



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator; Dr. Adam Brady, Linn County Health Officer; Shane Sanderson, Linn County Public Health Program Manager; Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff; Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer; Phillip Van Leuven, Deputy County Attorney for Linn County; Dawna Steele, Legal Secretary, Linn County Attorney's Office; Tom Cordier; Jeanine Wenning; other audience members; 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 and Will Tucker, Vice-Chair were present, as well as, Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer and Marsha Meyer, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Sprenger was excused.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Commissioner Tucker asked the Board to amend the agenda removing Agenda Item No. 8-A as Kris Barnes, Linn County Fair and Expo Director, was not able to attend the meeting due to a maintenance issue he was handling at the Fair/Expo.

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

5. Approval of the June 13, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the June 13, 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. Adam Brady, Linn County Health Officer.

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

Commissioner Nyquist asked and Mr. Sanderson confirmed that Public Health and Environmental Health had been merged together. Commissioner Nyquist stated that Environmental Health was generally user based and Public Health was not. Mr. Sanderson agreed. Mr. Sanderson stated that the Public Health model had been changed to be more volunteer such as WIC and MCH; the public has to ask to be enrolled. Mr. Sanderson provided additional examples. Commissioner Nyquist wanted to be sure that the users understood that, when they pay a fee to Environmental Health, their fees are going to sustain that program.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that it appeared the marketing for the two programs were not kept separate; you're doing things on behalf of Environmental Health and Public Health. There was a discussion about a Facebook post which Commissioner Nyquist received a call from a constituent stating that they hoped their money wasn't promoting what was being marketed on Facebook. Mr. Sanderson stated that when there's a post on Public Health it would come from their promotion team. A restaurant licensee fee would not be used to support Public Health; he was not clear on how to get that noted to the users. Todd Noble, Linn County Health Services Administrator, stated that the particular Facebook post that Commissioner Nyquist was referring to did have both of the department names listed but it would be changed as of today.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that, when promoting an activity for Public Health, wouldn't it be strategically smarter to leave them separate for the outreach, communication and promotion. Commissioner Nyquist stated, for the record, that Mr. Noble was nodding his head yes in response to that comment. Commissioner Nyquist asked that Mr. Sanderson to work on that and get back to the Board regarding that matter.

Mr. Noble provided background information regarding the following items:

C. Resolution & Order 2023-179 approving a Sole Source Contract between Casa Latinos Unidos and Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-179. The vote was called. The motion passed.

D. Resolution & Order 2023-214 approving an Amendment No. 9 to an Agreement between Protocall Services, Inc. and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-214. The vote was called. The motion passed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he had reached out to Mr. Noble earlier in the week about the Fee Schedule and asked if he had sent over his analysis. Mr. Noble stated that he had given it to Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, yesterday. Commissioner Nyquist asked if rates were increasing as noted in the changes to the Fee Schedule for Linn County Alcohol and Drug (A & D) services. He asked Mr. Noble if there was still the need to give all the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLLC) money to that department. Mr. Noble stated yes, it would still need to go to the A & D program as there were a great number of folks who don't have the Oregon Health Plan so they would need assistance. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would look at the data next week.

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

Sheriff Duncan provided background information regarding the following item:

A. Resolution & Order 2023-229 approving an Amendment No. 1 to an Intergovernmental Agreement for the State of Oregon, Oregon Department of Administrative Services and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-229. 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.

As noted earlier, this item was removed from the Board's agenda due to Mr. Barnes not being able to attend due to a maintenance issue at the Fair/Expo. The Board determined to have Mr. Barnes come before the Board in July, 2023 and present his report for both May and June, 2023.

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

A. Request for Refund from the Planning and Building Department to Jennifer Smothers, \$1,667.60.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve the Request for Refund. The vote was called. The motion passed.

Commissioner Tucker informed Mr. Wills that a constituent called him about their construction excise tax and the fee charged on behalf of school districts. They were concerned about overhangs and other unlivable portions of their house that were included. Commissioner Tucker asked that Mr. Wills discuss this matter with him, outside of the Board meeting, to help him understand more of what is included in the construction excise tax and what's collected. Mr. Wills agreed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated, in full disclosure, that there was a Fee Schedule coming before the Board next week and that he understood that there would be an application to the Department of Energy for a solar farm between 1,100-1,500 acres and that there would be cost incurred by the County. Commissioner Nyquist asked Mr. Wills that, should that endeavor occur, he wanted him to come up with a fee for solar panels and operations of this nature to make sure the County comes out of it whole and the interest of the public was protected. Its not a new concept and many other counties do it in regard to cell towers. Commissioner Nyquist stated that he had been talking with the County Attorney on this matter. Commissioner Tucker stated that he would be happy to look at this as long as it pertained to industrial and not residential applications.

Commissioner Nyquist pointed out, for the record, that there was a fire on top of the Corvallis Boys and Girls Club's building due to solar panels.

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

Ms. Hawkins provided background information on the following items:

A. Resolution & Order 2023-222 approving the Loan of Funds from the General Road Fund to the L.E. 4-Year Levy Fund of Linn County.

Action Taken Below.

B. Resolution & Order 2023-227 approving the Loan of Funds from the General Road Fund to the General Fund of Linn County.

Action Taken Below.

C. Resolution & Order 2023-228 approving the Loan of Funds from the General Road Fund to the Fair Fund of Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Orders 2023-222, 227 and 228. The vote was called. The motion passed.

D. Order 2023-233 accepting an expenditure of a certain grant within the General Fund, \$20,000.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Order 2023-233. The vote was called.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he was concerned that the money was coming from hardworking Linn County residents so he asked Jessica Meyer, Linn County Justice of the Peace, specifically about this and where the bulk of the money was coming from. She indicated that it was due, in part, to the hefty fines given to truckers coming across the Van Buren bridge.

The motion passed.

Commissioner Nyquist asked about the transfer of funding for the wildfire account. Commissioner Tucker stated that the transfer of funding was happening. Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, then provided the Board with the process for placing the funding into a grant fund in the new fiscal year. Commissioner Tucker provided additional background information on this matter. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that, bottom line, the wildfire fund was out of money and there was at least on citizen that would greatly benefit from those funds. The Board made a policy decision to move the funds and Ms. Hawkins was taking care of the technical execution of that. Commissioner Nyquist thanked both Mr. Lane and Ms. Hawkins for working on this matter.

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

12. 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. Personnel Action Forms – Cost of Living Adjustment for Elected Officials, Management/Exempt and Teamster employees.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to accept the Personnel Action Forms list as Exhibit 2 for Cost of Living Adjustments for Elected Officials, Management/Exempt and Teamster employees at 4 percent. The vote was called. The motion passed.

Mr. Lane provided background information on the following items:

C. Resolution & Order 2023-198 eliminating a classification description for Vocational Counselor (Range 16-SEIU).

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-198. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolution & Order 2023-234 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between Benton County and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-234. The vote was called. The motion passed.

13. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars. Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would not be at the Board meeting on Tuesday, June 27, 2023. He also announced that the 4-H & Extension Service District Budget Adoption would be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 9:15 a.m. and the County Budget Adoption and Fee Schedule Adoption would be held on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

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

15. Announcements:

A. The Governing Board for 4-H & Extension Service District will meet on Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 9:15 a.m. to adopt the 4-H & Extension Service District 2023-2024 Budget.

B. The Board will meet on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to adopt the Linn County 2023-2024 Budget.

16. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): Jeanine Wenning, 31881 Riverview Street, Lebanon, OR.


Ms. Wenning read from a handout and provided the Board with a copy which is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Ms. Wenning indicated that elections should be returned to in-person voting with a paper ballot and hand counted at a local precinct with valid citizen ID for transparency and to verify elections. She also referred to a copy of a lawsuit that was included in her handout and asked the Board to read it and listen to the hearing regarding this matter which is scheduled on Monday, June 26, 2023.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if there was anyone telephonically wishing to speak. There was no one wishing to use this forum.

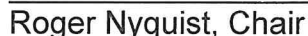
17. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

, Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Marsha Meyer

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT


Roger Nyquist, Chair



William C. Tucker, Vice-Chair



Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 6-27-2023