

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2019

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Mordhorst and Commissioner Ainsworth were present.
2. **MINUTES** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2019.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS UPDATE** – Jodi Merritt, Community Corrections Director, informed the Board that two officers just got out of the academy. They have added an additional position, as well as adding the DARS assessment which can help them determine in what way the client can best be supervised. Parole and Probation is almost fully staffed, Community Service is fully staffed, and the Juvenile Department is also fully staffed with very little turnover. Commissioner Pope asked Ms. Merritt if there were any legislative issues that could impact her department. The funding that we previously received from Justice Reinvestment is not guaranteed. They are looking at prison population numbers and looking for them to be reduced. Our baseline population was taken at a time when numbers were already very low.
4. **CONTINUUM OF CARE** – Sean O'Day, Executive Director of COG informed the Board that COG hired Janet Carlson, former Marion County Commissioner, to evaluate the Continuum of Care (COC) and find the pro's and con's and the cost and benefit's the region might gain by creating a smaller regional focused COC. Ms. Carlson explained to the Board that in 2011 the Marion-Polk CoC was merged into the Balance of State CoC and the Jurisdictions were not officially notified. Balance of State CoC is currently administered by Community Action Partnership of Oregon (CAPO) and has only two designated staff. There has been a large increase in homelessness in our region and while there are many organizations working to provide services to the homeless there is no designated entity doing coordinated planning. There has also been a reduction to Marion-Polk programs over the past eight years. Creating this smaller regional CoC would allow our region to focus on local issues and would be easier to coordinate strategic planning. Marion County's federal firm is working on schedule a conference call with HUD. If the region decides to do this we would need to apply for funding with HUD in 2020 and designate the Unified Funding Agency. Commissioner Pope wants to know what will be done differently so we will see results. Ms. Carlson stated that with a smaller region we can merge and focus the efforts in the same direction to see greater results. The Board agrees that they would like to move forward with moving out of the ROCC and toward a regional local controlled CoC. They will work with Morgan Smith, County Counsel, to get a Resolution on the agenda in the near future.
5. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** - (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
 - a. **LAND USE APPEAL** - Community Development received an appeal to a land use decision to approve a solar facility. It is on high value farm land and the appeal identifies the tribes concerns. Due to the technical nature of the appeal staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners set the matter for a hearing before the Polk County hearings

Officer, which would constitute the final local decision that would then be ratified by the Board of Commissioners. The Board accepts staff recommendation and the matter will go before the Polk County Hearings officer.

b. **CCO 2.0** – Morgan Smith, County Counsel, stated that the Board has been presented with several MOU's regarding applications to be the new CCO. The Board can either make a decision or give the Administrator, Greg Hansen, the authority to sign the documents on their behalf once a decision has been made. Commissioner Pope informed the Board that he and Noelle Carroll, Health Services Director, have had many conversations with Pacific Source. They have only heard from the Marion-Polk group a couple times and they have had no communication with the third applicant Trillium. The Board would like to be able to sign their own document to ensure they it is not binding them to support that applicant only.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: March 26, 2019