

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 21, 2020**

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Ainsworth declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Mordhorst and Commissioner were present.
2. **MINUTES** : **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **GET THERE OREGON** – Roaxanne Beltz, with Cherriots, gave a quick overview of the company telling them they were formed in 1979 and this year is their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They provide about 3 million rides a year. They have two main transit hubs, the downtown transit center and also in Keizer, they are looking for a third site in South Salem. Transit service runs Monday through Saturday, which is the fixed route or also known as Cherriots Local, It will start running on Sunday in May 2020. They have Cherriots Lift which is an origin to destination transportation service and is for people whose disabilities prevent them from taking the Cherriots Local service. They also have Cherriots Shop and Ride, which is for seniors 60 years and over and people with disabilities that has a set location where they meet and set locations to where they take them. Then there is Cherriots Regional, it goes to Woodburn, South Marion County, Santiam Canyon, Polk County and these all run Monday through Saturday. There are two services, one that come to Dallas and one that goes to Wilsonville, those are more intended for commuters and run Monday through Friday. They still have the Polk County Flex which is an origin to destination service and serves Dallas, Independence and Monmouth, it is open to all riders and there is no application. Polk County Flex requires a 24 hour call in advance. On May 4<sup>th</sup> that will be shifting to more of a local service or fixed route with set stops within the city, and the reservation is still available with a call 24 hours in advance. Other regional service services they have are: CAT- (Canby Area Transit), WTS (Woodburn Transit). They also connect to SMART (South Metro Area Transit), WES (Westside Express Service), and TriMet (Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon), YMT (Yamhill County Transit), TCTD (Tillamook County Transportation District). Even if they do not serve the area they are connecting them with services that do. Other transportation partners that serve these areas are BOLT Bus, Flix bus, Amtrak, Cascades Point, and Greyhound.

Cherriots offers a program called Travel Training and that is accessible to anyone in Marion or Polk County. They have staff on hand and they will work with an individual who has a disability, groups of new or existing riders, they will do one on one, work with school groups to train them how to get around on the bus system. They will meet them wherever they need to be met and walk them through the steps they need to take to use the bus. They will show them how to get to the correct bus, how to pay the fare, and how to pull the cord when it is time to get off. They will do this as often as the person needs it and this is a free service they offer. They have a group bus pass program that serves employers. They will have an opportunity to purchase bus passes as an extremely discounted rate for all their employees at a specific site. They do have to buy one for everybody for five or six dollars a month per employee. They know not everybody will use it but it induces ridership and the point is that everybody has the option to use it. For the employer the benefit they can write it off on their taxes and can improve their ability to retain and recruit employees. Normally a bus pass runs forty dollars a month. They have a tool online called Get There Oregon which allows

people to search online for other drivers that are going in the same direction or same location to assist with carpooling and trip planning. It is also how they utilize their emergency ride home program. With the use of this tool they can access free vouchers for emergency situations when riders need a ride home. As long as they have created a profile and tracked a commute at least three times they have up to four emergency ride home vouchers. The rider will go online and print out a taxi slip and Cherriots will cover the cost of that taxi ride. Cherriots will also meet with employers to create employee transportation surveys to find out if the employees would benefit from the employer program. They will also help employees create a profile and show them how to search for carpooling options.

Commissioner Pope expressed his interest in seeing data to support this tool and see how many people are actually using this ride share option. He would like it broken down by region if possible. Ms. Beltz said she would be happy to come to a Board meeting quarterly to keep them updated on the services offered in the county as well as give a presentation to the local Service Integration Teams because the Board feels that this information would be very helpful to them.

4. **FAMILY COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEP. UPDATE**– Brent DeMoe, Director of FCO, informed the Board that the Polk County Connect event is happening this coming Thursday and they will have 60 different agencies with a booth at the Academy Building. Some of those services will be free flu shots, free clothing, free haircuts, and free transportation to and from the event in the surrounding areas including Grand Ronde, Monmouth, and Independence. There will be free dental care, free pet care, as well as free tacos from El Pique. They will also be reserving all of their appointments that day for on the spot intakes. So they will be able to intake people right there at the event and start connecting them with services. This will be the first time they are holding the event after hours, it will go till 6 p.m. this year. The transportation is being provided by local churches as well as the Dallas Connect van.

They have a new Direct Connect schedule, they have added Wednesday for Falls City and will go through Dallas on Tuesday through Thursday. The name is also changing from Falls City Connect to Polk County Connect because it is connecting to more places than just Falls City now.

5. **AIA CONTRACT** – Matt Hawkins, Administrative Services Director, received an AIA contract from AC & Co Architecture for the Annex building and before he signs it he wanted to make sure the Board is aware of everything in it. He provided them with a packet that includes the rendition of how it is supposed to look when completed. He also included the cost analysis that he was provided by the architect. Once this contract is signed they will begin talking about the bidding process. He stated it will probably start in the summer. The annex building will have all new windows and will have a new “skin” on the outside.

**BY CONSENSUS THE BOARD APPROVE THE AIA CONTRACT AS PRESENTED.**

6. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** - (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
  - a) **BUILDING LIGHTING** – Commissioner Pope informed the Board that the City Manager has initiated a process of discussing seasonal lighting decoration process for building facades on multiple blocks downtown which led to a conversation about the Courthouse joint that conversation. He would like to enter that discussion because he thinks it looks great during different seasons and holidays as well. It would be permanently affixed to the building and

is programmable, so they can be programmed for different colors and different formats. He and the Administrative Officer and the Administrative Services Director for Polk County met with the city manager last week to learn more about what the city is going to do and what the possibilities are. They agreed that if the county is going to pursue this and there are options for available additional funding that he has committed to pursue to get this done that doing it during the construction would be the best thing to do. He also thought it would be a good idea to ask the architect have a lighting architect review this design and see what kind of lighting options are available and appropriate to consider.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD AGREES THEY WOULD LIVE TO MOVE FORWARD AND GET MORE INFORMATION ON THIS.**

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 9:45 am.

Minutes: Ciera Atha  
Approved: January 28, 2020