

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2019

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth was present. Commissioner Mordhorst was excused.
2. **MINUTES** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2019.**

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

3. **TREASURY UPDATE** – Linda Fox, Treasurer, informed the Board that the County recently finished tax collection time. They were expecting more complaints due to the increase in taxes in multiple cities in the County. The department was prepared with answers and it went better than expected. Of the \$96.5 million taxes that were assessed, we only still are owed about \$7.5 million, which is less than past years. The audit went well for the County and for Extension and was finished on time and did not have to extend.

She informed the Board that there is a new person in the payable position and she is doing a great job. The County issues about 500 checks a month which does not include payroll or the Trust fund. There are approximately 500 check issued through the Trust funds, which has increased due to the Sheriff's foreclosure sales. People are using credit cards to pay taxes more than past years as well as online checks. The County has to charge a fee to use a credit card because it costs money to offer the convenience of using a credit card to pay taxes and that fee cannot be taken out of the tax payer's money. Linda also informed the Board that our bank interest rate is up to 2.5%.

4. **DALLAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** – JD Shinn, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce, has come to update the Board on the new direction the Chamber will be taking. He stated that the Dallas Chamber of Commerce will now be acting as a resource for the modern business community. They are letting go of the events that they had been tied to with the City of Dallas in order to free up time and resources to help businesses with marketing and other things when needed. The city will be responsible for the local events now. He stated he has updated the application to join the chamber by giving more options for membership. He has also updated the services each tier will be receiving with their membership.

Commissioner Pope wants to know what the Board of Commissioners return is on their investment by being a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Shinn explained that having a strong business economy is good for the County and by supporting the Chamber of Commerce the Board is supporting all of the efforts the Chamber can offer the County's businesses, such as advocacy efforts, marketing, and civic involvement. By investing in the Chamber he stated they are investing in those smaller businesses and the County's business economy as a whole. Commissioner Pope wants to know what the restructure of the budget looks like now with the changes being made and what would happen to the Visitors Center with these changes. Mr. Shinn said they have no intention of moving the Visitors Center. Commissioner Pope requested to see the budget and revenue forecast compared to the last 2 years. Mr. Shinn will be getting back to the Board with that information.

5. **COMMITTEE VACANCY INTERVIEW** – Kevin Chambers was on the Agenda to interview for a committee vacancy but had a last minute conflict and has rescheduled for the next Tuesday meeting.
6. **BUDGET CALENDAR 2019-2020** – Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, presents the budget calendar to the Board for approval. He stated the most relevant dates to the Board begins with Jan 24th when the compensation committee will meet and determine the salaries for elected officials. He stated the next dates would be the Budget hearings which will begin April 9th and most likely that will be Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday. Next the Board will reconvene in May 22nd, and they will have the results of the operating levy at that time and he will have prepared a budget for your review. The final adoption of the budget would occur June 26th at which time there would be a public hearing. Both at the regular budget hearing and at the final adoption session if adopted. It would be to the clerk and assessor by July 15th. The budget calendar is subject to modification but it is required that they approve some kind of calendar for budget purposes. Mr. Hansen recommends approving the dates listed in their packets with the modification from May 21st to May 22nd.

**COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET CALENDAR.**

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

7. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** – (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
 - a. **DIRECT CONNECT** – Brent DeMoe, Director of Family Community Outreach, and Jeremy Gordon, Mayor of Falls City, inform the Board that there is a Grant opportunity they want to talk to them about but first want to give them an update on what has been going with transportation in Falls City the last 13 months. Mr. DeMoe reminded the Board that they have been running transportation for Falls City every Tuesday and Thursday. They offer 4 routes starting from Falls City to various places in Dallas. Once a month they go to the Monmouth/Independence area and do 4 stops there. This is the only type of transportation Falls City has. He pointed out that that Falls City has a large population of people who are in adverse situations and they have given over 1,000 rides in the last year and it is very important to keep it going. Mayor Gordon expressed his gratitude for the transportation service and also shared several stories of individuals he knew personally who have benefitted greatly from the service. He informed the Board that Falls City wants to participate in funding the transportation and has agreed to donate \$1000 to help keep this service up and running.

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: January 15, 2019