

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 8, 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. AGENDA:**        **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON  
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA**

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

**4. MINUTES:**        **COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST  
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF October 1, 2024**

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

**5. POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE:**

Tina Anderson and Tim Ray provided an update to the Board that went over a 2024 Annual Fair Report. The report highlighted the following items: Revenues, staffing, youth livestock auction, sponsorship, premiums, vendor booths, open class exhibits, 4H and FFA exhibits, fundraisers, Fair events and a Fair Board recap. Next, they went over the year-round highlights for the Fairgrounds. Mr. Ray also talked about the outreach to the community in regards to the Master Plan for the Fairgrounds and he said the feedback they received was very good, so they are hopeful. Commissioner Mordhorst praised them for the family area that they had this year and how happy kids and families were to have it there available to them. Mrs. Anderson thanked them for their help with getting a field cleared in order to make more room for parking. Commissioner Pope wanted to recognize everyone who was involved in the People Mover and Mr. Ray said they plan to do that further into the update.

Mr. Ray shared information on the facility usage, events, storage, concessions, grounds, buildings and equipment, overnight camping and he talked about how they are doing fiscally. Commissioner Pope asked what the official gratitude has been to David Rak who has helped so much with the People Mover and he asked them to work with Nicole Pineda, Executive Assistant to the Board of Commissioners, in order to properly recognize everyone who has donated to this project. Next, Mr. Ray stated there are discussions with the legislator in hopes to get some lottery funds to go towards fairgrounds, so they are hopeful for that. Mr. Ray stated that the Fair Board is still running short 2 positions and they are currently working on filling those positions. Commissioner Gordon told them great job and said that he and his son visited the fair this year 4 times. Commissioner Gordon wanted to talk about the upcoming levy and wanted to make sure they understand the importance of getting the word out to the community. Mr. Ray stated that he and Mrs. Anderson are more than prepared to get out there and spread the word. Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, gave a handout to the Board that went over a timetable with his recommendations in order to get a levy on a May 2025 ballot. Next, he went over the process with the Board. The

handout also showed different scenarios showing the different amounts of money that could be brought in. The Commissioners asked questions about the Master Plan and what it would look like if everything were to pass. Mr. Hansen responded to their questions. Commissioner Pope thanked Mr. Hansen for his work and said these are good stepping stones to get them towards their plan. Mrs. Anderson talked about a couple large projects that have been put together that are projected to happen in 2025 or 2026, in which they also have received donations for. Mrs. Anderson wanted to talk about the potential dog shelter that might be going into the fairgrounds and she stated there are some updates that need to happen in some of her buildings in order to make this happen. Matt Hawkins, Admin Services Director, provided his input on this potential project as well. Commissioner Pope talked about getting an internal staff recommendation and potentially gaining signatures and Mr. Hansen stated that is not needed because this is a county initiative and that is not required. He recommends holding a public hearing and also holding some open houses to have those discussions with the public. Commissioner Pope wanted to make sure that this Board is ready to move forward in expediting a timeline so the Fair Board can move forward. Commissioner Gordon approves of the timeline but he thinks it will be best to start sooner rather than later. Mr. Hansen gave his recommendation for the next steps for the Fair Board. Commissioner Mordhorst is in total support. Commissioner Pope is also in support and stated they have received their direction. A member of the public asked a question about old dairy farm in Rickreall and mentioned the smell that is impacting the community. Commissioner Pope stated that he has been asking questions amongst the governing agencies and they have stated the ponds are permitted and his instincts as a farm boy tell him that the reason the smell is so bad is because the ponds are fermenting and that they are irrigating the fields with the waste from the ponds.

**6. NON-LISTED ITEMS** - (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)  
None.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda  
Approved: October 15, 2024