

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
September 28, 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 Gordon and Commissioner Mordhorst were present.

2. MINUTES: **COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. COVID UPDATE

The cases were broken down by age group, zip code. There were 51 pediatric last week in Polk County. Dallas Retirement Village had 1 more case for a total of 55. Last week there were over 2100 tests performed. They are still working with other agencies to offer more testing. In Oregon there were 866 hospitalized patients with COVID, and 134 of those were on ventilators, which is a decrease from the week before. There was also a decrease in hospitalization all across region two. There are 7 Polk County residents hospitalized with COVID currently. The hospitalizations trend is declining. The vaccination rate for Oregon for population that is 18 and older is just over 75%. In Polk County 61.9% of the population is vaccinated. Ms. Umstead reviewed the vaccinations by age breakdown. There will be a vaccination event in the academy building parking lot for 1st and 2nd doses. The booster was approved for the Pfizer vaccine for anyone 65 and up, 50 to 60 if they have a medical condition, 18 to 49 with medical condition, or people working in congregate setting.

Commissioner Mordhorst wants to know if the numbers can be separated to see the difference since the delta variant hit. He would also like to know what the hospitalization rate is for positive COVID cases for ages 17 and younger. Ms. Umstead said she can pull the data on youth hospitalizations but it has been very low. There are graphs on the Oregon Health Authority that show trends over time but she can pull something more specific next week. Commissioner Pope pointed out that there is a university with people attending events, unmasked, and would like to know if Public Health is tracking numbers specific to those universities. Ms. Umstead stated that WOU has a 95% vaccination rate so it is less likely that they will get it and they are watching trends and contact tracing.

4. BUSINESS RELIEF DISTRIBUTION

Greg Hansen, Admin Officer, informed the Board that the county is getting ready to distribute the second round of business relief funds that is designated for the six day shut down at the end of march and first of April. The county received 117 applications, 28 of those didn't qualify and 26 of those were from Marion County. Two others didn't qualify based on other criteria. Approximately 89 entities will receive funds. The request ranged from \$2,500 up to \$500,000. Anything under \$5,000 were awarded the full amount and anybody who was shut down during that time were awarded and extra \$2,500. In total the county will be distributing approximately \$570,000. The county will go out for another round of applications in October to distribute the remaining funds. Mr. Hansen is asking for approval to distribute the monies through the same process. If approved they can get sent out by the 2nd week in October.

MOTION: **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON
SECONDED TO APPROVE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS AS REQUESTED.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

A) Commissioner Pope got a request from Oregon Workforce Partners to support a grant application for \$50 Million dollars that would also support business that were impacted negatively by COVID. Commissioner Mordhorst and Commissioner Gordon also support this request.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.
Minutes: Ciera Atha
Approved: October 5, 2021