

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2024

1. At 9:01 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):

Mandy Straus provided public comment to thank the Board for getting the LPSCC agendas and minutes posted to the calendars online. Mrs. Straus would like the Board to ask the DA and the Sheriff to provide an update to the Board.

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

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

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

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

4. SEDCOR UPDATE

Commissioner Pope stated the reason they invited SEDCOR here today is because the annual dues have come in and the Board feels it is always good to hear from them when that time comes, even though they did provide an update in April. Alex Paraskevas & Eric Andersson provided an update to the Board and staff that highlighted the following: Business retention, expansion & targeted recruitment, industrial lands & infrastructure, innovation & entrepreneurship, events and emerging business development tools. Commissioner Pope asked about Zena Forest Products and if they are selling the wood tile products that were placed inside of the Portland Airport and Mr. Paraskevas answered his question. Mr. Andersson talked about the Latino Microenterprise Development Program Cohort and said it completed with 37 graduates in McMinnville with Salem and Polk County next on the schedule. Mr. Andersson stated that they have been working with Marion County for several years now and they are the only county who does a Rural Industrial Property Tax Exemption and he went over what they have done with those investments. He also went over Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) and stated this is private financing and originated in Portland. Mr. Andersson stated they would like to come back another time and have a separate presentation over that for the Board and the Board would like that. Commissioner Gordon asked about the rural industrial property tax exemption and they answered his question. Commissioner Pope asked a question about the hazelnut project and wanted to make sure that whoever is buying the co-op won't be hindering the season that will be starting soon and they answered his question. Commissioner Pope asked if they had a sense who the top 25 private employers are in Polk County and Mr. Paraskevas said he can get a list to the Board. Commissioner Pope thanked them for mentioning Measure 118 and that he is an endorser on the opposition team, and he wanted to know if SEDCOR had any thoughts about it and Mr. Paraskevas and Mr. Andersson answered his question. Commissioner Mordhorst wanted to go on record that he is also against Measure 118. Commissioner Gordon stated that he would support a letter to the editor stating that this Board opposes Measure 118 and Commissioner Mordhorst agrees. Passed by consensus of the Board to pay the yearly dues.

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

Morgan Smith stated that the County is currently in ownership of a 4 plex on Hankel Street and we have found a potential buyer from the Housing Authority and he will be discussing this as an add on during tomorrow's BOC meeting.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: September 17, 2024