

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES November 26, 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 Mordhorst and Commissioner Gordon were present.

Staff present: Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer
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.

The Polk County Board of Commissioners will be meeting with the Marion County Commissioners on December 2, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. located at 555 Court Street NE Salem in the Commissioners Board Room. Please contact Nicole Pineda if you have questions at pineda.nicole@co.polk.or.us

3. COMMENTS

John Swanson introduced himself to the Board and stated he wanted to make a comment in regards to him running for the Commissioner #2 Position. Mr. Swanson wanted to address the Board about funding uncertainty we are seeing from the State and wanted to report that there are over 150,000 signatures so far to petition the Transportation Bill that was just passed in Oregon.

E.M. Easterly provided public comment in regards to him trying to appeal a planning file 8 days ago and was unsuccessful and explained why. Mr. Easterly stated that he contacted Director McGuigan but has not received a response. He is asking that the Commissioners review the items in the planning file that he believes are incorrect. Mr. Easterly provided them with a handout to review.

Steve Anderson was present to provide a public comment in regards to the planning file that was approved last week for a transfer station. Mr. Anderson wanted to share his concerns of this approval and why he is against it. Mr. Anderson read aloud a prepared statement.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF November 12, 2025

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON
SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF November 12, 2025.**

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

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

7. PLANNING COMMISSION INTERVIEW

Anthony Blosser applied to be on the Polk County Planning Commission and was present to answer a set of questions on the record. Commissioner Pope asked Mr. Blosser to introduce himself to the Board and the public before beginning the questions and he responded with some background information on himself. Next, the Commissioners took turns asking the interview questions. Commissioner Pope asked a follow up question to question #3 and asked if he has seen changes in other states to compare to Oregon and SB100 and Mr. Blosser answered his question. The Commissioners continued the list of questions. Commissioner Pope asked a follow up question about what are his feelings about ADUs, housing expansions, drinking water and sewage/septic hookups and the impacts those are having on cities and Mr. Blosser answered his question. The Commissioners thanked him for his time.

8. RECLASSIFICATION OF AN EMPLOYEE

Matt Hawkins, Admin Services Director, is requesting the reclassification of an employee from an HS Administrative Specialist III to an HS Administrative Analyst I. Should the reclassification be approved, it would be effective December 1, 2025 and would have an approximate impact to the FY25-26 budget of \$3,600 including PERS contribution should it be for 12 months.


APPROVED BY CONSENSUS OF THE BOARD.

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


- a) Polk County Contract No. 25-204, Oregon Health Authority
(Rosana Rivera, Public Health)
- b) Declaration of Surplus
(Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director)
- c) Polk County Contract No. 25-207, Liberty House
(Aaron Felton, District Attorney)
- d) Polk County Contract No. 25-208, Bicoastal Psychological & Consultation Services, LLC
(Rosana Rivera, Behavioral Health)

There no need for an executive session and Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:23 a.m.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Craig Pope, Chair



Jeremy Gordon, Commissioner



Lyle Mordhorst, Commissioner