

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2011

1. At 9:02 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Ainsworth were present.

2. **MOTION: COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2011.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **PUBLIC HEALTH'S ANNUAL PLAN**

Randi Phillips, Public Health Supervisor, explained that the State changed the submission deadline for the required annual plan from April to December. The plan, once submitted is available on the Office of Community Liaisons website and the Polk County website. The Public Health triennial review by the State will be in March.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL PLAN.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **VORP/COUNTY MEDIATION SERVICES**

Ken Braun, Director of the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program gave an update to the Board on the history and current achievements of the program. This program works mainly with juvenile, first-time offenders. Referrals are made to VORP from the Schools, Juvenile Department, Sanction Court, and others. Occasionally VORP works with family mediation and community mediation. Participation in the program by the victim and the offender has to be voluntary in order for reconciliation to work.

VORP is looking into the possibility of making contacts for the Juvenile Department in order to increase participation in mediation, but will require a contract modification. Also, the Mental Health Department received a grant to work with inmates in the Jail that will include VORP assisting with conflict resolution and re-entry mediation. This fiscal year, the County funded \$13,000 to VORP, Ken requested that the Board continue to support this program in the upcoming budget year. Chairman Pope requested that Ken keep the Board updated on current events and training opportunities of the program.

5. **AMH SYSTEM CHANGE**

Geoff Heatherington, Mental Health Administration Manager, and Richard Harris, Linda Hammond, and Bobby Green from the Oregon Health Authority gave an update on the Health Transformation System Changes. The State is working on developing a CCO to create a system that is less expensive and more effective by integrating physical health with mental health and addiction treatment. The Legislature has released a draft CCO model for how they will do this, but the Board expressed concern that although the County and the CCO will be expected to co-manage the system and services for local residents, the governance of the CCO will be in the hands of the 'risk-takers', and not the County. There is also no provision in the plan giving the County an opportunity to veto or opt-out of the CCO plan. There will also be an anticipated 200,000 additional Oregon Health Plan users that will be added to the system in the next two years, so there is increased skepticism of how the State CCO program will be able to streamline the current services for a lower cost.

6. **TAX FORECLOSED SURPLUS PROPERTIES**

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer, informed the Board that every year the County receives tax foreclosed properties, through the Property Tax System. Most are vacant slivers of land that are caused by surveying errors; but there are some actual lots with development potential.

The process in the past has been that the Board will declare the properties as surplus, and then the owners of the adjacent property are contacted to see if they are interested in purchasing the property. 75-80% of the properties are sold for under \$500. The remaining properties that have interest from the public, will go out for sealed bid auction. Melanie Hatchell will be putting the tax foreclosed property packets together in February-March. Proceeds from the sales will go to pay administrative costs and recording fees on the properties, and any additional will be returned to the tax pool and redistributed to all the taxing entities.

7. **MEMORIAL BENCH**

Greg Hansen presented a request from Mrs. Linda Lindow, who is requesting permission to place a bench in the Buena Vista park in memory of her late husband. There will be some upcoming construction at the park to address the driveway and additional parking, so the timeline for placing the bench may be delayed until after the construction is finished.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE MEMORIAL BENCH REQUEST.

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

a. **WINERY SEMINAR**

Greg Hansen informed the Board that Representative Jim Thompson is putting on a seminar for 80 Polk County wineries on January 4, 2012 to discuss how to better promote and market agri-business in Polk County. Rep. Thompson is requesting \$250 from the Board of Commissioners to help offset the cost of the seminar. Greg informed the Board that there are funds available in the Economic Development fund.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE \$250 PAYMENT REQUEST TO REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON FOR THE WINERIES SEMINAR.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Alvarez

Approved: December 20, 2011