

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
April 12, 2022

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Mordhorst 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 Pope and Commissioner Gordon were present.

2. MINUTES: **COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF March 29, 2022**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3: DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY UPDATE:

Jeff Classen (Unit Forester for Dallas) and Michael Curran (Unit Forester for Philomath), provided an overview of their three administrative units, their employee base and staffing needs, as well as, what their responsibilities are. Mr. Curran went over their current staffing issues and openings. Mr. Curran wanted to thank the Polk County Sheriff's Office for their consistent help and assistance. They discussed their wildfire protection (prevention and suppression) and the 36,710 acres they are responsible for.

4. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FUNDING FOR HOMELESS INITIATIVE:

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, stated that late Thursday, March 31st, that Polk County received information from the State that we would be receiving \$2,500,000 to address homelessness. The State gave Polk County four days to either accept the funding or reject it and Polk County accepted the funding on April 4, 2022.

5. DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATE – DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

District Attorney Aaron Felton provided a current update for his department and introduced three new staff members. Mr. Felton stated that a new Judge will be starting on Monday April 18. He also discussed some future staffing changes and staffing obstacles that are seen statewide as well.

The meeting was recessed for a brief break

6. DESIGNATED PURPLE HEARTS:

Brent Demoe and Eric Enderle presented an overview of what it would mean to be a designated Purple Hearts County. They provided some background information on what this would mean for Polk County. A proclamation would need to be made by the Board of Commissioners. Mr. DeMoe requested that this would be done during a ceremony Tuesday April 26th and have this on the Courthouse front lawn after the Board of Commissioners meeting. The Commissioners are in favor of Brent DeMoe and Eric Enderle moving forward with this.

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

Greg Hansen wanted to discuss some funding items that Brent DeMoe is needing and is asking the Commissioners to give the Chair the ok to sign off on these requests. The Board of Commissioners supports and approves this request.

Commissioner Mordhorst adjourned the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: April 19, 2022