



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Stacey Whaley, Linn County Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer; Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer; Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff; Micah Smith, Linn County Undersheriff; Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer; Alysia Rodgers, Economic Development Catalyst, City of Lebanon 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 Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger were present, as well as, Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer and Courtney Leland, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Will Tucker, Vice-Chair was excused.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve the Agenda. The vote was called. The motion passed.

5. Approval of the October 3, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve the October 3, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed.

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

Mr. Wills indicated that there would be a Planning Commission meeting held today, Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Armory Building regarding PLN-2023-00593.

Mr. Wills indicated that there was one permit issued for an accessory building and Commissioner Sprenger asked what an accessory building was and Mr. Wills indicated, anything that wasn't Agricultural Exempt and was an accessory to a building, such as a shed or green house.

Mr. Wills shared with the Board that there were 15 new code enforcement cases and 19 closed cases for the month of September, 2023. He also indicated that there was a third Amendment to the Wildfire Grant Program Agreement. He shared with the Board that Resolution & Order 2023-372 provided additional grant funds; not to exceed the amount of \$250,000. Commissioner Sprenger asked if the State was extending the County's ability to grant the funds and Mr. Wills indicated yes.

1. Resolution & Order 2023-372 approving an Amendment No. 3 to a Grant Agreement for the Wildfire Grant Program between the Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-372. The vote was called. The motion passed.

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

A. Resolution & Order 2023-373 approving a Lease Renewal on behalf of the United States Army Corps. Of Engineers (Lewis Creek Park) and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-373. The vote was called. The motion passed.

Ms. Whaley shared with the Board that the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department received approval to move forward with the bathroom and side-walk renovation project at Lewis Creek County Park.

Commissioner Sprenger asked how the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department was addressing the concerns with the dead fish at Green Peter Dam. Ms. Whaley indicated that the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department wasn't responsible for the matter and this was a direct result of the management practices of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. She indicated that the Linn County Parks and Recreation Department put out a public notice about the danger in allowing your pet to eat the dead

fish; the dead fish carry bacteria and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers didn't plan to remove the dead fish along Foster Reservoir but to allow them to decay on their own. Commissioner Nyquist asked what species were affected and how many fish died. Ms. Whaley indicated that she didn't know but the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers main concern was about the Chinook Salmon species and the other endangered species, rather than, the Kokanee as they are a planted species. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intended to alter their practices as a result of this and Ms. Whaley indicated that she didn't believe so. Commissioner Nyquist recommended that the Board write a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers suggesting that they change their practices. Commissioner Sprenger indicated that losing some Kokanee in the Green Peter Dam could better the future health of the fish due to overpopulation but what she had seen in this specific occurrence was horrendous.

8. Linn County Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2023 – Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer and Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer.

Mr. Palmer presented the Quarterly Financial Report to the Board. A copy of his report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File.

Mr. Palmer addressed the negative Fair Fund balance and explained that there was an expected return before the end of the year. Commissioner Sprenger asked for clarification on whether or not the Fair Fund was in reference to the Linn County Fair and not the actual Linn County Fair and Expo Department's budget and Mr. Palmer indicated yes.

Ms. Hawkins indicated that this year the State's revenue for Forest money was about \$238,000 and half of that was expected to move into the County's School Fund. Commissioner Nyquist asked for clarification on the Health Fund balance of 27 million dollars. Ms. Hawkins indicated that there was money in the fund that had to be spent by December, 2023 and that they were finalizing commitments of those funds. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Nyquist thanked Department Heads and Elected Officials for managing their budgets cautiously.

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

10. Special Orders:

A. Personnel Action Forms.

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

B. Resolution & Order 2023-370 approving a Personal Services Contract for mediation services between Peaceful Family Solutions, LLC and Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-370. The vote was called. The motion passed.

C. Resolution & Order 2023-379 acknowledgement of Codification of Amendments to the Linn County Ambulance Service Area Code for the Oregon Health Authority EMS and Trauma Systems.

Action – Commissioner Sprenger moved to approve Resolution & Order 2023-379. The vote was called. The motion passed.

11. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars.

12. New Business:


13. Announcements: There was no announcements.

14. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): Starla Becker, 41546 Hwy 226, Scio, OR.


Ms. Becker asked the Board for an update on when the Tier 2 Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) litigation hearings would happen. Commissioner Nyquist indicated that the Linn County Planning Manager wasn't present but someone would get her that information.

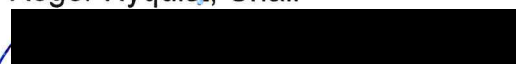
15. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 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 10-31-2023