



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Julia Fox, Assistant Planner, Linn County Planning and Building Department; Stacey Whaley, Linn County Parks and Recreation Director; Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County; Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer; Christine Ferguson, President, Linn County Oregon Veterans' Day Parade; 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; 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 February 6, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the February 6, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reports of Staff and Committees:

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

Mr. Wills provided the Board with a Planning and Building Department Update for the month of January, 2024. 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 not be a Planning Commission meeting in February, 2024 nor any Public Hearings to come before the Board.

He stated that, even though the number of permits were down by 30 percent across the board from last year, he had seen a slight uptick. Commissioner Sprenger asked Mr. Wills to be mindful of how that would affect his budget and to be sure to make adjustments. Mr. Wills replied that he thinks about that every day.

Mr. Wills stated that there was no activity for wildfire grants. There were 114 affected properties and 65 of those had applied for permits to rebuild; some of the properties didn't have structures so there would be no builds on those properties.

7. Parks & Recreation Department – Stacey Whaley, Linn County Parks Director.

A. Resolution 2024-048 authorizing the Linn County Parks Department to apply for a Local Government Grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for park improvements at John Neal Park in Lyons and delegating authority to Stacey Whaley, Parks Director to execute the application.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2024-048.

Commissioner Nyquist asked Ms. Whaley to provide information regarding this grant. Ms. Whaley stated that she was hoping to extend the water to some of the sites at John Neal Park and to stimulate interest in the Lyons area. This is a hidden gem and she wants to show people more about it. Ms. Whaley stated that she wanted to improve how traffic flowed in and out of the park and she has been working with a landscaper. She stated that the Oregon Park and Recreation (OPR) had given away \$14 million in lottery revenue last year and this year they were giving away \$30 million so her Department would be able to fund bigger projects. Commissioner Sprenger asked Ms. Whaley about her statement of anticipating a 50 percent increase in occupancy and asked what that was based upon. Ms. Whaley stated that occupancy had been low at the John Neal Park but she was expecting that it would change due to increased advertisement of the park.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

8. County Attorney's Office – Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County.

A. Resolution 2024-041 amending the Linn County Public Contracting Rules (LCPR) and declaring the Attorney General's Model Public Contracting Rules not applicable.

Mr. Karandy stated that this matter was published in the Democrat-Herald on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 and anyone who wanted to make comments could submit their comments to the Board of Commissioners' Office. There were no comments received. Mr. Karandy then explained the changes being made to the LCPR: adopt findings and amend class special procurements for insurance contracts agent of record services; amend the scope of personal services contracts; and, increase the small purchase limit for public improvement contracts. He then provided additional information on each of the changes.

Action - Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2024-041. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Correspondence: Commissioner Tucker submitted a letter for consideration by the Board to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) indicating that the Association of O & C Counties had requested twice for the cooperating agency status on behalf of Linn County and BLM had not formally responded to those requests. Commissioner Tucker asked for the Board's support of the letter and the Board agreed. A copy of the letter dated Monday, February 12, 2024 is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

10. 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 2024-045 appointing a member to the Linn County Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2024-045.

Commissioner Nyquist asked, for the record, who was being appointed to the committee and Commissioner Tucker read from the Resolution that Shannon Pettner was being appointed to Position No. 4 to fill a vacancy.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Resolution 2024-050 appointing a member and adding a new position number in accordance with the Community Services Consortium Action Advisory Council (CAAC) amended Bylaws.

Commissioner Tucker indicated that the Council was changing the number of positions from six to seven and that Ricardo Contreras was being appointed to fill Position No. 7.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2024-050. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Approving a Wrecking License for Hwy. 34 Towing and Repair with a Letter of Understanding.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve a Wrecking License for Hwy. 34 Towing and Repair.

Commissioner Nyquist asked what the letter of understanding was for and Commissioner Sprenger indicated that it was a reminder that all materials must be kept inside and below the height of the fence.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars. Commissioner Tucker stated that there was an event with local community leaders regarding the dam drawdown on Friday, February 16, 2024 which possibly one or more of the Board would be attending.

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

13. Announcements: There will be a Joint Work Session of the Linn County Board of Commissioners and the Albany City Council Members at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024 at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center in Conference Rooms 1 and 2, 3700 Knox Butte Rd, NE, Albany.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that, although this meeting had already occurred, it was good to make sure the public was aware of this meeting.


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

Christine Ferguson, Linn County Veterans' Day Parade. Ms. Ferguson presented the Board with a plaque and thanked them for their support and for the use of the Courthouse facilities during the event. Commissioner Nyquist stated that the parade was a source of pride for all residents living in this community and thanked Ms. Ferguson for her service.

Ms. Ferguson informed the Board that three years from now it would be the parade's 75th year and asked them to provide her with any input they may have as she plans for this special event.

15. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

 Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Marsha Meyer

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Roger Nyquist, Chair


William C. Tucker, Vice-Chair

ABSENT

Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 2-27-2024