

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, May 1, 2020 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, May 1, 2020 at approximately 9:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Billy Webster
Commissioner Kelvin Irvin
Commissioner Daniel Brown
Commissioner Bill Sharp

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 9:00 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 Irvin, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Irvin, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp

3. Invocation

Pastor Jonathon Dawson, of Lakepoint Community Church, gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (staff)

County Manager Van Haute led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Special Presentations

a. Retirement Proclamation for Luvenia Thomas

The commissioners presented a proclamation to Transit Driver Luvenia Thomas congratulating her on her retirement.

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

b. Public Safety Proclamation

The commissioners presented proclamations to Fire Chief Thomas McClain, Sheriff Howard Sills, and EMS Director Brad Murphey declaring the month of May as Public Safety month.

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

Regular Business Meeting

6. Public Comments

Sheriff Howard Sills thanked the board for the proclamation and expressed comments of appreciation to the Fire & EMS departments who have been extremely busy during this pandemic time. He also provided an update on the COVID-19 virus:

- Putnam total is currently at 39 positive cases with 5 deaths
- Eatonton nursing home is bad with 16 cases there and all 5 deaths there
- Stressed to everyone that this is not over, there are more cases every day
- Courthouse will re-open on Monday, May 11, 2020 for regular business with 6-foot restrictions and possible temperature checks
- Governor has lifted most of his executive order
- Fortunate in this county compared to other places

Mr. Justin Kennedy commented on his company's inability to use the Eatonton-Putnam Water and Sewer Authority for waste disposal anymore.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - April 3, 2020 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Irvin.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Irvin, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp

8. Employee Medical Insurance Discussion (staff-CM)

Mr. Johnathan Shaw and Mr. James Clark of NFP and Mr. Ben Pittarelli of ACCG joined the meeting via video. Mr. Shaw reviewed the employee insurance options and recommended staying in the ACCG pool and remaining with Anthem BCBS and the Alternate plan. Mr. Pittarelli went over some of the benefits of remaining with the ACCG pool.

Mr. Shaw also recommended Ameritas for Dental; Anthem BCBS for Vision; and OneAmerica for Basic Life, Voluntary Term Life and AD&D, and Voluntary Short Term and Long-Term Disability.

Mr. Tom Moore, who has been in the insurance business for his entire career, offered his opinion on the proposals. He agreed that the county should continue with Anthem BCBS in the ACCG pool.

Chairman Webster called a meeting for Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to take action on this item.

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

Reports/Announcements

9. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Options for open enrollment under COVID-19 conditions are being considered
- Martin Mill Road is missing 100 feet of the roadway after the recent tornado
- Options for reopening county facilities are being reviewed

10. County Attorney Report

No report.

11. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Irvin: none

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Sharp: none

Chairman Webster: commented that he and staff held a practice Zoom video conference last week and it worked well. He asked the other board members to download Zoom so everyone could try it out for possible use in the future. He also inquired about the status of Planning & Zoning Public Hearings and County Manager Van Haute advised that there are still no gatherings of 10 or more without being 6 feet away and the public hearing room can't hold big crowd items under those conditions.

Closing

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Irvin.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Irvin, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:04 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman