



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Michelle Duncan, Linn County Sheriff; Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director; Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer; John Pascone, President, Linn Economic Development Group (LEDG); Karen Guildford, Linn County ITS Director; Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County; Doug Marteeny, District Attorney for Linn County; Troy Jones, Friends of Gap Road; 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 Courtney Leland, 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 October 1, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve the October 1, 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

A. Resolution & Order 2024-359 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement for Professional Compensation Study Services between Portland State University and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-359. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

7. 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 September, 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 was one Planning Commission meeting scheduled for PD24-0172 at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 and, for that same case, there is a land-use hearing scheduled before the Board on Tuesday, October 29, 2024. He also shared with the Board that there were 24 new Code Enforcement cases and 15 closed cases. No new fire hardening grant applications and one reimbursement check was issued for the month of September.

B. Linn County Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2024 – Bill Palmer, Linn County Accounting Officer and Michelle Hawkins, Linn County Treasurer.

Mr. Palmer provided the Board with a Linn County Quarterly Financial Report as of September 30, 2024. A copy of the report is on file in the Linn County Clerk's Office in the Commissioners' Staff File. Ms. Hawkins was not present for this item.

Mr. Palmer indicated that the Fair Fund is commonly spent by this point because the Linn County Fair had already occurred. He stated that none of the spending expenditures stood out to him as unusual but he did note that the Health Fund and Road Fund both had large carry over balances compared to previous years.

Commissioner Nyquist indicated, for cautionary disclosure, that more challenging times were ahead financially due to higher payroll costs after the pandemic. Mr. Palmer indicated that most departments had been prudent with their spending and had spent less than their budget. Discussion followed.

8. Linn Economic Development Group (LEDG) – John Pascone, President.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-340 establishing an Enterprise Zone School Support Fee Rate between Albany Public School District and Linn County Enterprise Zone Co-Sponsor and delegating authority to sign originals.

Mr. Pascone indicated that last year House Bill 2009 passed and a school support fee in lieu of property taxes was exempted in enterprise zones. He stated that one of the co-sponsors also needed to approve that rate as well and requested the Board's approval.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-340.

Commissioner Nyquist indicated that, as a member of the Albany GAPS School Board, he participated in voting for 15 percent on the other end of the matter which was the lowest by statute that they were allowed to do. He didn't have any conflicts of interest to declare but, in the matter of full disclosure, was providing transparency to the discussion. He indicated that this was a frustrating matter to him because Business Oregon concluded that the State of Oregon should promote individuals to invest in order to create more local jobs, especially, in the manufacturing sector; the local government has now incentivized individuals by waving property taxes and excluding education from the matter and, in this case, that meant Linn County would be asked to absorb the 3 percent hit. Discussion followed.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

9. IT Department – Karen Guilford, Linn County ITS Director.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-346 approving an Amendment No. 1 to a Personal Services Contract for cybersecurity services between Deepseas and Linn County and delegating authority to execute originals.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-346.

Ms. Guilford indicated that this would provide more advanced security to Linn County's software in order to detect threats to the system sooner. Commissioner Tucker clarified that the price would double and Ms. Guilford stated that was correct. Commissioner Tucker asked Ms. Guilford if she felt this was the right investment to make. Ms. Guilford stated that, the protection in which the county had now, was very basic and threats were becoming more advanced. She recommended that the Board approve the contract.

Commissioner Nyquist asked if Deepseas was connected to the one who swooped in and saved Linn County years ago when a cyber-attack occurred. Ms. Guilford indicated that they were related but not the same.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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.

Darrin Lane, Linn County Administrative Officer, presented the following item.

A. Resolution & Order 2024-350 approving an Agreement for removal of debris from real property owned by the Estate of Steven Craig Porter located at 2391 Porter Street, Lebanon Linn County, Oregon.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-350.

Mr. Lane indicated that, for a couple of years now, Linn County had been working hard to address the concerns regarding Porter Street. He stated that the County had done some cleanup work at the residence and would like to see the process through. However, in order to do that it would involve spending some County funds. He stated that there wasn't an owner nor an heir of the property but, that Council had reached an agreement and a lien may be placed on the property for the value of the home and, once the property sold, the County would be reimbursed.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Resolution 2024-353 appointing and reappointing members to the Linn Local Advisory Committee.

Action taken below.

D. Resolution 2024-354 appointing and reappointing members to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council.

Action taken below.

E. Resolution 2024-355 appointing a member to the Linn County Mental Health Advisory Board.

Action taken below.

F. Resolution 2024-356 appointing a member to the Linn County Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee.

Action taken below.

G. Resolution 2024-363 appointing a member to the Community Services Consortium Community Action Advisory Council (CAAC).

Action taken below.

H. Resolution 2024-364 designating a vacancy on the Linn County Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Orders 2024-353, 354, 355, 356, 363 and 364. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Resolution & Order 2024-365 renaming the Board of Property Tax Appeals to Property Value Appeals Board.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2024-365. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Resolution & Order 2024-341 approving a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement between Linn County and Schmizza Public House – Lebanon.

Action taken below.

K. Resolution & Order 2024-343 approving a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement between Linn County and The Point Restaurant and Lounge.

Action taken below.

L. Resolution & Order 2024-344 approving a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement between Linn County and Figaro's Pizza

Action taken below.

M. Resolution & Order 2024-357 approving a First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreement between Linn County and Sweet Home Feed and Supply, Inc.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Orders 2024-341, 343, 344 and 357. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

N. Approval of a Wrecking License for G & R Auto Wreckers, Inc. with a Letter of Understanding.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Sprenger seconded the motion to approve a Wrecking License for G & R Auto Wreckers, Inc. with a Letter of Understanding. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: Commissioner Nyquist indicated that The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had an upcoming session on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 to discuss deep drawdowns at Lookout Point and Green Peter reservoirs and one or more Commissioner may attend. Commissioner Nyquist expressed concern around what may be expected of the Board regarding the matter. Gene Karandy, County Attorney for Linn County, stated that, after talking to Lebanon City Council members, the cities weren't asking counties to declare an emergency, although, the City of Lebanon would be declaring an emergency to allow them to adjust funds internally. Mr. Karandy indicated that, to his understanding, the only time the County would be asked to declare an emergency would be if the city needed to request resources from the State of Oregon.

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

14. Announcements: There was no announcements.

15. Business from the Public (3-minute limit per speaker): Troy Jones, 22335 Gap Rd Harrisburg, OR 97446.


Mr. Jones indicated that he was involved in a local group called Friends of Gap Road. He gave the Board an update regarding the Muddy Creek Solar Project and thanked them for their support.

16. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 15, 2024.


Recorder
For Board of Commissioners
Courtney Leland

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Roger Nyquist, Chair


William O. Tucker, Vice-Chair


Sherrie Sprenger, Commissioner

Date 10-15-2024