supervisor.

Brett Blundon, Disaster Recovery Program Manager indicated that the wildfires of the last few years had impacted 21% of the Willamette National Forest. He also stated that new staffing was hired to distribute the heavy workload and to form a Disaster Recovery Team. He indicated that, on the Willamette side, they should have all of the positions filled going into the fire season.

Mr. Blundon stated that there was \$1 billion dollars dedicated to the Willamette National Forest Disaster Recovery Efforts Nationally. In December 2021, the Forest Service was given \$53 million dollars for recovery projects. These recovery projects were not exempt from the other factors that cover the restoration process. Some of the recovery projects included road repairs and debris removal to aid in making roadways safe.

Commissioner Nyquist indicated that if preparedness and funding were available, how could they reduce the risk of what happened during the 2020 wildfire season. Mr. Blundon indicated that they were trying to create entry ways into parts of the wilderness that they weren't able to access before.

Chris Donaldson, Deputy Fire Staff Officer, discussed the Willamette National Forests upcoming plan for fire suppression this fire season. He indicated that the Willamette National Forest had no plans to allow natural fires to burn. Their mission was to put the fire out at the sign of fire. He discussed a newly developed system where they were dividing parts of the wilderness into potential operational delineations referred to as (pods) to look at the landscape from a fire and fuels perspective along with examining where there were values at risk, as well as, areas that would be more difficult to fight fires in. Nikki Swanson, Sweet Home District Ranger, provided information in regards to the "Potter" fire. She stated that it was a fire that was able to be controlled prior to escalation. Creating these pods was a factor in being able to minimize the spread of fire throughout the wilderness.


Mr. Donaldson continued and discussed priority landscape and aviation resources. Commissioner Tucker asked Mr. Donaldson why the Willamette National Forest was not considered a priority landscape. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Tucker stated that our State didn't have enough Aviation resources in previous years and a lot of resources had been given to California during their fire season but later in the year when Oregon needed the resources, there hadn't been enough available. Commissioner Tucker stated that Lane County recently purchased a Helicopter. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Tucker thanked Nikki Swanson, Sweet Home District Ranger for the lives she had saved and her dedication to Willamette National Forest.

19. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 28, 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 3-28-2023