

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES February 28, 2024**

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE**

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

**3. COMMENTS**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF February 21, 2024**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF February 21, 2024.**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

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

**7. FAMILY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE**

Brent DeMoe, Abby Warren, Dana Goodale from Family and Community Outreach, presented a department update to the Board and staff. Mr. DeMoe spoke about the new Community Resource Building that was built in Monmouth, as well as a future project that is taking place inside the city of Falls City for a new resource center. Mr. DeMoe talked about who all is now in the Monmouth resource center and which programs have been moved into that building. Commissioner Gordon wanted them to clarify how the public can

connect with their department to have access to resources and Mr. DeMoe answered his question. Commissioner Mordhorst asked if they take walk ins or if appointments are needed and Mr. DeMoe said yes you can walk in to get the basic necessities, but it is best to make an appointment beforehand to ensure the public gets access to everything that they need. Mr. DeMoe stated that the funding has been secured for a smaller resource center in Falls City and he spoke about what their plans are for that building.

Ms. Goodale spoke about their School Based Mental Health Program and her handout highlights a lot of the same information from last year because not much has changed. Ms. Goodale shared details of the programs and what kind of things they are able to offer to the youth. Ms. Goodale talked about their funding and some budget cuts that are coming from the School District and she shared how they are trying to get creative in how they can keep those needs and staff in the schools. Commissioner Pope wanted to hear more information on the ways they are getting creative with funding and asked for statistical data they can share with parents and the community that shows how valuable they are in the schools and why they need this funding. Ms. Goodale answered his question. Mr. DeMoe stated that he also wanted to share that they are not anticipating cutting any staff, only shuffling around. Commissioner Gordon asked about their caseload of students per each staff member. Ms. Goodale stated that the number is 40-50 kids per staff person and spoke more about what that looks like for them.

Ms. Warren spoke about prevention/youth programs and highlighted their 2024 youth conference that is happening in March which will host about 600 students. Mr. DeMoe would like to invite the Commissioners to come and see the conference for themselves on March 20th, 2024, located at Western Oregon University at the Warner Center. Commissioner Pope asked who schedules the presenters and Ms. Warren answered his question. Commissioner Pope wanted to hear more about the standard evaluation plan being used to schedule these presenters and Ms. Warren answered his question. Next, Ms. Warren talked about 14 programs that were awarded some program funding and how they were selected to receive the funding. Ms. Warren talked about \$100,000 that was awarded to them from the Willamette Health Council and she talked about what those funds will be used for. Commissioner Pope asked if they had any information to share about engagement or coordination with OSU Extension and Ms. Warren answered his question. Ms. Goodale provided some input about a recent greenhouse project that they are hoping Extension will be a part of on a regular basis. Mr. DeMoe also wanted to say thank you to the Board and staff for allowing them to do everything that they do in the community. Commissioner Gordon wanted to recognize Mr. DeMoe and his team and he shared some recognition that he heard recently about them at an AOC conference he attended.

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

- (a) Polk County Contract No. 24-28, Oregon Department of Human Services  
(Rosana Warren, Health Services)
- (b) Polk County Contract No. 24-29, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Public Health)
- (c) Polk County Contract No. 24-30, Capacity Building Partnerships  
(Rosana Warren, Public Health)

There no need for an executive session and Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
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Craig Pope, Chair

  
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Jeremy Gordon, Commissioner

  
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Lyle Mordhorst, Commissioner

Minutes: Nicole Pineda  
Approved: March 6, 2024