

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, August 25, 2023 ♦ 10:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, August 25, 2023 at approximately 10:00 a.m. in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Bill Sharp
Commissioner Gary McElhenney
Commissioner Daniel Brown
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

STAFF PRESENT

County Attorney Adam Nelson
County Manager Paul Van Haute
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth
Deputy County Clerk Donna Todd

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01 a.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

2. Invocation

County Attorney Nelson gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance

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Called Meeting

4. Approval of FY24 Budget and Authorization for Chairman to sign 2024 Budget Resolution (staff-CM & Fin)

Mr. Peter Crockett commented on the budgeted amount of short term rental tax going to the Chamber of Commerce.

County Manager Van Haute reviewed the proposed budget.

Motion to approve the FY24 Budget as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign the 2024 Budget Resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of budget and resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

5. EPWSA Presentation and possible action (BS)

Mr. Brice Doolittle, ESG Operations Project Manager, presented concepts for review for rebranding the lettering on the elevated water storage tanks. EPWSA (Eatonton Putnam Water and Sewer Authority) preferred the version 1 lettering. The county tank, located behind Central Georgia Technical College, will be painted white with blue letters and the city tank will be silver with blue letters. The county tank will say welcome to Putnam County with EPWSA underneath. The city tank will say Welcome to Eatonton with EPWSA underneath. The City Council liked version 1 as well. The Commissioners also agreed with version 1.

Mr. Doolittle thanked the board for contributing part of Putnam County’s ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds. EPWSA received a \$6.3 million grant for water infrastructure improvements with EPWSA putting in a \$2.2 million match and the county contributing \$600,000 and the City of Eatonton, \$400,000. Mr. Doolittle reviewed the projects for which this grant money will be used. He further reported that since March of 2020, 500 new customers have been added. EPWSA has been working with the city fire department to test fire hydrants and will be fixing the broken ones.

Motion to approve version 1 for water tower lettering.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of tank lettering made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

6. Discussion and possible action on Waste Management contract (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute advised that increases in cost with Waste Management last year were \$600,000. The county’s contract is set to expire on December 31, 2023, and we must provide a 120 day notice if not planning to renew. County Manager Van Haute requested to put trash service out for bid for a potential opportunity to save money. Waste Management is no longer the only vendor, but they do have the only landfill. A new vendor would use the same terms and conditions as we have now and the same hours for convenience centers.

Motion to authorize staff to request bids on a waste management contract and provide notice to Waste Management.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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Closing

7. Adjournment

County Manager Van Haute thanked the board for the smooth budget cycle.

Commissioner McElhenney thanked the staff for the work on the budget and for finding ways to save money.

Commissioner Brown thanked County Manager Van Haute for always looking for ways to save money and get best possible service.

Commissioner Wooten thanked County Manager Van Haute, Finance Director Cook and all involved with the budget process.

Chairman Sharp thanked the staff and commissioners for their work on the budget.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:41 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp
Chairman

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