



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY MEETING
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – ROOM 200
JANUARY 2, 2019**

The Linn County Board of Commissioners met for the regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

Those present at various times for the matters as indicated below were: Jodi Gollehon, Deputy County Attorney for Linn County; Brian Carroll, Linn County Parks and Recreation Director; Alan Kwan and Alex Paul, Reporter for the *Democrat-Herald*.

1, 2, 3. At 9:30 a.m. Chairman Nyquist called the meeting to order. The flag salute and roll call followed. Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Chairman; John K. Lindsey, Vice-Chairman and Will Tucker were present, as well as, Ralph Wyatt, Linn County Administrative Officer and Marsha Meyer, Recorder for the Board of Commissioners.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Tucker stated that he was glad to see the agenda item “Business from the Public” back on the agenda.

5. Approval of the December 18 and 19, 2018 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve the December 18 and 19, 2018 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reports of Staff and Committees: There were no reports of Staff and Committees.

7. Resolution 2019-001 election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Linn County Board of Commissioners for the year 2019.

Commissioner Tucker asked Commissioner Lindsey what his decision would be and Commissioner Lindsey replied "if it's not broken, don't fix it".

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to elect Roger Nyquist as Chairman and John K. Lindsey as Vice-Chairman. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that he was humbled by the Board's support and the reality was the only power in this position was the ability to declare the Courthouse closed which is an action he stated he would never take. Commissioner Tucker corrected Commissioner Nyquist, for the record, and stated that he had declared the Courthouse closed a few years back. Commissioner Nyquist agreed and that he had closed the Courthouse on two occasions; and, at that time, he was reminded why it was not a good idea and pledged to never do it again no matter what was happening with the weather.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Resolution & Order 2019-002 designating newspapers for official publications for Year 2019 for Linn County.

Commissioner Tucker stated that the Albany Democrat-Herald, Lebanon Express and Sweet Home New Era were designated as official publications for Linn County.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2019-002. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Joint Resolution of the Board of Commissioners and Fair Board & Commissioners Order No. 2019-003.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve the Joint Resolution & Order 2019-003. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Resolution 2019-004 declaring the Attorney General's Model Public Contracting Rules not applicable and the Linn County Public Contracting Rules (LCPR) shall continue in effect.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2019-004. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Resolution & Order 2019-006 approval of the Undertaking for Justice of the Peace District 4A.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to approve Resolution & Order 2019-006.

Commissioner Tucker stated that Jessica Meyer had been sworn-in this morning and had been the Pro-Tem Judge in the past; it was an honor and privilege to move forward with Ms. Meyer taking over for Judge Lemhouse as Justice of the Peace.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Resolution 2019-007 approval of suspending appointments to certain committees: Emergency Telephone Agency; Fair & Expo Advisory Committee; FEMA Board and Geographic Information System Committee.

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey moved to approve Resolution 2019-007.

Commissioner Lindsey stated that these committees due not function any longer and Commissioner Nyquist stated that they are committees that have fulfilled their duties and accomplished the goals and missions that were desired in the appointment of these committees.

The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Discussion of Department & Elected Liaison Assignments; Committee & Board Assignments; and, State and Federal Appointments.

The Board reviewed the list of assignments. Commissioner Tucker stated that, by default when he was absent from an AOC meeting, his fellow commissioners voted him Chair of the AOC District 5 and asked that that appointment be added under his name. Commissioner Tucker then proposed that he would replace Commissioner Lindsey as the representative for Council of Governments (COG) with Commissioner Lindsey being

the alternate and proposed that Commissioner Nyquist replace Commissioner Tucker as the representative for Community Services Consortium (CSC). Commissioner Lindsey agreed.

Next, Commissioner Tucker requested that, in regard to the liaison assignments, that he be the liaison for OSU Extension. Commissioner Lindsey declined.

Action - Commissioner Nyquist stated that he was fine with the changes that Commissioner Tucker recommended and that Commissioner Lindsey approved.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that when he joined the Board in 2001, he was surprised at the structure of COG and CSC and the funding model of both organizations were frightening. He stated that, at the time, it didn't look stable to him but over the years they both have been able to function and deliver services. Commissioner Nyquist stated that he did think, from time-to-time, they collectively take the eye off the ball so, as it relates to CSC, his approach will be to focus on first things first and the more ambitious things do not happen to the detriment of the services they are providing every day that the citizens have come to rely on.

Commissioner Nyquist recessed the regular Board meeting at 9:00 a.m.

14. Executive Session – ORS 192.660(2)(e)

By unanimous consent, the Board closed the Executive Session.

Commissioner Nyquist reconvened the regular Board meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that no final decision was made or action taken or voted on in the Executive Session.

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

16. Special Orders:

A. Personnel Action Forms were read into the record for: Susanna Peterson (Expo); Joshua Fewless and Stephen Newman (Health Info Technology System); Diana Denham (Health Services Administration); Ashlie Newbill, Maria Orr and Darlene Ragsdale (Mental Health); Gary Pulliam and Ivan Thompson (Parks and Recreation); Shayne Morgan and Janice Wutzke (Printing); Jamie Rodriguez and Elizabeth Sanchez (Public Health) and Joseph Wainman (Road Department).

Action – Commissioner Tucker moved and Commissioner Lindsey seconded the motion to accept the Personnel Action Forms as read into the record. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

17. Unfinished Business and General Orders:

A. Calendar Update: The Commissioners updated their calendars and stated that there would be a Management Staff Meeting held today, January 2, 2019 at 11:30 a.m. in the Linn County Basement Meeting Room. Commissioner Nyquist stated that he would be out of the office Monday-Wednesday, January 14, 15 and 16, 2019. Commissioner Lindsey also mentioned that there would be a Swearing-in Ceremony held on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 8:45 a.m. in Courtroom 1

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

19. Announcements: There were no announcements.

Commissioner Nyquist and the Board discussed the outlook for the County for the coming year and what they should focus on. Commissioner Nyquist stated that finally Linn County had arrived at a place that the economic base had been rebuilt and has recovered from national resource policies that sent Oregon and, particular Linn County, into an economic tail spin. Now, there are career opportunities for youth growing up in this area so they don't have to leave the area to find work. He referenced Rick Keenon who grew up in Linn County and was the head of Selmet during a time when the organization grew from 250 employees to 700 employees; he recently retired from Selmet. Commissioner Nyquist stated that this had happened under the back drop of an Oregon legislature that has all kinds of grand ideas but some of the underpinnings of those ideas could be harmful to Linn County's economy and slow momentum down particular for small businesses that employ about half the labor force that work in Linn County.

Commissioner Nyquist stated that the Board needs to ask what the proper role would be for Linn County and continue to focus on getting things done in a timely manner for residents, the business community and for whoever engages Linn County for services. Time is of the essence as things shift for the need for service; the turn-around time is important.

Next, Commissioner Nyquist stated that conversations with legislators will continue to be important and he mentioned that he had recently met with Senator Sara Gelser and had a good conversation; we are all as good as the information we get when making decisions and the ability to be open-minded.

Lastly, Commissioner mentioned the Reload Project and the National Guard facility on Seven-Mile Lane and Highway 34 that will have a big impact on Linn County for a long time if they can be achieved.

Both Commissioners Tucker and Lindsey agreed with Commissioner Nyquist. Commissioner Lindsey added that it is great to have a youth that can attend medical school in his local area without having to go across the country; we are the center of private and public trade education that provides workers to local businesses. He also stated that the Chambers of Commerce all work together and are a model to the State as to how Linn County treats and works with employers, private sector and individuals. Commissioner Lindsey noted that all three Commissioners grew up in Linn County and had gone through the hard times. He stated that he recently asked Commissioner Tucker not to retire and stay on the Board because, looking back in the last ten years, there has been a lot that has happened which doesn't happen by accident. We are doing things that accomplish a lot and we have a good year ahead.

Commissioner Tucker thanked Commissioner Lindsey for his kind words and being a part of this governing body; we do disagree sometimes but when it comes down to a final decision the decision is based on what is best for the County. He stated that the Board continues to push for economic development and appreciates Commissioner Nyquist for his work on available lands. Commissioner Tucker also mentioned the comments that they've received from the public and appreciates that the Board is received well; it is an honor to serve with this Board.

Commissioner Nyquist finished by saying that, at the end of the day, its citizens, employers and workers of Linn County doing a great job in the competitive environment to create new products and grow their organizations; government at the local level needs to stay out of the way of them doing that.

20. Business from the Public (3 minute limit per speaker): There was no one present from the public wishing to use this forum.

21. Adjournment. There being no other business to come before the Board; the Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m. by unanimous consent.

The next regular public meeting of the Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2019.



Recorder

For Board of Commissioners
Marsha Meyer

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Roger Nyquist, Chairman



John K. Lindsey, Commissioner



William C. Tucker, Commissioner

Date 1-8-2019