

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 13, 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 AUGUST 6, 2019.**  
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **SHERIFF OFFICE UPDATE** – Sheriff Mark Garton informed the Board that the packet they have been given has the most recent numbers and that if they have any questions he can answer them. Sheriff informed them that in staffing they are training one person in the jail and they just hired one patrol deputy who started last week. One Sergeant retired last month and he will be contract back for a couple months to help with the transition. Two of his Sergeants are in the process for the Detective Sergeant position and they will promote a Patrol Deputy to fill the Patrol Sergeant spot.

Sheriff has been talking with the timber people about working with us to reinstate a patrol position dedicated to forestry. They are interested in this and Sheriff Garton asked Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, to get him a breakdown of the cost and how that was done in the past. The timber people also asked about getting somebody to cover the off days and they are aware it will be a significant cost. Historically they have paid 50% of the cost. Commissioner Pope expressed his concern that going forward this will become a county responsibility because it is not and the federal government needs to do their job because they have not been, especially when it comes to recreational activities and shooting ranges, etc. They keep diluting coverage areas for single Rangers and making their areas so huge that they are not effective.

Commissioner Mordhorst asked how capacity was at the jail. Sheriff stated they are to the point that every day we have to figure out who we can't keep in the jail. He has been talking with the judge to try and come up with some sort of pretrial system. Sheriff also stated that if they stay at this high population in the jail they will have to reduce the amount of state beds left available. Commissioner Pope requests that the Board Executive's Assistant print the jail reports that are no longer being emailed out, but are still available to access at any time. Commissioner Pope thanked Sheriff for his office's presence at the Polk County Fair. He wants to make sure our constituents know that we take large mass gatherings much more seriously and he has had multiple people comment to him that they were happy and appreciated to see the Polk County Sheriff's Office at the fair. Sheriff said he was happy that there were no incidents at the fair.

4. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** - (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
  - a. **ANIMAL POLICY AT COUNTY FACILITIES** – Morgan Smith, County Counsel, presented the Board with a proposed policy for animals at county facilities. This was discussed a couple weeks ago and he has made some changes since then per their input. The main changes were any exemptions to the policy now need to go before the Board. Clarification as to whether or not something qualifies as a service animal will be directed to him. Once this is approved he will work with HR to get some training to the managers to help

them understand how to simply determine if it is or isn't a service animal. If they are okay with the language in the policy it can get approved today and he will proceed.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD ADOPTED THE NEW ANIMAL AT COUNTY FACILITIES POLICY AND DIRECTED STAFF TO PROCEED AS DISCUSSED.**

- b. **BONDS FOR REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE** – Greg Hansen informed the Board they received 3 proposals and one proposal was not possible, that was Western Alliance at 3.48%. The goal was to get a 20 year term and Zion is willing to do a 20 year term with the first 15 years is fixed at 2.14% and the final 5 years get adjusted every 5 years. Right now it's at 2.11% and that can be locked in at any time we want after one year and there is no prepay penalties. This was the best offer and has the most flexibility. If the Board approves he will move forward.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD AGREES AND DIRECTS STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD.**

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha  
Approved: September 3, 2019