

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 ♦ 6:00 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at approximately 6:00 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Bill Sharp
Commissioner Tom McElhenney
Commissioner Richard Garrett
Commissioner Steve Hersey

ABSENT

Commissioner Jeff Wooten

STAFF PRESENT

County Attorney Adam Nelson
County Manager Paul Van Haute
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

STAFF ABSENT

Deputy County Clerk Mercy Fluker

Opening

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 p.m.

(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page_____.)

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett.

Voting Yea: Chairman Sharp, Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett

Voting Nay: Commissioner Hersey

3. Invocation

Rev. Dylan L. Bowden, Associate Pastor and Minister of Music at First Baptist Church Eatonton gave the invocation.

Minutes	Page 1 of 3	Approved
March 18, 2025		April 4, 2025

4. Pledge of Allegiance (RG)
Commissioner Garrett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Zoning Public Hearing

5. Request by Harmony 40, LLC for a zoning condition change at 842 Harmony Road.
Presently zoned RM-3 [Map 097, Parcel 060001, District 1] (staff-P&D)

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT PREJUDICE

No one signed in to speak for or against this item.

Motion to approve the request to withdraw without prejudice the request by Harmony 40, LLC for a zoning condition change at 842 Harmony Road.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey

Regular Business Meeting

6. Public Comments

Ms. Hannah Erickson, project manager of Putnam County High School's BETA club, commented on the recent improvements at Jimmy Davis Park and showed interest in a landscaping project as part of their April community service project.

Ms. Karen Henry-Garrett commented in favor of Ms. Erickson's idea and provided more ways Jimmy Davis Park can be improved and utilized in the community.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - March 7, 2025 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrett, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey

8. Audit Presentation (staff-Finance)

Mr. Pat Muse from McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & CO., LLC gave the Audit Presentation. (Copy of presentation made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

9. Discussion and possible action regarding the potential renewal/extension of the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council (RG)

Commissioner Garrett commented that he is pleased with the creation of the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council (JDPPAC) by the previous District 2 Commissioner. The original council was set to expire after one year; his opinion is for the council to continue with some changes to the council members, including considering additional members and giving people a chance to attend meetings and share ideas.

Motion to extend the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council for another year.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrett, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey

Minutes	Page 2 of 3	Approved
March 18, 2025		April 4, 2025

Reports/Announcements

10. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported that he talked to Miss Erickson, the Beta Club member, and will talk with them further regarding her proposed project at Jimmy Davis Park. He also congratulated Finance Director Cook on the audit.

11. County Attorney Report

No report.

12. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: thanked Finance Director Cook for a tremendous job; announced that he attended classes in Tifton last week where he listened to other Commissioners, and we are way ahead of others.

Commissioner Garrett: commented that it is great to hear the positive audit opinion, we have a great finance team; thanked the Commissioners for supporting the JDPPAC and thanked County Manager Van Haute for extending the park hours for Spring Break; announced that the Butler Baker Alumni Group Annual Lunch is on Saturday, March 22nd at noon.

Commissioner Hersey: thanked the finance staff and County Manager Van Haute for managing the finances and keeping us within budget; reminded Chairman Sharp that he is a taxpayer and resident of the county.

Chairman Sharp: announced that it has been a busy week and thanked everybody for coming out to tonight's meeting.

Closing

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp
Chairman

Minutes	Page 3 of 3	Approved
March 18, 2025		April 4, 2025