

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES December 13, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE**

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

Staff present: Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer  
Morgan Smith, County Counsel  
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 Grand Ronde Sanitary District Board is meeting on December 20, 2023 at 9:15 a.m. The meeting will take place in the Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR, 97338.

**3. COMMENTS**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF December 6, 2023**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF December 6, 2023.**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

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

**7. ALYRICA NETWORKS RURAL BROADBAND PROJECT**

Madison Yock & Jason Richards, Alyrica Networks, presented to the Board a PowerPoint presentation that went over the current state of their project, future plans, and a project proposal. Mr. Dotson went over a map that showed their progress from 2020 until present time and shared data on how many residents they are currently serving in Polk County. Commissioner Pope asked if they can confirm the numbers that they are sharing and Mr. Dotson said yes they are confirmed. Ms. York then went over a project proposal in the Eola Hills area that could provide service to 172 of the 182 addresses that currently do not get internet service. Project cost would be \$150,000 plus match and she shared some funding opportunities that they feel would be perfect for them to apply for. Commissioner Gordon asked about the ARPA funding and if they are open to be used for fixed wireless and Ms. Yock answered his question. Commissioner Gordon asked them to provide their input on and challenges or barriers they have had while working on this project and Mr. Dotson answered his question. The Commissioners commended and thanked them on their great work and on continuing to work to get members in the rural area service. Commissioner Pope wanted to affirm what Commissioner Mordhorst and Commissioner Gordon just stated and he also wanted to recognize the technology Tarana G1 and how well that has been working in rural area. Commissioner Pope also wanted to state for the record that yes there are areas with better service, but there are still going to be area that may not be able to get service. Commissioner Pope asked them to talk more about their rates versus other providers and Mr. Dotson answered his question.

**8. AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA (ASA) DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Gordon started by thanking everyone for their hard work and cooperation on this subject. He then stated that the record for the 11/29/2023 Public Hearing is closed and that the Board would now be discussing the Ambulance Service Area (ASA). Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, provided a recap of what was discussed and stated that the Board worked with the Polk County GIS team to create a proposed map that would be based off of what testimony was received from the City of Dallas, SW Polk, the public and what the Board and staff feel would be the best option. Mr. Hansen went over the map with the Board and public and how they came to that decision. Commissioner Pope stated that this has been a long project that he has been apart of and gave his recap of his involvement and decision making on this proposed map. Commissioner Pope stated that he supports this map and wanted to thank Eric McAvoy, Polk County GIS Manager, for doing a great job with creating this. Commissioner Gordon also supports the proposed map and explained his reasons why. Commissioner Mordhorst also supports the proposed map and explained his reasons why. All the Commissioners commend the ASA providers for always working together in order to serve and protect the citizens. Commissioner Pope stated for the record that if anyone from the public has an issue with where the response teams park their vehicles, that they need to contact the fire district that they reside in as the Commissioners have no control over that.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED MAP AND DIRECT STAFF TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS.**

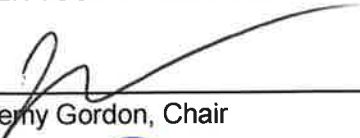
**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.**

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

- a) Polk County Contract No. 23-232, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Public Health)

There no need for an executive session and Commissioner Gordon adjourned the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
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Jeremy Gordon, Chair

  
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Craig Pope, Commissioner

  
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Lyle Mordhorst, Commissioner

Minutes: Nicole Pineda  
Approved: December 20, 2023