

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES April 9, 2025

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. Commissioner Gordon was present and Commissioner Mordhorst was absent.

Staff present: Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer
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.

A public meeting of the Budget Committee for Polk County will be held in the Main Conference Room, Polk County Courthouse, 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 and to receive the budget message and document. The public meeting will continue on Wednesday, April 23, 2025. Additional time is reserved for public comment at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2025. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 18, 2025 at the Board of Commissioners' Office, Polk County Courthouse, during regular business hours. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed budget with the Budget Committee. Please advise the Board of Commissioners (503-623-9237) at least 24 hours in advance if you need special accommodations to attend or participate in the meeting virtually.

3. COMMENTS

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

BOTH VOTED YES.

MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF April 2, 2025

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF April 2, 2025.

BOTH VOTED YES.

MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Pope asked to remove item a) for discussion.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED THE CONSENT WITH THE REQUESTED CHANGES, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH THE REMOVAL OF ITEM A.

**BOTH VOTED YES.
MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

Commissioner Pope wanted to talk about Polk County Contract No. 25-34, PacificSource Community Solutions and asked Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, to provide background information and explain what this contract is for. Mr. Hansen explained what this contract is for, the dollar amount and what this is extending. Mr. Hansen stated that this is one of the main funding sources for Behavioral Health. Morgan Smith, County Counsel, stated that the original contract was signed by the Board back in January 2025, but was never signed by PacificSource due to some errors on their side and this is now the final, corrected version needed to be resigned. Commissioner Pope explained that CCO is a Coordinated Care Institution and explained what that meant for the record.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE AND SIGN POLK COUNTY CONTRACT NO. 25-34.

**BOTH VOTED YES.
MOTION PASSED BY VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

7. LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS – Matt Hawkins

The Polk County Board of Commissioners and staff recognized the following employees for their length of service:

- Todd Whitaker, 15 years of service
- Sidney Mulder, 10 years of service

8. PUBLIC HEARING – JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

At 9:09 a.m. Commissioner Pope stated that we were here to conduct a public hearing in regards to a Jurisdictional Transfer to the City of Independence and asked Darren Blackwell, Polk County Surveyor, to come and provide background information on this topic for them and for the record. Mr. Blackwell explained what this meant in regards to Polk County and how this could impact the public. Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director, provided some additional information with traffic impacts on Talmadge Road and is recommending that they hold off on making a final decision today. Morgan Smith stated that a final decision is not required today.

Commissioner Pope opened the public hearing to public comment at 9:11 a.m. and noted that no one was present to make comment nor was there anyone from the City of Independence.

Commissioner Pope opened the hearing to questions from the Board and he asked Mr. Whitaker and Mr. Blackwell to explain for the record what exactly this process is for to help the public better understand this process. Mr. Smith provided additional input on annexation and what that looks like for county roads to cities.

Commissioner Pope asked if they have any concerns on the Order or the verbiage. Mr. Hansen said that the Order should not be considered in the decision making and a modified one should be presented at a future date.

Commissioner Pope closed the public hearing at 9:29 a.m.

No decision was made today. Mr. Smith provided his recommended next steps for the Board and staff. Commissioner Pope recommended deferring the decision for three weeks from today.

9. RECLASSIFICATION OF AN EMPLOYEE

Matt Hawkins, Admin Services Director, is recommending the reclassification of a Road Maintenance Worker to a Heavy Equipment Operator. Should the reclassification be approved, it would be effective April 1, 2025 and would have a fiscal impact on the FY24-25 budget of approximately \$3,200 including PERS contribution should it be for 12 months.


APPROVED BY CONSENSUS OF THE QUORUM.

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

- a) Polk County Contract No. 25-34, PacificSource Community Solutions
(Rosana Warren, Health Services)
- b) Polk County Resolution No. 25-07, In the matter of Community Dispute
Resolution
(Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer)

There no need for an executive session and Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Craig Pope, Chair



Jeremy Gordon, Commissioner



Lyle Mordhorst, Commissioner

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: April 16, 2025