

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING – August 16, 2011**  
**MINUTES**

1. At 9:03 a.m., Chairman Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth was present; Commissioner Wheeler was excused.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 2011,**

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.**

2. **REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS AND SALARY RANGE FOR CIVIL ENGINEER AND RECLASSIFICATION OF ONE ENGINEER/SURVEY TECHNICIAN II**

Matt Hawkins, Human Resources Director requested that the Civil Engineer job specification be renewed. The County has not had a Civil Engineer since 1995, but currently the County has an Engineer/Survey Tech II that is qualified to be a Civil Engineer, so Mr. Hawkins would like to reclassify that employee into the Civil Engineer position and revise the Civil Engineer job specifications. This will cost the County \$9,000 including PERS. This will benefit the Public Works department to have another Engineer in the field.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CIVIL ENGINEER WITH A SALARY RANGE OF \$4,114-\$5,205, AND RECLASSIFY ONE ENGINEER/SURVEY TECHNICIAN II INTO THE POSITION OF CIVIL ENGINEER.**

At this time, Chairman Pope addressed the Non-Listed items (#4).

Chairman Pope recessed the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Chairman Pope called the meeting back into order at 10:00 a.m. to address agenda item #3.

3. **HB3650 DISCUSSION**

There was a round table discussion regarding House Bill 3650, with the following people being present:

Commissioner Pope and Commissioner Ainsworth  
Jim Thompson, State Representative  
Jim Williams, Rep. Thompson's Office  
Jim Russell, Mid Valley Behavioral Care Network  
Geoff Heatherington and Noelle Carroll, Mental Health  
Bob Brannigan, West Valley Hospital  
George Green and Rodney Schroeder, NW Senior & Disability Services  
Stacey Chance, Health & Human Services  
Brent DeMoe, Commission for Children & Families  
Randi Phillips, Public Health  
Greg Hansen, County Administrator  
Larry Tang, Polk Adolescent Day Treatment

Representative Jim Thompson explained that the problem that the state has is that the expenses for health care is going up while the revenue is going down. The state has come up with two solutions: to transform healthcare or ration healthcare - either the number of people served or the procedures offered. The State biennial budget needs to be approved in February, and there is an anticipated \$750 million - \$1 billion shortfall, with \$239 million anticipated shortfall in healthcare.

The Governor's proposed solution is to establish Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO), which would take over responsibility of the medical care in all parts of Oregon. There would also be a global budget, which would be divided up and given to the CCO's to run the healthcare in their area. The Governor has already requested a waiver to combine the Medicare and Medicaid budgets together. However, Rep. Thompson feels that a global budget would not solve the health care problem, because it is not realistic to expect better services for less money.

There have been four work groups set up to determine the criteria for the CCO's, focusing on: how to form a global budget, how to measure CCO goals and outcomes, and eligibility requirements. These CCO's are being modeled after the MCO with St. Charles Hospital in Deschutes County, that has been working for 4 years.

Bob Brannigan commented that it is not just the system that needs changed, but the health behaviors that need to change (80% of the resources are spent on 20% of the population). Until behavioral issues change, there will be financial hardship on the health care system. Bob is also concerned that the people making the decisions for this program are more interested in the money and not in the community. Also, some private physicians could refuse to participate in the CCO.

The Board of Commissioners expressed concerns that none of the responsible County representatives were invited to participate in the workgroups, and therefore have no ability to ensure delivery of service. There is also concern with the lack of details of the proposed CCO program, and the infrastructure has not been defined. The Board does not know what the right model is to make certain that the services get delivered to the people that the Commissioners' are responsible for. There were also questions about what would happen if the CCO model does not work.

Representative Thompson said that he will take the Boards and attendees concerns to the State House of Representatives.

The attendees agreed to meet every 3 weeks during the Board of Commissioners Tuesday meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for September 6. Mike Bonetto and Sean Kolmer from the Governor's Office will also be attending.

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

**(a) OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST**

Stacie Chance, Health & Human Services Assistant Director, requested approval for Public Health Supervisor Randi Phillips to attend CDC training in Atlanta, September 19-20. The CDC is covering the cost of the training, at no cost to the County except for staff time.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR RANDI PHILLIPS SEPTEMBER 19-20 IN ATLANTA.**

**(b) EMPLOYEE COMMUNIQUÉ**

Matt Hawkins informed the Board that the County will be reinstating the paper employee communiqué newsletter. This will go out monthly with the paychecks. Melanie and Karen from General Services will be putting these newsletters together monthly. The Intranet will be taken down. Matt is expecting that this will be a cost savings to the County and will improve communication and morale.

**(c) MCCANN ROAD DRAINAGE COMPLAINT**

Todd Whitaker, Public Works Director informed the Board of a drainage complaint. Last year the County installed a drainage pipe at a lower elevation than the ditch to increase water flow and eliminate over-topping of the road. However, one of the property owners is saying that this has caused continuous water flow through his property, and continuous saturation of his property. Todd will be meeting with the property owner this afternoon. The Board of Commissioners stated that there has not been enough time and climate change to really see the performance of the new drainage pipe.

**(d) PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD (PSRB) CLIENTS**

Geoff Heatherington, Mental Health Manager informed the Board that every once in awhile the State of Oregon will try to find placement for people that are committed to the state hospital for Guilty Except for Insanity (GEI), and have served their sentence and have been released from custody.

The previous Commissioners' stance on this was to only accept people who were prior residents of Polk County. However, Polk County's ability to fight the placement of non-resident's is more limited now due to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which gives people the right to live where they want to live, and also the AIM High program, which addresses the Olmstead decision, limiting overcrowding in the state hospital.

Geoff recommended that the Board review these clients on a case-by-case basis, and the Mental Health Department will keep the Board informed of any issues that may arise.

**(e) PARK PROGRAMS GRANT APPLICATION**

Greg Hansen informed the Board that we received a request for application for a grant for park programs, which would provide funding to develop overnight sites. Currently, all of the County parks are day-use only. The Board agreed that adding overnight camping would create additional costs and maintenance, so the County parks should remain day use only.

Chairman Pope adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Alvarez  
Approved: August 23, 2011