

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING – JANUARY 25, 2011
MINUTES

1. At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Propes declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Pope and Commissioner Ainsworth were present. A CD of the proceedings is on file in the Board of Commissioners' Office.
2. **MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2011.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST**

Lt. Isham requested authorization for out-of-state travel for two employees to attend a course on Field Force Extraction to be held at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama February 28 – March 4, 2011. The Board approved the out-of-state travel.

Commissioner Pope said that yesterday afternoon on his way back from Salem he was “almost run over by a Keizer patrol car doing, I’m guessing, speeds nearing 90 mph and it looked like on its way to the coast.” He asked Lt. Isham if he had any idea why they roared through our County.

Lt. Isham said that he believes it was a member of the SWAT Team and there was a SWAT callout to relieve OSP SWAT, who had been there throughout the night.

Pope asked, “Do we roar through people’s counties like that?”

Isham said that it depends on the nature of the call.

Pope said that he suspected that was what the call was about and obviously there was no suspect involved in that high speed travel. He said that he has concerns about other agencies....”if we have rules for our own people, it would be nice if we communicated that to others.”

Pope asked, given what happened a few days ago in Lincoln, “has there been any change of protocol. Any new issues addressing Officer safety?”

Isham answered, “No.” He said that, unfortunately, throughout the Country we have hit a bad streak and over the last few days there have been 12 Officers who were shot. He said that he believes that Officers tend to get complacent and the only good thing that comes out of a situation like this is the opportunity to remind Troops to be mindful of things they already know how to do. He said that they do keep their Troops as informed as possible but, as far as a policy shift or a change in what they are doing, “No sir.”

4. **GRANT APPLICATION**

Brent DeMoe, PCCCF Manager discussed the grant application through the Oregon Community Foundation for funds to be used to create a regional Parent Education Hub that will match parent education needs to training programs throughout Polk County. He said that this grant would allow them to expand on one of the three focus areas of the Commission – Parental Investment and Support. It would allow for one full-time staff person dedicated to everything around raising children in Polk County, i.e. parenting classes, parenting resources, workshops, etc. The grant is for approximately \$90,000 per year for three years. It is necessary to reapply for those funds each year, but the reapplication process is much simpler if there is a proven track record of success. It will be using research based, evidence based parenting curriculum, which they already use in both English and Spanish. Polk County has a high teen pregnancy rate compared to the State average, and they will be focusing on parenting classes for teen parents and possibly recruiting a former teen parent to be one of the trainers. They will also be focusing on the Hispanic population and the rural areas of Polk County - Perrydale, Falls City, and Grand Ronde. The other thing that is unique about this grant is that, in order to be proactive, they are applying through the Human

Services Department and not specifically the Commission for Children and Families, as they wait to see how the legislative session turns out. He said that Human Services will always be here and they will find a way to run this program, which he believes will appeal to the Oregon Community Foundation.

Pope asked, "Where are we with regard to our opportunities with that Teen Parent Program at Central and how can this dovetail to that? We want that back." He said that he is absolutely flabbergasted by a closed, empty, unneeded building sitting there and a program that is proven is needed. He said that this kind of program is vital to our community and our County and he wonders what can be done to get that back in service.

DeMoe said that the problem in Central is not just around closing the Teen Parent Program; they also have a problem with funding for their school district, and they have one Counselor for the entire district through a partnership with Human Services. There are a number of funding and social issues occurring in that district right now. The way this grant can be a part of that is through the parenting class resources trying to get at the prevention part of the issue through education before people become teen parents. Through Service Integration, with the 35 partners in the school district who have conversations every month, one of the things they are looking at is how to address the lack of Counselors and the loss of the Teen Parent Program. That dovetails in with OSU Extension and PCCCF doing a needs assessment across the County on what the needs are and what resources are available.

Stacie Wheeler, Human Resources Assistant Director said that this conversation may be one where the Commissioners sit down with the Superintendents and talk about services. School Districts sometimes make cuts that are not supported by the County, there are things out of our control, but it is important that we voice our opinions and concerns as a group.

Ainsworth said that in a previous conversation, his perception was that those teens are "disposable." He said that he knows the school district's budget issues and that is only his perception but those teens are not disposable and the snow ball is going to continue to get bigger as time goes on.

Pope said that the teen parenting programs the Jobs Council is involved in have some of the highest success rates of any of the programs they facilitate. He said that he is passionate about this topic and if we neglect this at this level, it's harder to fix when "it gets further upstream." He said that he understands the school district's budgets cuts, although he does not agree with their philosophy on the way they cut things, but he believes it is appropriate for Commissioners to speak up now and to start to push back.

DeMoe said that it is the Childcare Division that funds schools districts to have teen parent programs. After the closure at Central, they met with partners in the Central area to talk about whether another entity could run a teen parent program and he learned at that time that it has to be a school district, it has to be on school property, and it has to be on the campus of the high school. He said that they had partners across the street that were willing to offer a teen parent program if they got the funding and it can't be done that way.

The Board agreed by consensus to sign the grant application.

5. **CHAMBER REQUEST - SUMMERFEST**

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer said that he received the request from the Dallas Chamber of Commerce to use the Courthouse lawn for Summerfest 2011. Summerfest will be held Thursday, July 28 through Sunday, July 31. The Board approved the request by consensus.

6. **CHAMBER REQUEST – POLK COUNTY BOUNTY MARKET**

Hansen said that he received the request from the Dallas Chamber of Commerce to use the Courthouse lawn for the Polk County Bounty Market May 5, 2011 through September 29, 2011.

He said he will tell them that they do not want the Market to be held during the week of the County Fair. The Board approved the request by consensus.

Pope asked that next time the Chamber has a request, a representative from the Chamber come to a Board meeting to make the request in person.

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

(a) **PLANNING COMMISSION WORK PLAN 2011-2012**

Austin McGuigan, Community Development Director presented the Planning Commission Work Plan for 2011-2012. He said that if the Board is okay with the recommendations to get the Planning Commission dialogue on the Work Plan started, he just needs to know that to move forward. If the Board has anything they would like to add to the list for the Planning Commission to consider, now is the time to identify those projects. There will be a meeting of the Planning Commission on February 15, 2011 where they will consider this list and see if they have projects they would like to add and then have them prioritize the projects. Once the Planning Commission prioritizes and completes the Work Plan, he will come back to a Tuesday meeting, have the Board approve the Work Plan, and then move forward with starting these legislative projects. They have done a substantial amount of work on the majority of these projects already and they should be able to complete quite a few of them this year. This is a two-year plan and they do not expect to complete everything on the list within a year. They do look at the plan on an annual basis and identify about two-years worth of projects.

(b) **IDENTIFICATION BADGE POLICY**

Matt Hawkins, Human Resources Director presented the draft Polk County Identification Badge Policy. He said that he believes we can provide a badge to all employees and have them actually wearing them by March 1, 2011. The Board approved the policy by consensus.

(c) **ACADEMY BUILDING UPGRADES**

Pope said that as he walked through the Academy Building and looked at the construction that is going to take place, he noticed that there are all kinds of people walking throughout the building going wherever they want. He asked what piece of the \$1.4 million upgrade process is for security updates.

Hansen said that there will be fewer public entrances and there will be electronic card swipes for employees on the majority of the interior doors. There will be no camera surveillance, although there will be a camera in the Juvenile holding room. The third floor will be primarily closed off, except for two public areas. The stairway on the southeast end will be an "employee only" stairway. Security will be tightened but no matter what, there will be a number of individuals walking the halls because they are clients.

Pope said that looking to the future, in the event we move Community Corrections to that building and start mixing the different clients, it seems appropriate to ask about the safety process and what we are doing to make it better anticipating the worst case scenarios. He said that he would like to discuss the possibility of an integrated security warning system throughout that building that can be accessed by departments.

Hansen said that the Academy Building has a lot more fire detection and sprinklers than the Courthouse facility. As far as duress alarms, he does not believe there are any at this time. The duress alarms in the Courthouse are connected to the Jail. He said that he does not know the answer to that but will discuss it with Mark Overman and report back to the Board.

Chairman Propes adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.