

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 10th, 2018**

1. At 9:03 a.m., Commissioner Ainsworth declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Pope were present.

2. **MINUTES**                   **COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER  
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 3rd, 2018.**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **SHERIFF UPDATE** – None

4. **CITIZEN COMPLAINT** – Multiple residents from the city of Keizer attended the meeting to discuss shooting complaints at the gravel pit located across the Willamette River from Keizer Rapids Park. Aaron Felton, District Attorney, and Mark Garton, Sheriff, were also in attendance.

- Tom Bauer, 1360 Rafael Ave, Keizer, OR 97307 – voiced his concerns with the property owner's ability to let the public use his rock quarry as a shooting range. Mr. Bauer stated that his house was the house that was hit by the stray bullet on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, coming from the Rock Quarry. He stated that the bullet came into his house and hit the backsplash and landed no more than 2 feet away from where his wife stood. He asks that the Board take action to prevent this from happening again.
- John Henke, 671 Sunset Ave N, Keizer, OR 97307 – voiced his concern and recalls a similar event that he witnessed last year. Mr. Henke stated that he was walking toward the park and he heard what he believed was the sound of a bullet that had ricocheted approximately 20 feet from him. Then he saw people running out of the park in fear, who later told him that bullets had hit trees in the park. He also read a letter from his wife, who could not attend the meeting, which asked for the Board to take action to stop this from happening again.
- Mr. Felton explained that the individuals involved in the shooting incidence on June 2, 2018 were cited and charged, but the charges were dropped. Mr. Felton clarified that according to the reports that were given to him, the shooters did not know they were shooting toward homes. From where they were located, there was no way for them to see the homes. He also stated that he had no knowledge of this being a recurrent issue when the reports were brought to him. Commissioner Ainsworth disagreed with the DA's decision to drop the charges. Me. Felton stated that he understands how upsetting this situation is for the Keizer residents and accepted responsibility for the decision to drop the charges.
- Shannon Johnson, Keizer City Attorney, PO Box 21000, Keizer, OR 97307 – stated that he spoke to Kathy Clark, the Keizer Mayor, and they asked that the Board not take any action at this time because they believe they will have more information for them later in the week.

- William George, 990 Rafael Ave N, Keizer, OR 97307 – stated that in July 2016 he heard fully automatic guns being shot at the quarry and later found a bullet between his house and his neighbor's house. He asked the District Attorney if it was possible to reopen the case against the boys. Mr. Felton said yes it would be possible.
- Shirley DeShon, 3485 Rivercrest Dr. N, Keizer, OR 97307 – voiced her concern that people who want to enjoy these parks and their homes by the river have to live in fear that bullets could come flying by at any moment. She stated that last year when the bullets hit trees in the park nearby that people were terrified and were running out of the park as if they were being chased.
- Rhonda Rich, 1480 Rafael Ave N, Keizer, OR 97307 – stated she lives 5 houses north of Tom Bauer's house. Ms. Rich stated she is not happy that the signs tell people to shoot in the East/West direction and not the North/South direction. Ms. Rich feels there is no safe direction because within a mile of the quarry in any direction has homes, parks, cars, or people on the river boating. She feels the shooting needs to stop altogether.
- Carol Doerfler, 4615 Shoreline Dr. N, Keizer, OR 97307 – stated she is the president of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association. Ms. Doerfler feels this is not a second amendment issue or a land use issue, it is a public safety issue and it needs to be stopped. She asked the Board to protect the public before there is a fatality.
- Shellie Griffin, 3933 Rivercrest Dr. Keizer, OR 97307 – stated she and her husband have developed several properties on the river. Ms. Griffin stated that approximately 10 years ago, her husband and a friend were talking outside and heard a bullet go by, barely missing them. She stated a house was hit by a bullet that day. She voiced her concern that people sitting outside trying to enjoy the river have to worry about bullets being shot into their homes.
- Terry Moore, 699 Dennis Ln N, Keizer, OR 97307 – stated that the neighborhood has been developed since the 1950's. Mr. Moore explained that when the bullets were hitting the trees last year, they went to the City Council and nothing was done, so he appreciates the Board of Commissioners for following up on this.
- Tim Kelsh, 1370 Rafael Ave N, Keizer, OR 97307 – voiced his concern that the fear is unbearable when the shooting starts. He was home when the bullet hit Mr. Bauer's home, and he very clearly heard it hit the back splash. Mr. Kelsh held up a tape measure and exhibited 2 feet, just how close the bullet was to Tom Bauer's wife. Mr. Kelsh explained that he has a second home in Central Oregon, and the neighborhood is, by ordinance, a no shooting zone. In addition, the Deschutes River from Lapine State Park to Sun River is also a no shooting zone. He believes the Board has the power to out the same no shooting zone designation on the Willamette River.
- Commissioner Pope thanked Tim Kelsh for bringing a suggestion to the meeting that could possibly help them come up with a solution. He would like to see how other neighborhoods have been able to resolve similar issues. Mr. Kelsh explained the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife use a safety area to segregate shooting from parking lots or other pedestrian areas, and he wonders if that might be applicable. Commissioner Pope expressed his appreciation that the community has banded together and brought their concerns to the Board of Commissioners.

5. **RECLASSIFICATION OF OFFICE SPECIALIST I** – Matt Hawkins, Administrative Services Director, presented a request to reclassify Miranda Muller from an Office Specialist I to a Permit Specialist within the Community Development department. The effective date for the proposed reclassification is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and would be an approximate 12-month fiscal impact of \$4,500.
  
6. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** – (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.) None.

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha  
Approved: July 17, 2018