

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2020

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Ainsworth declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Pope and Commissioner Mordhorst were present.
2. **MINUTES** : **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 2020**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Jacqui Umstead, Public Health Administrator, gave the Board a review of the most recent data regarding Covid in Oregon, Polk, and Marion County. Oregon Currently has a total of 37,467 Covid cases, 599 deaths, and a test positivity rate of 6.4%.

Polk County has a total of 589 COVID-19 cases, 15 deaths, and a test positivity rate of 5.7% which is an increase from the previous week. There is 1 hospitalization in Polk County. There were 707.7 positive cases per 100,000 people tested and 20 individuals who are currently isolating.

Marion County has a total of 5,224, 101 deaths, and a test positivity rate of 9.3%. There are 3 hospitalizations in Marion County and there were 1,502 positive cases per 100,000 people tested.

Capital Manor has completed all of their testing and have no more positives. Another large employer in the county has 6 new positive cases. Salem Health has a total of 50 positive staff and that is the total number of positive cases since reporting started.

The contact tracing with WOU has not changed and they are currently monitoring 101 people for symptoms. Ms. Umstead stated that she has extended an offer for a temporary position within Public Health and they will start next week. The second Public Health worker has now started doing case investigating and all other staffing remains the same.

Ms. Umstead has sent out all of the MOU's to the Community Based Organization (CBO) and they have received 12 of them back. There is a meeting later today for the CBO's that are offering wraparound services and/or contact tracing support.

Local Public Health Authority is partnering with Alluvium and Interface Network, as well as some CBO's, to put on a pop up testing event. That event is happening at the Polk County Fairgrounds on October 28th. This will be a drive through event. The Binanex NOW portable tests are still being distributed by OHA and are being prioritized by those counties affected by wildfires.

For the most recent reporting period, September 27th through October 3rd, Polk County was under the 1.5% target for percent of emergency department visits for COVID-like illness at .8%. There was a downtrend in percent of tests that are positive in the last 7 days and we are at 4.4%. In Polk County there were 573 tests performed during this review period and 23 of those were positive. There was a 21% decrease in the number of new cases in the last 7 days and 32% of cases were not traced to a known source. There is no trend for hospitalizations in Polk County and 100% of positive cases were followed up on within 24 hours.

Marion County is had .8% of emergency department visits for COVID-like illness. They are currently on an uptrend with 9.3% of tests that are positive within the last 7 days. They tested 2,511 people and 217 were positive. They had a 4% increase in new cases in the last 7 days. 32% of cases were not traced to a known source. Marion County is on a downtrend is COVID-19 hospitalizations over the last 14 days. .

4. SHERIFF OFFICE UPDATE

Sheriff Mark Garton gave the Board a review of the Civic Ready application. Polk County is the host partner and currently the fire districts, City of Dallas, All the Police Departments in Polk County, are signed up as well as our Public Health Department. There is one fee charged and that cost is split between all the entities that sign up. Anybody can enroll to receive updates from this application and there is no charge to the user. There are currently over 11,000 people enrolled and over 15,000 contacts. This application can be used to send out road closures, weather warnings, and any other emergency preparedness notices, depending on what agency is using it. Once an individual signs up under Polk County they can then subscribe to various agencies to get alerts from. The user can customize their own profile to determine what they are notified about and from who.

The management of this application is currently under the Sheriff Office and Sheriff Garton asked the Commissioners if they feel it should remain there. The Emergency Management Supervisor was previously housed in the Sheriff Office and has since relocated to the new Emergency Operations Center at Public Works. Because the application is a county wide he asked them to consider that the application be under Emergency Management instead. Commissioner Pope asked the Sheriff how he promotes this application to get people to sign up and receive alerts. They do send out an invitation to join each year with the ballots that go out. Sheriff said that he would like to work with the Board to establish the best way to manage the application and how to use it most effectively.

5. PUBLIC MEETING

Austin McGuigan, Community Development Director, stated that on September 29, 2020, the Polk Count Coordinating Body Steering Committee evaluated the progress made and status of action items adopted as part of the 2017 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazards Mitigation Plan. The cities of Dallas, Falls City, Independence and Monmouth participated in the process.

The Steering Committee found that most of the action items were implemented as part of the 2006 and 2009 Plans; but many of these action items were ongoing and were, therefore, incorporated into the 2017 Plan. The Polk County Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee conducted a review of the progress made toward implementing the Polk County jurisdictional mitigation action items contained in the 2017 Plan. The Committee evaluated and discussed each action item, then determined the items current status or progress made. Mr. McGuigan referred to a table that was provided to the Board and stated that in particular, this review focused on the new priority action items developed for the 2017 plan.

The Committee then determined which funding sources are open for application and reviewed the action items to determine appropriateness for funding. They examined which hazards the selected actions are associated with and where these hazards rank in terms of community risk. The Polk County Emergency Management Staff evaluated the risk assessment for each for each hazard and considered whether or not each hazard assessment remained accurate based on existing and new data.

Through the review process, the Committee found that all but one action items has been implemented and significant progress has been made on that item, with Public Works estimating 90% complete. The Committee continued to prioritize the two remaining action items that need implementation. The Committee did not identify a need to develop any recommendations for new projects, revise recommendations or to defer or remove any action items.

The Committee Concluded that Polk County has made significant progress implementing the identified action items within the timeframes set forth in the 2017 Plan. They found that the majority of the action items are ongoing and, as resources are made available, Polk County has continued to enhance, update, and generally improve these implemented action items. The Committee concluded that no additional action is needed at this time.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST
SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARDS
MITIGATION PLAN AS PRESENTED.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

a. **CHILDCARE FUNDING UPDATE**

Brent DeMoe, Family & Community Outreach Director, gave the Board an overview in regards to issue of needing to increase childcare slots or helping providers to remain open. Three weeks ago there was an application put out to the Polk County childcare providers to establish how many more slots they would be able to provide if they had some additional funds. He received 46 applications back and 23 of those are people who would either start new childcare or increase their slot. Mr. DeMoe is very happy with the responses he received and said if the Board approves his request, there is a potential of adding or retaining 230 slots in Polk County with an investment of \$175,000. One of the applications is going to open a registered childcare center in Falls City in their home. This would be the first time Falls City has had a registered childcare center.

Mr. DeMoe asked the Board for permission to contact the applicants and notify them of the intent to fund and solidifying their timelines and moving forward with getting these slots open ad filled.

BY CONSENSUS THE BOARD APPROVED THE REQUEST TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE APPLICATIONS AS PRESENTED.

b. **DOAKS FERRY ROAD ALIGNMENT**

Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director, stated that the Doaks Ferry Road project was previously put on hold by ODOT due to their concerns with geo-technical issues on the extension of 2nd Street down to 50th. At the beginning of the year ODOT wanted to take the money that was allocated to the project and assign it to another project which the county was able to stop from happening. ODOT then got a new area manager and needed to be educated on the history and status of the project. That new manager thought the project was dead instead of on hold and when he found out he made some effort to try and get it back in motion.

ODOT would like to do additional and more in depth landslide stability analysis or the county's portion of the project. ODOT is willing to allow the county to use our own consultant and have received a proposal from Shannon & Wilson, who is a geotechnical firm the county

has used in the past and have high confidence in. That proposal was \$135,000 to evaluate the slide, and ODOT has agreed to pay for that cost, as well as the remaining cost to get the project to final design. Because the project was put on hold it will cost more than it would have originally to get it to completion. This does not mean that the project will definitely happen but depending on the results of these studies will determine that.

c. **PERS UPDATE**

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, told the Board that the county received our new PERS rates for the upcoming two year term. There are three silos that are taken into account, Tier 1 and Tier 2 will go up 1.77%. General Service, which is everyone outside of police and fire, will go up 4.07%. Police and Fire will go up 3.8%. The total increase in will cost approximately \$750,000 to \$800,000 more which is approximately 3.6% increase overall.

Commissioner Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: October 20, 2020