

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES August 10, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Mordhorst declared the meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners to be in session. Commissioner Gordon and Commissioner Pope were present.

Staff present: Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer
Morgan Smith, County Counsel, present via ZOOM
Matt Hawkins, Administrative Services Director

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. Each meeting is held in the Courthouse Conference Room, 850 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon. Each meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. and is conducted according to a prepared agenda that lists the principle subjects anticipated to be considered. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, The Board may consider and take action on subjects that are not listed on the agenda. The Board also holds a department staff meeting at 9:00 a.m. on every Monday in the Commissioners Conference Room at 850 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon.

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing during the Wednesday August 10, 2022 meeting to consider whether to enact an ordinance to refer to the voters to prohibit certain Psilocybin businesses in unincorporated Polk County.

The Polk County Fair is August 10 – 13, 2022 at the Polk County Fairgrounds located at 520 S Pacific Hwy W Rickreall OR 97371.

3. COMMENTS

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF August 3, 2022

MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF August 3, 2022.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

7. LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

The Board of Commissioners and staff recognized and thanked the following employees for their length of service:

- Rachel Nale – 20 Years of Service
- Cindy Rettler – 10 Years of Service
- Heath Kumnick – 10 Years of Service
- Dana Goodale – 10 Years of Service

8. PUBLIC HEARING – PSILOCYBIN CONSIDERATION

Commissioner Mordhorst opened up the meeting to a Public Hearing for the Psilocybin consideration. Morgan Smith, County Counsel, provided a brief background on Psilocybin and why we are having a public hearing today. Today's meeting is to take some public comment and that staff will need direction on the next steps to take. Commissioner Pope asked what would be the process for the Board to take at the end of a temporary ban. Mr. Smith responded that the Board has the authority to undo the ban at a later time.

Commissioner Mordhorst opened the meeting to public comment at 9:11 am.

Adam Day, Chief Compliance Officer from Viola Grands, provided his background information and his involvement in Polk County. Mr. Day stated that he has been the Chief Compliance Officer with Viola Grands for ten years. He stated that he and Richard Saunders are hoping to open a psilocybin business in Unincorporated Rural Polk County and is asking the Board to not take action regarding ballot measure 109 and to instead allow unincorporated Polk County residents and businesses to opt in and participate as pioneers in the psilocybin industry. Mr. Day presented his reasons why he is asking the Board of Commissioners to take no action.

Kelly Dressel provided some background information for herself and for her father in the use of psilocybin treatments/therapies. Ms. Dressel stated that she is for having this services in Unincorporated Rural Polk County and would like this to not go to ballot. Commissioner Pope asked if she was using a clinical therapist in micro-dosing herself. Ms. Dressel stated no she is not. Commissioner Pope asked where she is getting psilocybin from and she responded that she would rather not say.

Adam Day wanted to follow up on Kelly Dressel's comment on what micro-dosing is versus macro-dosing. Commissioner Pope asked for Mr. Day's qualifications. Mr. Day stated he has been doing research, reading news articles, referred to a documentary on Netflix and stated he has personal experience with micro/macro-dosing.

Commissioner Gordon stated he understands the community's concern on this. Mr. Gordon stated there are dozens of peer reviewed studies on this and the FDA has declared this has a breakthrough treatment. He believes that taking this to ballot again is a bit confusing because Oregon has already voted on this. Commissioner Gordon would like to not send this to ballot.

Commissioner Pope stated that he does support a ballot title that is a flat prohibition of psilocybin. Mr. Pope's concern is that we are not ready to do the things that Measure 109 is asking for and we need more time.

Commissioner Mordhorst closed the meeting for public comment at 9:34 am

MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED TO DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE A BALLOT TITLE AND ORDINANCE FOR VOTER CONSIDERATION THAT PLACES A PERMANENT BAN ON PSILOCYBIN MANUFACTURERS & SERVICE CENTERS, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED THE MOTION.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM. COMMISSIONER GORDON VOTED AGAINST THE MOTION.

The following items were approved by Motion under **5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- a) Polk County Contract No. 22-140, Oregon Department of Human Services (Tami Stump, Behavioral Health)

At 9:40 a.m. County Counsel announced that the meeting was recessed to Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2) (d) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Commissioner Mordhorst adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Lyle Mordhorst, Chair



Craig Pope, Commissioner



Jeremy Gordon, Commissioner

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: August 17, 2022