

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
January 28, 2014

1. At 9:05 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth was present. Commissioner Wheeler was excused.

2. **MINUTES** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER POPE SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2014.**

MOTION PASSED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE QUORUM.

3. **SHERIFF TRANSPORT** - Lt. Shipley and Sheriff Wolfe recognized Deputy Eastlund as Polk County Sheriff's Office, Jail Division, 2013 Deputy of the Year. Each month Lt. Shipley recognizes an employee in the Jail for outstanding job performance, but the deputy of the year selection is voted on by the fellow deputies. Eastlund was selected because of his positive attitude and dedication to his job. The Board extended their thanks and congratulations to Deputy Eastlund.
4. **AUDIT REVIEW** - Brad Bingenheimer with Boldt, Carlisle and Smith reviewed the FY 2012-2013 audit findings. He explained some changes with the audit review process and updated terms now being used, but the information provided is essentially the same. The County had a net position at year-end of \$43 million, which is \$4 million less than the previous year. The overall decrease was a result of decreases in the General Fund, Public Works fund, and Mental Health fund. The net balance has decreased annually for the last 5-6 years, which is unsustainable.

Greg explained the decreases in the Public Works fund were due to the good weather last spring that allowed the County to complete a paving project in the 2012-2013 fiscal year instead of the current fiscal year. Also, the County purchased four new graders last year which lowered the beginning fund balance. The decrease in the General Fund was a result of lowering the beginning fund balance to help cushion the cuts that the County has made over the last few years in response to the loss of timber revenues. The Mental Health fund deficit was caused by an overestimation of revenues, and was discovered thanks to the internal controls that the County already had in place. The County is working to address the deficit.

Other findings reviewed by the auditor include additional supervision for Payroll, which the County has already addressed with the implementation of new monitoring procedures. The auditor also recommended better tracking of grant reporting requirements.

Brad also reviewed the Polk Extension Service District, which has a net position of \$28,000, which is a decrease of \$17,000 from last year.

5. **EARLY LEARNING HUB/DHS FUNDING UPDATE** - Brent DeMoe, Service Integration Manager informed the Board that the RFP for the Early Learning Council has still not been released, and no contract has been approved yet. Lincoln County is in discussions with both Polk and Linn/Benton counties, and there is a mediation scheduled next week with these counties that Brent is planning on attending. Lincoln would prefer to collaborate with u Polk County, and has requested a decision from us by February 12 (the next Early Learning Council meeting). Brent explained the funding formula for the hubs is based on the number of at-risk youth in the area that are considered 'reachable.' Polk County has approximately 2,000 of these youth. So the anticipated funding for Polk County (if partnered with Lincoln County) would be \$110,000 the first year, and approximately \$60,000 after that. Salem Early Learning Hub is also wanting to partner with us, but the Board feels that a partnership with

Lincoln County would be better because are similar in size, with similar programs. Staff will continue to pursue this option, and an official announcement will be made after the mediation next week, prior to the February 12 Early Learning Council meeting. Brent noted that the County should also know after that meeting the results of the Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness grant for \$60,000 that was applied for.

Brent has been in discussions with DHS for a pilot program called SPURF, to help keep children out of foster care. The County would contract with DHS for \$600,000 to implement two pilot programs. The first (\$240,000) would allow for case management for at-risk families, and the second would provide for stable, transitional housing and resources. Brent will report to the Board as he continues to have discussions with DHS about the County possibly being involved with this project.

6. **BOARD DIRECTIVE 14-01 RE: MEMBERSHIP TO PLANNING COMMISSION, HOUSING AUTHORITY, AND FAIR BOARD** - David Doyle, County Counsel explained that the Board, having concerns with the public perception of staff serving on County Boards and Committees, directed him to draft a directive to prohibit this practice. The Board reviewed the draft and requested the directive include not only staff, but Polk County Elected Officials from serving on these Boards and Committees as well.
7. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
 - a. **FARM LEASE** - Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer informed the Board that Fairgrounds lease to Quiring farms should be settled in February. The Fair will now have access to part of the property for overflow parking during the annual fair, and will receive rental income from the farming use.
 - b. **YOUTH PROGRAMS** - Greg informed the Board that he is continuing to pursue the option of contracting out Youth Programs to David Valencia, who is working to develop his own business to run these programs and will take over as contractor as of July 1. The Board would like for Greg to continue pursuing options for a back-up in case that contracting out the program to David Valencia doesn't work out.
 - c. **PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMIT RECAP** - Commissioner Pope attended the Public Safety Summit in Gold Beach last week, and reported that he stressed to the association that the Counties are exploring every funding option, but are at the mercy of Congress. Craig continued to push the Counties to explore consolidation of Public Safety Services with Cities.

Chairman Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes: Heather Alvarez
Approved: February 4, 2014