



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster; Breeanna Oxford, Linn County Deputy Treasurer; Rachel Adamec, Linn County Real Property Program Manager; Alysia Rodgers, Economic Development Catalyst, City of Lebanon; 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 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 May 2, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the May 2, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Wills stated that there would be a Planning Commission meeting tonight, Tuesday, May 9, 2023 in regard to PLN-2022-00729. There were no land use hearings scheduled before the Board for the month of May, 2023.

Mr. Wills informed the Board of the number of building permits for April, 2023 totaling 291; new code enforcement cases were 25 and closed cases were 11. He stated there was a quarterly meeting held with the contract cities. Commissioner Nyquist asked Mr. Wills how this year's activities compared to last year and Mr. Wills indicated that commercial permits were up but overall activity had been very similar to last year.

Commissioner Sprenger stated she attended the meeting with the contract cities and was struck by the positive comments made towards the Planning and Building Department in regard to their responsiveness and the partnership between the cities and the department.

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

A. Resolution & Order 2023-046 accepting and recording certain real property granted to Linn County for road purposes (County Road Number 0328, Goldfish Farm Road).

Action Taken Below.

B. Resolution & Order 2023-118 accepting and recording certain real property granted to Linn County for road purposes (County Road Number 0328, Goldfish Farm Road).

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Orders 2023-046 and 118. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

A. Order 2023-171 approving the transfer of certain appropriations within the Health Fund, \$50,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Order 2023-171.

There was a discussion in regard to the purchase of property for the Health Department and the transfer of funds for earnest money.

Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he did not like where it's at in the process and had no idea what the offer entailed or the purchase price. He stated that his concern was that it would trigger a purchase that he did not have enough detailed information in order for him to approve it.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if the Board had voted to authorize someone to negotiate the purchase of the said property and Mr. Lane answered no they had not. Commissioner Tucker thought the Board had already done that; however, if not, it could be brought up under "New Business" (*Agenda Item No. 13*).

Commissioner Sprenger stated that she was comfortable with the motion and the vote but asked if delaying this item one week would give everyone a chance to review in order to see how to move forward. Commissioner Tucker stated that he would not be at the Board meeting next Tuesday, May 16, 2023 and stated it was simply the movement of money to prepare for a purchase.

Commissioner Tucker moved to withdraw his motion. The question was called for a second to withdraw the motion.

Commissioner Sprenger stated that she was in total support of this matter and was ready to vote yes. Commissioner Tucker agreed. However, Commissioner Sprenger stated that wisdom says to hit pause in order to get the information that was needed to move forward.

Commissioner Sprenger accepted the motion to withdraw.

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

A. Resolution & Order 2023-170 approving the transfer of real property to the City of Lebanon.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved and Commissioner Tucker seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2023-170. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Correspondence: Commissioner Nyquist entered into the record a letter dated Monday, May 8, 2023 that he signed and sent to the Mayor of the City of Millersburg as a response to his request to meet with the Board in regard to the decision the Board made regarding their application to move their Urban Growth Boundaries to certain properties which the Board had voted 2-1. A copy of the letter is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

11. 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.

12. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars. Commissioner Tucker stated that he would be out of the office next week.

13. New Business: This was in regard to the discussion held under Agenda Item No. 8A.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to authorize Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, to negotiate a real estate transaction for the Health Department.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that this matter was to negotiate a position for the County to purchase a piece of property that would, ultimately, come back before the Board for approval; it was not an authorization to purchase property.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

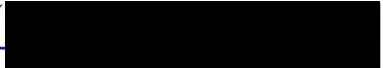
14. Announcements: There were no announcements.

15. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker):


Julie Ann Oland, 37665 Richardson Gap Road, Scio, OR. Ms. Oland stated that she was a business owner and a school teacher. She stated that she had been listening to the Board talking about business in Linn County and that, being in the public and private sector as a business owner and a parent, they've been under attack; it's felt like they're living in a war zone especially from our own government. Ms. Oland complimented Linn County for their heart and honesty that she had witnessed and that they sincerely wanted to see them thrive. She was concerned about the issue in Salem regarding homeless camping on the sidewalks and stated we're completely on our own because it's clear the state and federal governments were not going to protect them; who can we count on to have our backs as these are not safe conditions to raise kids, start a business or manage a farm. Ms. Oland stated she appreciated what the Board had done so far and hoped they could find a way to keep Linn County free and safe. She thanked the Board for fighting for them and, in regard to the issues in Salem, anything the Board could do to push back state government on behalf of the citizens, needed to happen; we are behind you if you decide to push back on our behalf.

16. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m. by unanimous consent.


The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

 , Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Marsha Meyer

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Roger Nyquist, Chair


William C. Tucker, Vice-Chair


Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 5-16-2023