



Linn County NEWS



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Fire hardening materials program disburses \$88,000

ALBANY — Linn County has distributed more than \$88,000 to assist homeowners use fire retardant materials when rebuilding homes in the Santiam Canyon affected by the Labor Day 2020 wildfires.

The funds provided by the Oregon Building Codes Division, are earmarked to help property owners utilizing materials — such as metal roofing — Building Official Steve Wills told Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker Tuesday morning.

Wills said there have been 34 applications, of which 22 have been approved. Ten have been denied for a variety of reasons and two, valued at \$3,200, are pending.

Wills said Linn County has received \$8,470 in administrative fees from the program.

To learn more about the fire hardening program, visit <https://www.oregon.gov/bcd/Pages/firehardening.aspx>.

Alyssa Boles of Planning and Building said the county has also waived about \$112,000 in building permit fees for families rebuilding in the canyon.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Were told total building permits issued in April numbered 252, including 11 for dwellings — eight single-family and three manufactured homes.
- Welcomed new Transportation Di-



Steve Wills
Building Official

rector Reagan Maudlin, who succeeds temporary director Ken Bronson.

- Accepted the proposed Special Transportation Fund grant requests for FY 2021-22 totaling \$315,521. They include: Lebanon Dial-A-Bus, \$45,000; Sweet Home Dial-A-Bus, \$25,000; Linn Shuttle, \$98,000; COG Senior/Disability Service, \$18,000; Volunteer Caregivers, \$53,261; Oregon Mennonite Resi-

dential Services, \$6,500; Sunshine Industries, \$29,760; Albany Dial-A-Bus, \$25,000.

- Approved allowing Rob Perkins of the Juvenile Department to participate on a workforce advisory board for the Criminal Justice Targeted Pathway Project.
- Approved the purchase of a \$254,462 CXT shower/restroom unit to be placed at Sunnyside County Park. The funds will come from an Oregon State Parks Department grant.
- Approved an agreement with Pioneer Christian Academy in Brownsville that would allow the Linn County Sheriff's Office to use its facilities as a temporary shelter and emergency site. The county would reimburse the Academy for any supplies used.
- Approved an agreement between the Linn County Sheriff's Office and the Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance District. Linn County will fully stock four EMS bags/kits for the Search and Rescue Team at a cost of about \$6,000. As materials are expended, Linn County will restock the kits.

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