

TUESDAY WORK SESSION AGENDA
April 16, 2024
Courthouse Conference Room

THE LOCATION OF THIS MEETING IS ADA ACCESSIBLE. PLEASE ADVISE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (503-623-8173)
AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO ATTEND OR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
MEETING VIRTUALLY.

**Approximate
Time**

AGENDA

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| 9:00 a.m. | 1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE |
| | 2. COMMENTS (for items not on this agenda and limited to 3 minutes) |
| | 3. APPROVE MINUTES OF April 2, 2024 |
| | 4. PUBLIC HEARING – FOOD DELIVERY PROJECT – Brent DeMoe |
| | 5. NON-LISTED ITEMS (Pursuant to ORS 192.640) |

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. The meetings are held in the Board of Commissioners' 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 principal subjects anticipated to be considered. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners 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, Oregon.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

The Board sets aside a time at each regular meeting for comment by the public on subjects not appearing on the Agenda. Individuals may come forward and make any statement they wish, but not to exceed three (3) minutes in length, except as is required to give concise answers to questions from Board members. If the subject will require a lengthier presentation, or merits inclusion as an item on the Agenda of a future meeting, the Board shall schedule it accordingly.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
April 2, 2024

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Pope 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 Gordon and Commissioner Mordhorst were present.

2. COMMENTS (for items not on this agenda):

None.

3. MINUTES: **COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF March 26, 2024**

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

4. SEDCOR UPDATE:

Alex Paraskevas & Erik Andersson, SEDCOR, provided an update to the Board of Commissioners. Their power point presentation went over the Strategic Economic Development Corporation, their mission, Economic Development Strategy, Business Retention & Expansion, Recruitment & Industrial Lands, and Entrepreneurship. Mr. Andersson spoke about trends that they are tracking with supply chain development, workforce availability specifically with child care and housing, and industrial land inventory. Mr. Paraskevas discussed specific events that have happened recently in regards to Workforce Development & Regional Innovation for agriculture, food and technology. Commissioner Gordon asked if they have seen an increased rate in participation and Mr. Paraskevas answered his question. Mr. Parskevas thanked the Commissioners for supporting the annual Ag Breakfast that SEDCOR hosts. Commissioner Mordhorst stated what he enjoyed the most from the Ag Breakfast and stated that he would like them to expand their executive board to involve more Polk and Marion County reps. Commissioner Pope praised them for being more vocal about the work they are doing in the community. Commissioner Gordon asked a clarifying question about workforce housing and Mr. Parskevas answered his question. Commissioner Pope wanted to address the fact that dairy farms are leaving the agriculture sector faster every day and stated his concerns on this topic. Commissioner Pope stated he wants SEDCOR and its members to start addressing these issues more. Mr. Paraskevas and Mr. Andersson addressed his concerns. Commissioner Mordhorst asked clarifying questions on how local government has become more involved and Mr. Ansdersson answered his question.

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

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

POLK COUNTY FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

A Family & Community Outreach Department Program
December 2021-February 2024

WHAT IS THE POLK COUNTY FOOD DISTRIBUTION?

The Polk County Food Distribution program is the result of a grant opportunity through Business Oregon as a COVID-19 Response program.

During the operation of this program, Polk County was able to ensure access to quality food to those with the highest barriers to accessing food. The program focused on serving those who were in the most rural parts of Polk County, those without transportation, and those experiencing chronic and severe medical conditions. At the height of the program, more than 200 households received a weekly delivery.

The program later focused on delivering only to homebound seniors and those with chronic health conditions while also stocking a food pantry onsite at the Polk County Resource Center.

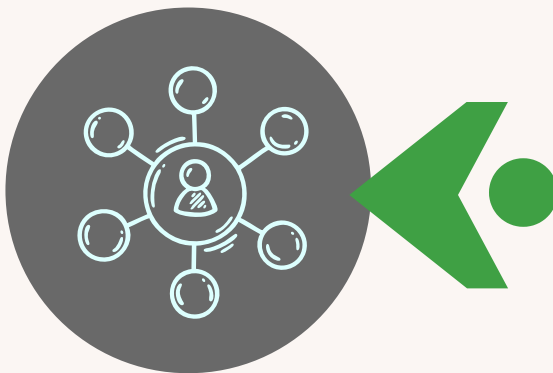
Not only were people connected with food resources, in many cases they were also connected with ongoing supportive resources.

This program also served as a starting point for ongoing conversations about access to food in rural communities and helped to forge partnerships amongst the various volunteer run food programs.



Local Partnerships

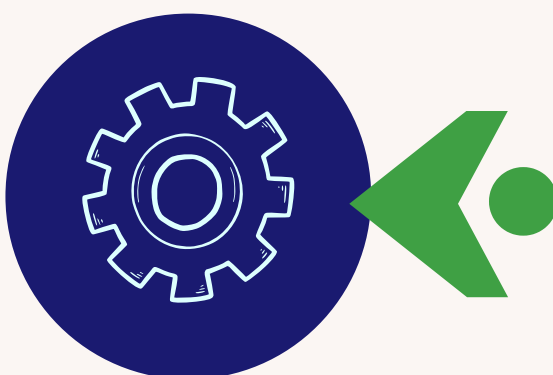
Many food banks have reported increased numbers of people accessing food over the past 3 years. In addition to the delivery program and the onsite pantry, Funds were allocated to support local food pantries in purchasing most needed items that have been unavailable or hard to get through the Oregon Food Bank due to increased demand on the statewide system.



Resource Connection

Because this program was a part of the larger Resource Center, many households were also connected with additional services such as Meals on Wheels and long term case management.

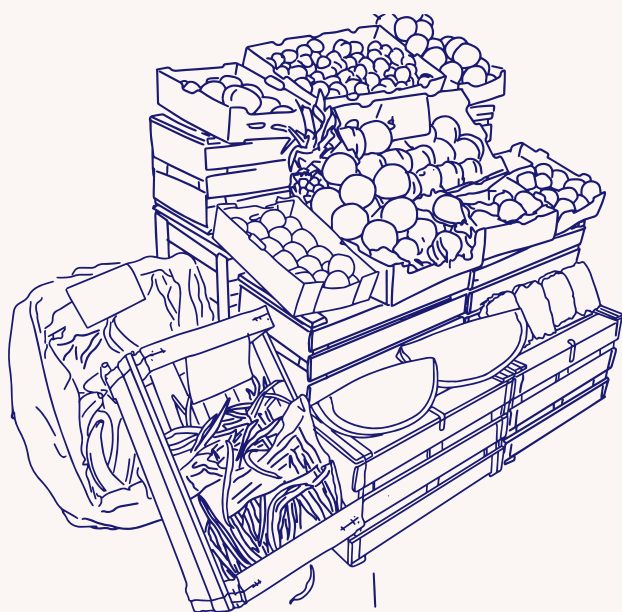
One elderly client was connected to the ICAN student nurse program where she was able to receive assistance with navigating Medicare to have a vision exam and be fitted for new glasses.



Ongoing Efforts

Polk County Family & Community Outreach recently received funding from the Willamette Health Council to support the Service Integration and Resource Center Programs. \$100,000 of this funding has been allocated to continue to stock the onsite pantry and provide support to our local food bank partners.

The Boxes



Each week the boxes included staple ingredients such as milk, eggs, and bread. Additionally, boxes included all of the ingredients to make specific meals each week based on a menu put together by program staff.

Boxes were tailored to meet special dietary needs and took into consideration the ability to cook and store food for each household.

The size of the boxes varied based on the number of people in the household.

The Emergency Food Pantry at the Polk County Resource Center provides households with an emergency food box packed with the ingredients for 1 to 2 complete meals to hold them over until they are able to access a full food pantry site.

Boxes include both self-stable and fresh items depending on a client's ability to cook and store food.

There are no qualifications for accessing food through the pantry program.

Food for the pantry comes from the Marion Polk Food Share and purchasing through the Business Oregon Grant. Additional funding from the Willamette Health Council has been secured.

The Pantry

Households Served

1243

The Food Delivery program served households in Monmouth, Independence, Dallas, Falls City and the West Valley.



2748
ADULTS

1464
CHILDREN

FUNDS

Business Oregon Community Development Block Grant

\$481,000

\$352,600- Food Purchases

\$81,300- Staffing

\$47,100- Storage, Equipment & Repairs

Thank you to Business Oregon and Polk County for allowing the Polk County Family & Community Outreach Department to continue to find creative solutions to meet a critical need in our community.

