

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

1. At 9:02 a.m., Commissioner Ainsworth declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Pope was present. Commissioner Wheeler was excused.

2. **MINUTES**                    **COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH  
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2018.**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

3. **TOBACCO PREVENTION** – Katrina Rothenberger, Public Health Administrator, introduced Rebecca Knight, Community Health Educator, and told the Board that she has been a huge help to the department. Rebecca is fairly new in her role and is hoping to get feedback from the Board on how she can move forward with a work plan while keeping good relationships with the community. Rebecca completed a tobacco retail assessment of all the retailers in the county, and discovered that there are multiple retailers that do not sell tobacco products, including Roth's and Hi-School Pharmacy. Rebecca explained that during a "retail assessment", letters are sent out to all the store owners to notify them she will be coming and they could call if they have any questions. It was a state requirement for all the counties to do this but the retailer does have the option to refuse, although none of the Polk County retailers did. She then visits the stores and looks at tobacco marketing, prices, location of products (checking to see if it was near candy), electronic fluids, etc. She noted that only one store didn't sell menthol cigarettes, which is relevant because studies have shown that smokers typically start with menthol.

Commissioner Pope asked if they have been able to find out what the financial benefit is to these retailers for selling these products. Rebecca informed him that during the assessment multiple owners told her they were offered price differentials, signage to put in the windows, as well as other incentives. Commissioner Ainsworth pointed out that it was also likely because there is a demand for the product and the retailers do not want their customers to have to go elsewhere. Commissioner Pope asked what "Kratom" is, and she told him it is used as an opioid and sometimes a hallucinogenic, but it is unregulated and at times has been given as a free sample to people of any age. Katrina told the Board there was a recent salmonella outbreak that is linked to Kratom and that it is causing a lot of problems.

Commissioner Pope asks what is to be done with the information collected during this assessment. Rebecca is still waiting to hear what the state is going to want done but she is hoping to do some training with the retailers so they know how to specifically not target youth and to give them the information about how these things are affecting the community. The Board asked to see other counties data as well to see how Polk County ranks. They would like a plan in place to work with primary care physicians to get this information to the consumer. Rebecca also assessed all of the Park Surveys done by Family Community Outreach and asked the Board if they would like her to reconvene the Tobacco Advisory Group, or if they would like her to bring the results to a meeting. The Board preferred to have the information brought to a Board meeting.

4. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** – (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 9:53 AM.

Minutes: Ciera Atha  
Approved: October 2, 2018