

TUESDAY WORK SESSION AGENDA
August 5, 2025
Courthouse Conference Room

THE LOCATION OF THIS MEETING IS ADA ACCESSIBLE. PLEASE ADVISE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (503-623-8173)
AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO ATTEND OR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
MEETING VIRTUALLY.

**Approximate
Time**

AGENDA

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| 9:00 a.m. | 1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE |
| | 2. COMMENTS (for items not on this agenda and limited to 3 minutes. We encourage all community members to engage with public comments to the Board of Commissioners. However, out of respect for our audience and a general sense of decorum please refrain from vulgar, threatening or inappropriate language.) |
| | 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA |
| | 4. APPROVE MINUTES OF July 29, 2025 |
| | 5. NON-LISTED ITEMS (Pursuant to ORS 192.640) |

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. The meetings are held in the Board of Commissioners' 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 principal subjects anticipated to be considered. Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners 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, Oregon.

The Homeless Prevention Advisory Council (AKA P.A.T.H.S) will be meeting on August 13, 2025 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm located at 1407 Monmouth Independence Hwy, Monmouth OR 97361.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

The Board sets aside a time at each regular meeting for comment by the public on subjects not appearing on the Agenda. Individuals may come forward and make any statement they wish, but not to exceed three (3) minutes in length, except as is required to give concise answers to questions from Board members. If the subject will require a lengthier presentation, or merits inclusion as an item on the Agenda of a future meeting, the Board may schedule it accordingly.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
July 29, 2025

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**

**ALL VOTED YES.
MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.**

4. MINUTES: **COMMISSIONER GORDON MOVED, COMMISSIONER MORDHORST
SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF July 22, 2025**

**ALL VOTED YES.
MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.**

5. THE WALL THAT HEALS

Billy Whisenant, co-chair The Wall That Heals Committee, was present today to talk to the Board about The Wall That Heals that will be on display in Independence Oregon from September 18-21, 2025. Mr. Whisenant stated that the last time he was present, it was to request funding assistance from Polk County and he wanted to thank them for granting them \$12,000.00 in funds to cover the site fee. This was to help bring The Wall That Heals to Polk County. Mr. Whisenant stated that 140 cities applied to bring the wall to them and that the City of Independence was 1 in 30 that was approved, and they are very proud of that. He also talked about some other sponsorship they have received from the community. Mr. Whisenant stated that they still need more volunteers and are about halfway to their goal for the number of people they need. Next, he talked about the dates that they will be here and what kind of activities and ceremonies will be taking place. Mr. Whisenant introduced John McArdle and asked him to talk about anything that he may have missed. Mr. McArdle talked about their committee of 21 people and stated that they have worked really well together and how it is like a well-oiled machine, which they are very proud of. Mr. McArdle talked about why they wanted this to happen in September and the importance of sharing this history with our youth. Mr. McArdle asked the Board to please help get the word out and he would love to see each of them there. Mr. Whisenant stated that they have multiple Vietnam Veterans on their committee and then went on to share a personal story about his time in Vietnam and another soldier who died in combat and his name is on the wall. He talked about some coins they had made with his name on them and how they are making sure to get some to his family. Mr. Whisenant said they were very grateful and he wanted to make sure people understand how healing it is for him and other vets to see The Wall That Heals. Commissioner Mordhorst said he would love to help connect them with some individuals who could potentially volunteer. Brent DeMoe, Family and Community Outreach Director, stated that he wanted to make sure that they shared

how to get in contact with them. Mr. Whisenant talked about the local businesses that have donated items and what has been donated. He stated that Mr. DeMoe and his team have been invaluable to this project as well. Mr. DeMoe stated that this will be located in Independence Sports Park and talked about how they plan to help assist them in this. Commissioner Pope asked how the social media management is being done and Mr. McArdle answered his question. Mr. Whisenant stated they he has also made a FaceBook page for this and talked about the other ways they are planning to get the word out; they just don't want to do it too early. Mr. DeMoe asked about us displaying a banner to help get the word out in Dallas and the Board thinks the best location for the banner would be at the Academy Building.

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 9:26 a.m.

Minutes: Nicole Pineda
Approved: August 5, 2025