



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY MEETING  
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200  
AUGUST 23, 2022**

**The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022.**

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Randy Porter, Linn County Fair and Expo Director; Phillip Van Leuven, Deputy County Attorney for Linn County; 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 August 16, 2022 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

**Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the August 16, 2022 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. Reports of Staff and Committees:

A. Fair/Expo Update – Randy Porter, Linn County Fair and Expo Director.

Mr. Porter provided the Board with a Fair/Expo Update for the month of July, 2022. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

He stated that he believed the new fiscal year would be better as they were starting to see a rebound from COVID. The Board discussed the financial report and Commissioner Nyquist asked that Mr. Porter start including the revenue from 2019-2020 on his monthly report in order to have a benchmark. Mr. Porter agreed. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) successfully passed a bond for an equine facility and asked if Mr. Porter had talked with them to see whether or not what they had envisioned for their facility would compete or change the tilt in the Fair/Expo Center's business. Mr. Porter was not aware of the LBCC facility so Commissioner Nyquist asked that he contact the college and, possibly do a walk-through, to see if what they planned to do with their facility would have an impact and/or change the users or the market. Commissioner Sprenger stated that there may be room for a partnership with LBCC.

Next, Mr. Porter informed the Board that the Fair/Expo had advertised a Request for Proposal for catering services and had received seven applications from the following businesses: McKillips, Forks & Corks, Honeybrine, Loafers, Jacopetti's, N'Reeners and Southpaws. He stated that he was still working on the RFP for concessions. Commissioner Nyquist stated that, if they had received an application and they had met the requirements that, absent of saying to move forward, it would seem appropriate to give them a temporary 30-day acknowledgment that they would be caterers for the facility pending the paperwork formalizing that decision. Discussion followed regarding the caterers use of the kitchen at the Fair/Expo Center.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would look forward to hearing about Mr. Porter's conversation with LBCC.

7. Correspondence: Commissioner Nyquist proposed that Commissioner Tucker write a letter to the Oregon Department of Forestry regarding wildfires. He stated that there was an article in the Democrat-Herald a few weeks ago that highlighted the differences in the philosophy's of forest practices and timber management and that it was revealing in that there were advocates that believed the forests should just burn. He stated that it took him back, almost two years ago, when all three Board members were involved, in some way, with the Santiam Canyon wildfire and recovery where there was loss of life and loss of life-long family assets where they lost everything they had.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that the Oregon Department of Forestry had formulated a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP which called for further reduction in harvest and management of our forests; it was done without any acknowledgment or consideration of the Governor's Council on Wildfire Response where the findings, in what they believed, should be to the serious problem that Oregon faces, within the next 10 years, in the way of potential wildfires.

Commissioner Nyquist then gave the Board a handout of the Executive Summary of the Governor's wildfire response; the full report is 110 pages. A copy of the partial report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioner's Staff File.

Commissioner Nyquist then acknowledged that Commissioner Tucker has been engaging the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and so he suggested that he prepare a letter for the Board's signature to the ODF and request that they consider incorporating the findings in the Governor's Council on Wildfire in their plans going forward. Commissioner Tucker stated that he would prepare a draft letter for the Board to review by the end of the week; it has been a challenge. Commissioner Sprenger stated that she would fully endorse the letter and would ask that it not be glossed over that people died in the Santiam Canyon wildfire. Discussion followed.

8. 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 2022-310 reappointing members on the Linn County Historic Resource Commission.

**Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-310. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.**

C. Resolution & Order 2022-311 approving a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement between Linn County and District Row, LLC dba Olsen Run Winery.

**Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2022-311. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars.


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

11. Announcements: There were no announcements.


12. 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.

13. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 30, 2022.

 Recorder  
For Board of Commissioners  
Marsha Meyer

**LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
Roger Nyquist, Chair

  
William C. Tucker, Vice-Chair

  
Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 8-30-2022