

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2014

1. At 9:09 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session. Commissioner Ainsworth and Commissioner Wheeler were present.

2. **MINUTES** **COMMISSIONER AINSWORTH MOVED, COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2014.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **AOC DUES** - Greg Hansen, Administrative Officer presented two invoices for AOC Dues totaling approximately \$17,500. There is a new charge this year for a Veteran's Fund. The Board expressed concern with how many special funds continue to be added to the dues, that are just masking the true cost of AOC. Commissioner Pope is on the Board of Directors and there have not been any discussions of where the Veteran's dues are going besides staffing or what kind of services the County is receiving for this cost, since Polk County does not have a Veteran's Affairs office due to the close proximity to the state offices. There are four special fund items on the invoice that are listed as voluntary, including the Veteran's dues. The Board directed Greg to contact AOC to check on what repercussions for the County if they were not to pay the voluntary dues.
4. **NON-LISTED ITEMS** (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)
 - (a) **NACO RURAL ACTION CAUCUS FLY-IN RECAP-** Commissioner Pope returned from Washington DC on Thursday after attending the NACO Rural Action Caucus Fly-in. He had the opportunity to meet with Senator Merkley, Senator Wyden, and Congressman Schrader and staff. Regarding forest issues, the Federal Government is stuck in a "tail-spin". Senator Wyden is now on the Finance Committee, but has stalled discussions on this issue until he feels more settled. Commissioner Pope worked with four other Commissioners on discussions with Senator Mary Landrieu, Chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding timber concerns. Commissioner Pope did share good news he received from the Department of Transportation on the Map 21 reauthorization; the house and senate are working together to move the bill forward to avoid running out of monies in the Federal Highway Trust Fund this year. Commissioner Pope also met with the Deputy Undersecretary of the USDA for the third time to push for changes in requirements for income levels for Falls City eligibility for water infrastructure grants. Commissioner Pope hopes that after these discussions with the USDA, Vicki Walker, who is the Oregon State Director for the USDA, will be able to visit Polk County and meet with the Commissioners to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 9:24.

Minutes: Heather Merrill
Approved: April 22, 2014