

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 2013

1. At 9:03 a.m., Commissioner Wheeler declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth and Commissioner Pope were present.
2. **MINUTES** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 26, 2013.**
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **MERIT CDBG APPLICATION** - Forrest Peck, Executive Director of Merit informed the Board that the City of Independence will be the applicant for the new round of the CDBG grant applications due at the end of the month for the small business development program. Merit will provide the training and support for this grant. Forrest requested the County to be a joint applicant, so that Merit can also use the grant funds to assist residents outside of the City of Independence limits. The grant proposal includes assistance for 36 individuals, for a total of \$90,000. Forrest also informed the Board that MERIT now offers business IDA matching savings accounts.

BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD AGREED TO BE A JOINT APPLICANT FOR THE MERIT CDBG GRANT APPLICATION.

4. **EARLY LEARNING HUB UPDATE** - Brent DeMoe, Service Integration Manager and Angela Gonzales, Parent Resource Coordinator, reported that the State has approved 6 Early Learning Hubs in the first round of funding, and there are 10 hub slots left to cover 28 counties for Round 2 funding. Round 2 RFP will be released in March, due in May and awarded in June. Polk County has a couple options. The Board is still interested in partnering with Lincoln County, and can either consider applying for Round 2 funding as one hub, or begin discussions with either Yamhill or Marion Counties, who have both been approved in Round 1. The Board encouraged continued discussions with Lincoln County. Commissioner Pope commented that he would prefer to pursue a partnership with Yamhill County first because of the similar way in which they operate programs in their County.

Brent also reported that the County Parent Resources program is funded by a 5-year grant that we are in year 3 of. The State would like to make this program state-wide, so will be opening up more funding, which gives Polk County the opportunity to expand the program into whatever area that we partner with through the Early Learning Hub.

5. **NEW LEAF WOMEN'S TRANSITION HOME** - Debbie Allport, with the Mid Willamette Valley Community Action Agency attended the meeting to report to the Board about the New Leaf Women's Transition Program. New Leaf assists women who are being released from prison with mentoring, transportation, education, job seeking, etc. Debbie works mainly in Polk County, and has four staff members that work with women in Marion County. Since starting the program, New Leaf has worked with 130 women, and only five have reoffended and returned to prison. Debbie reported that funding for this program will run out in January, so she does not know what the program will look like next year. Marty Silbernagel, Community Corrections/Juvenile Director commended Debbie for her hard work and the difference that her program has had in the lives of many women in our community.
6. **FAIRGROUNDS LAND LEASE** - Tina Andersen, Fairgrounds Manager and Ray Steele, Fair Board Chair attended the meeting to present a draft Farm Land Lease Agreement with Quiring Farms. The Board was concerned that the Lease did not include an escalator, since it is a 5-year lease, and having an escalator is the standard in the private sector.

Ray also reported that the Fair Board will be putting a Vision Planning Committee together to plan for the future of the facility. The Fair Board would like to meet with Greg to help set up parameters for the Committee sometime this month, and once the Committee is organized, they would like to have a Commissioner be affiliated with the Committee. Commissioner Pope volunteered.

Tina Andersen reported that there is still an interest for an Administrative Building to be located at the Fairgrounds for offices for the Polk SWCD, NRCS, and OSU Extension. The Board has had discussions about this idea with these agencies in the past, and is open to more discussions, but previous issues like would still need to be addressed.

7. **PRISON INTAKE REPORT** - Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer presented a spreadsheet that he received from the HB 3194 Committee meeting he attended, that showed the prison intakes for the last three months compared to the same time last year, for both the State and Polk County. Statewide, length of stay has declined approximately 1.6%, but in Polk County has increased approximately 70%. This increase is due to the low number of cases that were tried during this time last year as the office was transitioning between District Attorneys. HB 3194 intakes were up statewide because of the "all other drugs" category, which the State has yet identify that those other drugs are.
8. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.) None.

Chair Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Alvarez

Approved: December 10, 2013