

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
November 6, 2012

1. At 9:01 a.m., Chairman Ainsworth declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Wheeler and Commissioner Pope were present.
2. **MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2012.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **WINTERFEST UPDATE**

Chelsea Pope, Director of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce, requested permission to use the Courthouse lawn for the Winterfest celebration on November 30. Santa Clause will be there for pictures and the tree on the Courthouse lawn will be lit. Volunteers and the Fire Department will be hanging the lights on the tree within the next two weeks.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE REQUEST.

Chelsea also recapped the Bounty Market season: the attendance was approximately 10,000 shoppers that spent over \$60,000 this year. There was an average of 18 vendors participating in the market each week.

4. **SEDCOR PRESIDENT INTRODUCTION**

Chad Freeman was not present.

5. **RIVER CROSSING PRESENTATION**

Austin McGuigan, Community Development Director, Dave Simmons with CH2M Hill and Dan Frickey with ODOT presented the Willamette River Crossing bridge options. The Oversight Committee met in August and recommended bridge option 4D be considered by each local agency as the preferred alternative. This option would connect Marine Drive to Pine and Hickory streets, with easy access to Salem Parkway. Option 4D would cost approximately \$687 million dollars, and would be developed in 5 phases. A Funding Feasibility report will be completed once a preferred alternative is endorsed. Once the third bridge is developed, it is estimated to relieve at least 40% of the traffic and congestion from the current bridges.

Scott Bassett, a Polk County landowner from the 2000 block of Wallace Rd reported that according to recent studies, there is a 10-year low on the traffic crossing the current bridges. Mr. Bassett also commented on the 1998 Bridgehead study which proposed modifications to the current bridges to increase traffic efficiencies, but some of those proposed projects still need to be completed.

Dan Clem, Salem City Councilman countered that claim, saying that some of the projects outlined in the Bridgehead study could not be completed because of ODOT regulations. Mr. Clem also informed the Board that the Salem City Council already has \$3.5 million budgeted for right of way acquisition, which could be used for this project. The Council will be holding a public hearing on December 10, and hopes to have an endorsement of a preferred alternative after that meeting.

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

a. **FAIR FOUNDATION**

Norbert Hartmann with the Polk County Fair Foundation updated the Board on the recent fundraising efforts. \$60,000 has been raised so far, and the Foundation has a new website where donations can be collected.

b. **GRANT AGREEMENT**

Austin McGuigan informed the Board that the County received a grant from Oregon Water Resources Department for Water Conservation Reuse and Storage for \$48,290. This grant expands on the 2011 Valsetz Water Storage Concepts. To accept this grant, Polk County would have to provide a dollar-for-dollar match, which Austin proposes as \$9,000 in administrative in-kind, and utilizing a \$35,000 grant received last year (11-187) which will be used to purchase LIDAR data.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD ACCEPTED THE GRANT AWARD.

c. **PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION RE-ORGANIZATION**

Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer presented a memo for a proposed re-organization in the Public Works department to create efficiency and increase workflow. The reorganization proposes eliminating the Public Works Office Manager position, and creating a Public Works Administrative Services Manager with a higher skill set requirement.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER POPE MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION REORGANIZATION.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Ainsworth adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Alvarez

Approved: November 20, 2012