

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, March 4, 2022 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, March 4, 2022 at approximately 9:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Billy Webster
Commissioner Gary McElhenney
Commissioner Daniel Brown
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

ABSENT

Commissioner Bill Sharp

STAFF PRESENT

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

Opening

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 9:02 a.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 Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

3. Invocation - Rev. Dr. Ford G'Segner

Rev. Dr. Ford G'Segner gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (BW)

Chairman Webster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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5. Special Presentation - 2021 Chamber of Commerce Annual Report
 Chamber of Commerce President Maggie Milner presented the 2021 Annual Report. She also distributed copies of the Winter 2021 edition of the *Business View* magazine. The Board also congratulated Ms. Milner on her selection as part of the inaugural Georgia Titan 100 group! The Titan 100 program recognizes Georgia's Top 100 CEOs & C-level executives. They are selected as the area's most accomplished business leaders in their industry using criteria that includes demonstrating exceptional leadership, vision, and passion.
 (Copy of presentation and magazine made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

Regular Business Meeting

6. Public Comments

Mr. Donald Cottrell commented that he turned 90 last month and talked about his family.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - February 15, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - February 25, 2022 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
- c. Approval of 2022 Alcohol Licenses (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

(Copy of alcohol licenses made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

8. Presentation of Audit (staff-Fin)

Mr. Pat Muse of McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co. presented the 2021 audit report. No action was taken.

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

9. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution for Changes to the Financial Policy and P-Card Policy (staff-Fin)

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution for Changes to the Financial Policy and P-Card Policy.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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

10. Approval of 2023 Budget and 2022 Mill Rate Schedule (staff-Fin)

Motion to approve the 2023 Budget and 2022 Mill Rate Schedule.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

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

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11. Approval of LOST Mediator (BW)

A letter was received from the City of Eatonton requesting to use Mr. Denny C. Galis as the mediator for the local option sales tax revenue renegotiations.

Motion to approve Mr. Denny C. Galis as mediator for the local option sales tax renegotiations.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten
(Copy of letter made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

12. Authorization for staff to schedule a Public Hearing for proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) and Chapter 22 (Businesses) (staff-CM & PCSO)

Motion to authorize staff to schedule a Public Hearing for proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) and Chapter 22 (Businesses).

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten

13. Approval of adding a question to the primary ballot (BW)

A letter from the Putnam County Republican Party was received requesting to add a question to the 2022 Republican Primary ballot. Chairman Webster advised that the Board of Commissioners must approve additions to the primary ballot.

Motion to approve adding a question to the 2022 Republican Primary ballot.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Wooten
(Copy of letter made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

14. Scheduling of Upcoming Meetings (BW)

Chairman Webster advised that there are several important meetings coming up and there is a need to try to find some open dates amongst all commissioners and staff. Each individual reviewed their unavailable dates and the clerk marked them on a calendar. Once it is the reviewed, the clerk will send a list of available dates to all. No action was taken.

Reports/Announcements

15. County Manager Report

County Clerk Butterworth explained and demonstrated the new Text My Gov feature on the county website. This is a tool that citizens can use to report issues and make inquiries using their cell phones.

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- The courthouse square looked great in the Chamber's Holiday video
- The Chamber of Commerce is hosting a job fair next week at the Administration Building
- The Sheriff is working on an update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Congratulations to the Finance Department for another great audit
- The traffic light at Scott Road is progressing; the underground conduit is in

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- The employee medical insurance renewal numbers are good; hope to hold or decrease what we currently have; should have official numbers at the end of April; need to have it wrapped up within 2-3 weeks for enrollment
- Congratulations to Planning & Development Director Lisa Jackson for obtaining her Level 2 Certified Plan Reviewer designation

16. County Attorney Report
No report.

17. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioner McElhenney: thanked the Finance Department for an excellent audit report and congratulated Lisa

Commissioner Brown: thanked Lisa for working hard on her latest certification; Butler Baker alumni annual banquet will be at the school this year with Rock Eagle catering on March 19 at 12pm, tickets are \$30 and all are invited

Commissioner Sharp: absent

Commissioner Wooten: thanked the Finance Department for a great job on the audit and congratulated Lisa; special thanks to EMS regarding an incident at his house on Monday where 911 had to be called, the ambulance was at the house within 8 minutes and in less than hour had his sister-in-law at the Medical Center in Macon.

Chairman Webster: the county received a check for \$1500 from ACCG for the health promotion and wellbeing grant; received request from a citizen to change the lights on the courthouse to yellow and blue and allow Ukraine flags on the courthouse square, this could set a big precedence and we are not able to do it due to unintended consequences

Closing

18. Adjournment

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 10:28 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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