

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 6, 2022**

1. At 9:01 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. COMMENTS (for items not on this agenda):**

None.

**3. MINUTES:**      **COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST  
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF November 29, 2022**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.**

**4. DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Noelle Carroll, Public Health Director, provided an update to the Board of Commissioners for the Public Health Department. Ms. Carroll's presentation went over Health Services workforce and recruitments for hard to fill positions. Commissioner Gordon asked a clarifying question about the number of positions needed. Ms. Carroll stated that their after hours crisis is a high need for their department as they are having a hard time filling those positions. Ms. Carroll wanted to recognize Cindy Rettler on the record for her years of outstanding service as she is going to be retiring soon. Commissioner Pope stated that he understands why counties have a need for Public Health, but there has always been a push to get these services managed through Primary Care Physicians and he asked will we ever get there. Ms. Carroll stated that Public Health is more of a safety net for these services and that there will most likely always be the need for the safety net. The biggest need they are seeing are with immunizations. Commissioner Pope stated that he has been asking these questions for 10 years and it has not changed and told Ms. Carroll that he is open to any ideas going forward to making those changes. Next Ms. Carroll went over the different types of funding for Behavioral Health and some fiscal impacts. The presentation also went over Developmental Disabilities services, Behavioral Health Programming updates, and upcoming impacts to her department. Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, asked Ms. Carroll if she thought Developmental Disabilities would need to be separated from Behavioral Health for funding purposes. Ms. Carroll stated yes at some point that would be best. Mr. Hansen stated they will start working on that. Commissioner Mordhorst asked if they had anyone internally who can take the positions of the 2 people retiring within the next year. Ms. Carroll stated no they don't. Commissioner Mordhorst asked what the workload of the counselors looked like currently. Ms. Carroll said that their counselors would normally be working with 50 patients but are currently working with 75 to 80 patients. Commissioner Gordon thanked Ms. Carroll for her leadership during these times.

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

None.

Commissioner Mordhorst adjourned the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda  
Approved: December 13, 2022