

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
June 4, 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 MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF May 28, 2024
COMMISSIONER GORDON ABSTAINED DUE TO BEING ABSENT THAT DAY.**

MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

4. SKATS POLICY

Commissioner Pope asked for some information about SKATS (Salem Keizer Area Transportation Study) policies. Commissioner Pope explained how Commissioner Mordhorst represents Polk County on that committee and he explained how Austin McGuigan, Community Development Director, represents the Board on the SKATS Committee. Commissioner Pope stated that he realized that the Board has never talked about what SKATS. Mr. McGuigan provided background information on what SKATS is and why Polk County is a part of it. Mr. McGuigan explained the purpose of SKATS and the Metropolitan Plan Organization (MPO.) Mr. McGuigan talked about what had happened recently at a SKATS meeting and how Salem is now getting 2 votes instead of 1. Commissioner Pope asked some clarifying questions and Mr. McGuigan answered him. Commissioner Gordon shared his concerns about the process and the concerns he has with Salem having 2 votes instead of 1 and asked Mr. McGuigan if he has any concerns. Mr. McGuigan answered his question. Commissioner Pope asked if Morgan Smith, County Counsel, was able to look into the legal aspects of SKATS and how they were set up and Mr. Smith answered his question. Commissioner Mordhorst provided some background information on Polk County's involvement in SKATS and how Polk County has never received any funds from SKATS. Mr. McGuigan responded to the Commissioners concerns. Commissioner Pope asked if there was any idea of when a new MPO would be ready for review and Commissioner Mordhorst answered his question. The Commissioner thanked both Mr. McGuigan and Mr. Smith for the information that they shared today.

5. HWY 22 & 51 DISCUSSION

Commissioner Pope stated that this agenda item is being postponed to allow county staff to prepare a detailed report for the Board and staff.

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

Commissioner Pope asked Matt Hawkins how the building plans for the BH Crisis Building is going and Mr. Hawkins answered his question and stated they are set to go out to bid in a few weeks.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: June 11, 2024