

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 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 and Commissioner Ainsworth were present.
2. **MINUTES:** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2021**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Jacqui Umstead, Public Health Administrator, reviewed the COVID-19 case data for Oregon as of May 25, 2021. Oregon's total case count is 198,972, and 2,624 deaths. For the date range May 9th through May 22nd the Oregon positivity rate was 5.9% and the case rate per 100,000 population was 171.1. Marion County positivity rate for the same date range was 8.7% and the case rate per 100,000 population was 212, Polk County positivity rate was 5.5% and the case rate was 146.8. The County will remain in high risk but Ms. Umstead stated that the numbers are going in the right direction. Polk County's case count is 3,844, 3 hospitalizations, 53 deaths, and 49 people are currently isolating. Dallas Retirement Village is the only place known to have workplace related cases at this time. Staffing for contact tracing and in Polk County Public Health is consistent and there are currently 80 close contacts being monitored for symptoms.

Ms. Umstead reviewed the cases broke down by age, positive cases with symptoms versus without symptoms. 54.3% of cases were traced to a known source. 21 of those were sporadic and 9 of those 21 were either unable to be reached or refused to be questioned.

As of May 24, 2021 there have been 40,638 people vaccinated in Polk County. Ms. Umstead went over the breakdown of vaccinated individuals broken down by race/ethnicity as well as the different age groups. In Oregon overall there have been 431,246 individuals vaccinated which is 60.7% of the eligible population. Ms. Umstead also provided a chart with all Oregon counties and how they rank in terms of vaccinated population. The West Valley Hospital vaccine clinic will be running as usual this week. As of Monday May 31st the clinic will stop running on Mondays and continue to operate on Wednesdays and Fridays. Salem Health is now operating as a regional hub to store vaccine and redistribute it in smaller quantities to clinics in the Marion and Polk County region. Polk Fire 1 and Dallas EMS are assisting with vaccinating the homebound population and Polk County Public Health is working with OHA to put on a low barrier pop up clinic for a week in June and are currently working on find a space to hold it.

4. AUNTIE M'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT APP

Melissa Killion, Owner and operator of Auntie M's Child Care in Independence Oregon appeared with her husband Paul Killion to discuss her Economic Development grant application. Ms. Killion stated that she has lived in Polk County her whole life and started the business so she could stay home with her own children. The grant application requests \$30,000 for the purpose of finishing the inside of her expanded child care center and would create 1 full time position and 13 part time positions. Ms. Killion stated that she has a waiting list of families that are waiting for her to open so she can provide them with child care and will be at full capacity as soon as she is able to open. She currently has 10 children that she watches and with the expansion she would be able to watch up to 16 at any given time. Commissioner Pope stated that he knows what the Killion family has put into expanding the business because of the

massive need for additional childcare in Polk County. The family has spent approximately \$52,744.96 of their own money and also did receive \$20,000 from the childcare grant the Polk County put out earlier this year. The Killion's began the expansion to provide more childcare to working families and then ran into unexpected costs that has put them in the position they are and ultimately why they are seeking the grant at this time.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE GRANT REQUEST FOR \$30,000.

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

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

Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: June 1, 2021