

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING – MAY 17, 2011**  
**MINUTES**

1. At 9:02 a.m., Chairman Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth and Commissioner Wheeler were present. A CD of the proceedings is on file in the Board of Commissioners' Office.

2. **MOTION: COMMISSIONER WHEELER MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2011.**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

3. **MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION NO. 11-01**

Andy Anderson, Corresponding Secretary for the Pilot Memorial Event held on Memorial Day at The Independence Air Park, provided handouts and explained that 2011 is the eighteenth year that the Board has issued a proclamation honoring deceased residents, from this area, who have sacrificed their lives in service to Polk County, the State of Oregon and the Nation. Anderson expressed his appreciation for the support received from the County.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE PROCLAMATION 11-01 DESIGNATING MAY 30, 2011 AS A DAY TO HONOR AND REMEMBER DECEASED RESIDENTS, FROM THIS AREA, WHO HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE TO POLK COUNTY, THE STATE OF OREGON AND THE NATION.**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

4. **AURORA EXPERIMENTAL STATION**

Derek Godwin introduced Mike Bondi, Director of the North Willamette Research and Extension Center and explained that each year requests are sent to the counties that support the Extension Center for funds to help them in their operations. Polk County has a history of providing funds for the Center.

Mr. Bondi provided handouts describing the facility and its history. Nursery horticulture is the dominant segment of agriculture in Oregon. The Center primarily serves the nursery, Christmas tree, vegetable and berry crops. They serve essentially a six county area; Polk, Marion, Yamhill, Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah. They are also one of only a half-dozen regional centers in the United States that test seeds for pesticide residue.

Commissioner Pope asked how production agriculture in Polk County perceives and supports the Experimental Station. Bondi said that, in talking to people, he has been overwhelmed by the support from the agricultural industry across the commodity groups that they serve.

Pope said that Polk County is primarily grass seed, grain and timber and it has been his experience that they feel that, while school forestry is of some value, they have other avenues of research to get what they want. Pope said he wants to be sure he has real time information that the program is doing good for production agriculture in Polk County.

5. **COUNCIL OF FOREST TRUST LAND COUNTIES**

Commissioner Wheeler said that an e-mail was received last week from Gil Riddell concerning a vacancy of the CFTLC at position #4 created by the passing of Mike Propes. They asked for any commissioner who is interested in applying for the position to respond by last week. Commissioner Pope replied back to them that he was interested in the position. Wheeler is recommending that Polk County support Commissioner Pope for the position.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER WHEELER MOVED, COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH SECONDED, TO SUPPORT COMMISSIONER POPE IN HIS REQUEST TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL OF FOREST TRUST LAND COUNTIES, POSITION #4.**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

6. **CONFERENCE ROOM UPDATE**

Greg Hansen said there has been talk, over the years, improving the conference room with such things as new tables and a raised floor to hide the electrical cords. Because the conference room is also used as a multi-purpose room the raised floor has never been practical but the tables are thirty years old. He is asking the Board if they want to see anything new in the conference room. He has looked at some tables at Dallas City Hall that are portable that would maintain the multi-purpose capability.

Commissioner Pope said he feels no driving need to updated the conference room with the exception of updating the furniture.

The Board agreed by consensus that Hansen will look into the aquisiton of new furniture for the conference room.

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

(a) **COUNTY ROAD UPDATE**

Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director, gave a follow-up on Farmer Road. It would take \$70,000 to take 200 feet of bullnose off the hill. There is no record of any accidents at that intersection so it is not an intersection that is high on the priority list. Within the next year of two there will need to be some work done to maintain it.

Commissioner Pope spoke about the number of accidents at the intersection of Orrs Corner Road and Highway 99W. He said he wanted to go on record as saying he would like to see the road barricaded.

Greg Hansen reported that there has been another accident at Clow Corner Road and Riddell Road. Apparently a driver ran the stop sign going north on Riddell Road and struck by a car going west on Clow Corner Road.

Pope asked about the possibility of a flashing light at the intersection. He said there used to be a lot of accidents at Highway 99W and Suver Road but since a light was installed those kinds of accidents do not occur any more. Whitaker said that safety improvements have been made and he would like to review accident frequency since their installation before making any decision. He said a warning light could be installed but he would not install a two-way flasher due to its proximity to the Highway 99W and Clow Corner Road intersection.

Hansen said that most of the accidents at Clow Corner Road and Riddell Road happen in the daytime. It does not seem that they are caused by visibility but rather by inattention.

Chairman Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Minutes: Rick Davisson

Approved: May 24, 2011