

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
October 29, 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):

Robert Greenway provided public comment wanting to finish his comment portion from last week in regards to District Attorney Aaron Felton.

Mandy Straus provided public comment in regards to history of attending these meetings since 2022 and her history with the Polk County Sheriff's Office and she then read aloud a prepared statement 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 GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF October 22, 2024**

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

4. STAR RECOGNITION AWARD

The Board and staff would like to give Special Thanks and Recognition to Ryan Pollard who was nominated for the STAR Recognition program for FY2024-2025 Q\$. Commissioner Pope read aloud his nomination and thanked him for all of his hard work. Mr. Pollard was presented with a signed certificate and a gift basket. The STAR Recognition program allows for department heads to nominate an employee for recognition each quarter.

5. IS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Josh James, Information Services Director, provided a department update to the Board. Mr. James talked about projects with cyber security and how everything is IT related now and that they are doing everything they can to streamline those tasks. Mr. James stated that they will most likely need another staff person to help with that soon. Mr. James said that with cybersecurity there are now what are called zero-day threats and he explained what that means and how they individually manage those threats. Mr. James said another issue they are seeing with cybersecurity has to do with hardware issues and explained in further detail what that meant. Mr. James stated that everyone has received their Windows 11 upgrades and he talked about ways they are working to make their office more efficient. Commissioner Pope wanted to put on the record why Mr. James is cautious and vague when it comes to talking about cybersecurity and he also talked about the growth with the IT department in his 14-year period. Mr. James spoke more about the growth that has occurred over the last 14 years. Matt Hawking, Admin Services Director, provided input on the number of staff we had 14 years ago versus the amount we have now and how much hardware the employees use now versus then. Commissioner Mordhorst asked about the transition to the .gov

emails and if we will still have access to our email history and Mr. James answered his question. Commissioner Mordhorst asked about the sound in the main conference room and when someone will be coming out to look at improving it and Mr. Hawkins said someone is coming out this week to look into that issue. Commissioner Mordhorst commended the team over in the IS Department and thanked them for all of their hard work. Commissioner Pope asked how are we monitoring the drop boxes for the ballots and Mr. James said he can only speak for the one outside of our building, which has a lot of cameras. Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, answered the commissioner's question.

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

Commissioner Pope asked for an update on the Academy Building and Mr. Hawkins stated that they just poured the pad down and it is curing for a week and half and then the structure should start going up soon. Commissioner Gordon thanked him for attending the Downtown Dallas Association meetings and keeping the community updated on the building progress.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: November 5, 2024