

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 ♦ 6:30 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at approximately 6:30 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

County Attorney Barry Fleming
County Manager Paul Van Haute
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

Opening

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 6:34 p.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Sharp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Listening Session

3. Public Discussions

Chairman Webster welcomed everyone to the first ever listening session. He went over a few ground rules explaining that plans are to be as flexible as possible and there will not be a clock timer put up. He asked everyone to be mindful and respectful of other speakers time and advised that he will try to call speakers in order of subject matter.

Minutes	Page 1 of 4	Approved
July 20, 2021		August 6, 2021

The following people spoke:

- Mr. Raymond Birt - South Steel Bridge Road culvert issue and low hanging trees along edges of road
- Mr. Oz Castro-Poveda - South Steel Bridge Road culvert issue and opposition to a commercial rezoning proposition in his residential neighborhood
- Ms. Erin Olson - aesthetics of the county, particularly Highway 44 near Greene County line, area looks junky and too many all-metal buildings
- Mr. Glen Merrell - echoed Ms. Olson's comments on the metal buildings, Putnam side of Highway 44 does not look as nice as Greene County, need to exert control over development near the lake to keep it nice
- Ms. Renee Burgdorf - transparency and communication need to be improved
- Mr. Tom Parham - Economic Development needs to be balanced with transparency and input from the constituents and there is a general distrust between the public and the commissioners
- Mr. Tommy Jefferson - Short Term Rental ordinance needs to be reviewed and requested more resources to maintenance of county roads - ROW - signs, mowing, tree overgrowth, line of sight, etc.
- Mr. Merle Sebald - question answered before the meeting
- Ms. Wanda Sebald - sign on corner of Pea Ridge Road and Scuffleboro Road is unsightly, larger than needed and creates a line-of-sight problem
- Mr. Steve Burgess - Collis Road timetable
- Mr. James Schreiber - opposition to a potential commercial rezoning in his neighborhood, water from the road already runs down to his property and that will increase with a new development
- Mr. Richard Garrett - Jimmy Davis Park is understaffed and poorly maintained and there is big difference between it and the Poole Recreation Center - he also shared a video
- Mr. Brandon Riley - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition and not like it was when he grew up
- Mr. David Erickson - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition, could some of the ARP funds be used for improvements

Minutes	Page 2 of 4	Approved
July 20, 2021		August 6, 2021

- Ms. Karen Henry-Garrett - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition, potholes and no paving, no lights, tables and chairs under the pavilion are broken, no nets in basketball hoops
- Mr. Sylvester Pennamon - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Mr. Vonte Brown - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Ms. Erin Keating - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Rev. James Kilgore Sr. - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Mr. Troy Daniel - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Mr. Stanley Ford - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Mr. Terence Stephens - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Ms. Sandra Parham - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition
- Mr. Carl Stanley - Jimmy Davis Park is in poor condition

No action was taken during the Listening Session.

Chairman Webster advised that an Executive Session was needed.

4. Enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate

Motion to enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Litigation and Real Estate

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Meeting closed at approximately 8:29 p.m.

5. Reopen meeting and execute Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

Motion to reopen the meeting

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Minutes	Page 3 of 4	Approved
July 20, 2021		August 6, 2021

Meeting reopened at approximately 9:14 p.m.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

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

6. Action, if any, resulting from the Executive Session

No action was taken.

Closing

Commissioner Wooten commented that the listening session was good thing.

Chairman Webster thanked the staff for putting the listening session together and thanked the commissioners for attending and listening.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

Minutes	Page 4 of 4	Approved
July 20, 2021		August 6, 2021