

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 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 Pope were present.
2. **MINUTES** : **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2020**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Kristty Polanco, Public Health Administrator, let the board know there are 3,949 positive COVID-19 cases in Oregon and 148 deaths. In Polk County we have 96 cases, 2 current hospitalizations that are not new, and one new death as of last week, which makes the total deaths 10. She learned last week that the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will be putting on a training for contact tracing. Public Health has identified 25 County staff that are going to go through that training. There will be three phases of training and this will be phase one only. She expects to hear more about the next phases once the state has their contact tracing system fully developed. Public Health now has the ability to do secure texting and email which will help them with following up with people under monitoring. They are currently monitoring 8 households and 2-3 people in those households are being followed for symptoms.

Since last week OHA has published a new dashboard that present the metrics that the counties are being monitored for reopening phases. One metric that we have not met yet is “new cases not traced to a known source”. It needs to be below 30% for seven days and in Polk County 75% of our cases are not traced to a new source. Kristty requested OHA give her more of an explanation for how they are pulling these numbers and a quality check to ensure accuracy. OHA pulls the data from the state records system and the “sporadic” category is what this metric is based on. Kristty will be reviewing each case to make sure that is being accurately documented. OHA will review these numbers every Wednesday and it will be published every Thursday. Polk County is meeting every other measure. Public Health is working on finalizing the contract with Western Oregon University and expect it should be done soon. Polk County’s testing capacity is still at approximately 500 per week and when the Abbott testing is rolled out on June 1st that number will go up to approximately 1,300 tests per week. The Abbott test machine will be used for pre-surgery testing and in the Emergency Department, so it will not only be based on referrals.

Dean Bender, Emergency Operations Manager, reviewed the stats of our current PPE levels. We got one shipment in last week and deliveries seem to be slowing down. We have distributed approximately \$120,000 worth of PPE. Last week they filled another Life Safety order that came in from Prestige Senior Living for more gowns. Dean was able to get them 700 gowns delivered by the National Guard. The OSU Extension office and the Department of Agriculture are working together to dispense two pallets of PPE for farm workers. This event will be held May 27th between 9:00 am - 4:00pm. Polk County is still receiving test kits every week from Quest and Kristty distributes them to West Valley, and long term care facilities, or wherever they are needed. Dean will be meeting with the Polk County FEMA liaison to discuss recovery scoping and developing a plan moving forward. Dean is still waiting on the backpack sterilization to arrive and has a call in to find out how long it should be. Commissioner Pope asked Kristty and Dean if there was anything that they need or would like help with from the Board to meet OHA

requirements. Kristty said right now, no, but will continue being in constant communication in case anything does arise. Dean stated that it would be nice if Polk County could get gowns to have on hand because right now he can only get them to fill life safety orders. Dean will find out what the cost would be for that.

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

a) COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, informed the Board that he submitted the CARES act reimbursement form and the amount requested was approximately \$503,000. The deadline to have that submitted was originally May 22nd and it was extended to May 29th. We do not know when phase two is yet but this request was for COVID-19 expenses from March 15th through May 15th. We do not know how long it will take the state to process the requests.

b) REOPENING BUILDING

Mr. Hansen told the Board that he will be talking with department heads and the presiding Judge about their thoughts on reopening the courthouse and other county buildings. Each building will need to be considered individually because they have a different number of entrances and how they are opened may vary. He will come back to the Board after he speaks with those individuals and let them consider their recommendations for reopening.

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 9:34 am.

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: June 2, 2020