

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES August 21, 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. and Commissioner Gordon was present and Commissioner Mordhorst was absent.

Staff present:

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 POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.**

**MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 14, 2024**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF August 14, 2024.**

**MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

**7. CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOND PRESENTATION**

Dr. Jessica Howard, President & CEO of Chemeketa Community College, along with Jackie Franke, Teresa Haskens, Besty Earls and explained why they were here today. Dr. Howard then shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board and staff. The presentation went over the value of the community college, opportunities, CTE quality, Chemeketa Scholars Program, Successes and Innovations. Mrs. Howard then went over the 2008 Bond Levy and explained that it was going to be up for reauthorization. She stated that the average tax rate for 2008 was \$0.27 per \$1000 and the projected rate for 2024 would stay the same. The 2008 Bond Levy is set to end in 2026 and the reauthorization if approved by the public would be for \$140 million and for 15-20 years. She stated they held 17 external community conversations and what they learned from those conversations and community polling. Dr. Howard went over what exactly this Bond Measure would fund and stated it would increase capacity in career and technical

education, specifically in healthcare, the trades, and emergency services programming. They are also going to use the funds for wellness and disaster preparedness by renovating Building 7 on the Salem Campus to support wellness programming in addition to physical education and to function as a community disaster relief site. Dr. Howard shared several other examples of what they plan to use these funds for.

Mrs. Haskens stated that she is recently retired from PGE and the reason she said yes to Chair and Co-Chair on this Board is because Chemeketa is such a huge part of our community and it touches every single one of us without us even realizing it. She wanted to emphasize why this bond is so important. Mrs. Franke stated that she wanted to add to the fact that they have an excellent President and excellent staff and she is so proud they are able to stretch their funds and use them so wisely while creating so many important programs. She wanted to touch on the diesel mechanics programs and how it took several years to get it approved but after the first year of students completed it, with one year to go, those students all had a full-time job and she wanted to make sure people understand how important these programs are. Mrs. Earle wanted to share in her support for this bond and shared some other positive examples.

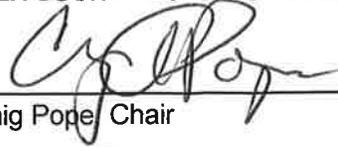
Commissioner Gordon stated that he appreciates them for being here and thanked them for not increasing the bond amount. Commissioner Gordon stated that he would love to see the workforce study they mentioned if they can send it to him. Commissioner Pope stated that he is very proud of everything that Chemeketa has accomplished and thanked them for taking the time to come before the Board and share before the public what is happening. Dr. Howard stated that she can give some Polk County specific information about Chemeketa and she stated that they are able to issue Wi-Fi hotspots and wanted people to know that they have programs that are available completely online. Dr. Howard also shared some statistics for Polk County on education compared to Oregon rates.

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

- a) **Polk County Contract No. 24-138, Central School District  
(Dana Goodale, Family & Community Outreach)**
- b) **Polk County Contract No. 24-139, Falls City School District  
(Dana Goodale, Family & Community Outreach)**
- c) **New Job Specification & Wage, Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) Program Coordinator  
(Matt Hawkins, Administrative Services Director)**
- d) **Local Alcohol and Drug Policy Committee Membership Appointment  
(Jodi Merritt, Community Corrections Director)**
- e) **Polk County Contract No. 24-140, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Behavioral Health)**
- f) **Polk County Contract No. 24-141, Oregon Health Authority  
(Rosana Warren, Public Health)**

There no need for an executive session and Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:39 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: September 4, 2024