

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
April 13, 2021

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session and led the Board and attending audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Mordhorst was present. Commissioner Ainsworth was excused.
2. **MINUTES:** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 2021**

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

3. COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Jacqui Umstead, Public Health Administrator, reviewed the most recent COVID-19 case data for Oregon, Polk and for Marion County. Oregon has a total of 170,850 positive cases and 2,441 cases. From March 28th to April 10th Oregon has a positivity rate of 4.4% and a case rate of 156.4 cases per 100,000 population. For that same date range Marion County had a 4.9% positivity rate and a case rate of 138.6 per 100,000. Polk County has a positivity rate of 5.9% and a case rate of 189.3 per 100,000. For counties to move to (or remain in_ Extreme Risk, they must meet the county metrics for case rates and percent positivity, as well as the new metric added by the state, COVID-19 positive patients occupying 300 hospital beds or more, and a 15% increase in the seven-day average over the past week. Counties that meet the criteria for Extreme Risk but not the statewide trigger will be assigned High Risk.

Polk County has 3,363 positive cases, 3 current hospitalizations, 51 deaths, and there are currently 72 positive cases that are isolating. Marion County has 19,802 positive cases, 25 hospitalizations and 298 deaths. There are no current outbreaks and contact tracing with WOU has not changed. In Public Health one Public Health worker resigned and that will be backfilled. One RN is on leave for 4 weeks and one RN resigned. That position will be backfilled as well. This week Polk County is in a warning week, with a two week pause to try and see if numbers will go down.

As of April 12, 2021 there have been 28,672 people vaccinated. There have been 1,447,624 people vaccinated in Oregon and 20,668 people fully vaccinated in Polk County. The West Valley Hospital (WVH) vaccination clinic at WOU this week will be vaccinating Phase 1A, Phase 1B, groups 1-7 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Beginning April 19th all people in Oregon 16 years of age and older will be eligible for the Covid vaccine. WVH is planning to be able to administer Pfizer vaccine at the WOU vaccine clinic site. Group 7 was expanded to include family members of front line workers and the definition for "underlying conditions" was changed. There has been a pause on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine out of an abundance of caution as the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices reviews 6 cases of blood clots after receiving the vaccine. There was a Falls City outreach event recently and they vaccinated 149 people. Public Health is still working with other community partners to organize targeted outreach to include homebound population and homeless population.

Dean Bender, Emergency Operations Manager, provided the Board with a handout showing recent PPE order information and had nothing else to add.

Commissioner Pope announced that he would like to move agenda item number 5 up to number 4 and move item number 4 to 5.

4. CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Stephanie Gilbert, Early Learning Family Engagement Supervisor, and Abby Warren, Prevention Coordinator, talked about the work they do in Family & Community Outreach to help prevent child abuse. Such as a recent event they had was play box week. They had boxes of multiple family activities that families could take home and they had various themes like art or science. They also have a "Fam Jam" event at the end of the month. The Fam Jam will be a reverse drive through and will also be the kick off for Kindergarten registration. Commissioner Pope read Proclamation 21-01 aloud.

5. SHERIFF OFFICE UPDATE

Sheriff Mark Garton informed the Board that they are currently remodeling the records department in the Sheriff Office in order to make room for a additional person to have a work space. The Sheriff's Office will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration National Pharmaceutical Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 24th, at the Polk County Fairgrounds from 10 am to 4 pm. This is an event for people to bring in medication and inhalers for them to be properly disposed of.

Sheriff Garton informed the Board that they have purchased a virtual reality training kit which includes pistol and Taser. They also received a grant from National Deputy Sheriff Association to purchase pepper ball pistols and shields. The Sheriff is currently working to find a jail management software replacement. The jail inspection is scheduled in July so OSAA will come a do a thorough inspection.

Sheriff Garton state that HB2002 is the most concerning bill in legislation in regards to how the deputies are allowed to do their jobs. If the bill were to pass it would prevent Deputies from being able to make certain routine traffic stops and also prevent them from being able to arrest people who have or are committing certain crimes. He also stated that there was no law enforcement involved in creating this police reform bill and it would negatively impact law enforcements ability to do their jobs effectively in many ways.

Commissioner Pope asked the Sheriff what he believes is to be learned from the recent tragedy in Minneapolis where a young man was accidentally shot and killed by an officer who had intended to pull out her Taser and mistakenly pulled her pistol. Sheriff Garton replied that it is a horrible accident that happened and explained that the training his Deputies are given instructs them to keep their Taser on their non-dominant side and use their non-dominant hand to grab their Taser and their dominant hand to grab the pistol. Or train to use a cross body grab. Deputy's train for hundreds of hours to ensure they don't accidentally pull the wrong weapon, this practice develops memory. Sheriff Garton stated that the VR Training Kit he ordered will also give Deputies a chance to practice even more because the kit include a training Taser and pistol.

6. RECLASSIFICATION IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Matt Hawkins, Admin. Services Director, requested the Board approve the reclassification of a Case Manager I to a Case Manager II in Behavioral Health. This request is for Jenny Borland and Mr. Hawkins stated that the duties she has taken on fall more in line with the job duties of a Case Manager II and if approved, this would be effective April 1, 2021and would have an approximate fiscal impact of \$3,000 including PERS contributions.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE RECLASSIFICATION AS PROPOSED.

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

- a) Mr. Hawkins got a request from a citizen for permission to install a few disc golf baskets in Ballston Park. He said it would not cause any maintenance issues and can easily be installed.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE REQUEST.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: April 20, 2021