

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES March 13, 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.

The Homeless Prevention Advisory Council (AKA P.A.T.H.S) will be meeting on March 13, 2024 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm located at 1407 Monmouth Independence Hwy, Monmouth OR 97361.

The Grand Ronde Sanitary District Board is meeting on March 20, 2024 at 9:15 a.m. The meeting will take place in the Polk County Courthouse, 850 Main Street, Dallas, OR, 97338.

The Polk County Board of Commissioners will be speaking at the State of the County meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024 from 5:30PM to 6:30PM, located in the main conference room of the Polk County Courthouse at 850 Main St Dallas, Oregon 97338.

**3. COMMENTS**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF March 6, 2024**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF March 6, 2024.**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

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

## **7. PUBLIC HEARING – LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT 23-03**

Michael Burns, Polk County Community Development Associate Planner, stated that they are holding a public hearing in regards to potential text amendments to the Polk County Zoning Ordinance (PCZO) Chapters 136 and 177, which pertain to the Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) and Timber Conservation (TC) Zoning Districts. Mr. Burns stated that the proposed text amendments are intended to bring the above mentioned PCZO Chapters into compliance with State law, and to consider adopting optional changes for used in these zones. Mr. Burns went over a PowerPoint presentation that he prepared for the Board, staff and members of the public. His presentation went over the background information for this Legislative Amendment, applicable criteria, and which changes are being made to the two chapters. Austin McGuigan, Community Development Director, provided some clarity to the recommended changes to PCZO Chapter 136. Commissioner Pope asked some clarifying questions about the recommendation of changes to PCZO Chapter 177 and Mr. McGuigan answered his questions. Commissioner Pope asked Valerie Patoine, Polk County Tax Assessor, if she had any issues with these changes and Mrs. Patoine stated that she does not. Mr. Burns wrapped up his presentation with their conclusion and repeated their recommendations to the Board.

At 9:27 a.m. Commissioner Pope opened the public hearing to public comment. Morgan Smith, Polk County County Counsel, discussed the public hearing guidelines for the Commissioners, staff and for the members of the public. Commissioner Gordon asked if anyone has received any written testimony about the legislative amendment and everyone said no. Commissioner Pope noted for the record that no members of the public were interested in providing a public comment.

Commissioner Pope ended the public hearing at 9:31 a.m.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST SECONDED, TO DIRECT STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES OF PCZO CHAPTERS 136 AND 177 AND 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 Right of Way Dedication, ~~Haga~~  
(Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director)
- (b) Polk County Right of Way Dedication, Lauer  
(Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director)
- (c) Polk County Right of Way Dedication, Mesdag  
(Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director)
- (d) Polk County Contract No. 24-33 (Amendment 1 to 23-169), Dallas School District  
(Jennifer Segovia, Family & Community Outreach)
- (e) Polk County Contract No. 24-35, Service Contract  
(Rosana Warren, Behavioral Health)
- (f) Polk County Contract No. 24-36, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Behavioral Health)
- (g) Polk County Contract No. 24-37, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Behavioral Health)

At 9:33 a.m. County Counsel announced that the meeting was recessed to Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

The executive session ended at 9:38 a.m. and Commissioner Pope directed staff to move forward as discussed in executive session and adjourned the meeting.

**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 20, 2024