

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, October 1, 2021 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, October 1, 2021 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 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 9:01 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 Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

3. Invocation

Commissioner Sharp gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (staff)

County Manager Van Haute led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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5. Special Presentation

a. Tri-County EMC and Tri-CoGo

Mr. Greg Mullis, Chief Operating Officer for Tri-CoGo, presented a PowerPoint briefing on Tri-County EMC’s Broadband Project and requested a letter of support from Putnam County for Georgia broadband grant application and local financial support to extend fiber broadband to non-EMC locations in Putnam County.

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

b. EPWSA / ESG

Mr. John Nix, Attorney for EPWSA/ESG, explained plans to apply for state Recovery funds in the amount of \$6M. They would like to include a plan for matching funds with the application to include a \$2M match from EPWSA and \$1M from the city and county (\$400K from city and \$600K from county).

Mr. Trey Gavin, Vice President for ESG Operations, reviewed the application parameters and criteria and reviewed the proposed projects.

Regular Business Meeting

6. Public Comments

None

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

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

8. Authorization for Chairman to sign Letter of Support for Tri-County EMC’s Broadband Infrastructure Grant Application (staff-CM)

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for Tri-County EMC's Broadband Infrastructure Grant Application.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

9. Discussion and possible action regarding EPWSA / ESG presentation and matching funds for the ARP grant (BS)

Motion for Putnam County to designate \$150K for four years to go toward matching funds for the state ARPA grant for EPWSA.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.

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

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10. Authorization for Chairman to sign Letter of Support for Golden Harvest Food Bank's American Rescue Plan Act Grant Application (BW/DB)

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for Golden Harvest Food Bank's American Rescue Plan Act Grant Application.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

11. Approval of 2021-2022 Contract with the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the 2021-2022 Contract with the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

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

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

12. Awarding of Solicitation 21-42001-006 Signing & Pavement Marking Upgrades (staff-CM & CC)

County Manager Van Haute reviewed the bids and advised that the lowest bidder did not meet the terms of the project.

Motion to award Solicitation 21-42001-006 Signing & Pavement Marking Upgrades to Peek Pavement Markings at \$241,661.50.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

13. Approval of Putnam County Policy and Procedure Manual Update (staff-HR)

Motion to approve the Putnam County Policy and Procedure Manual Update related to COVID-19.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

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

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

Reports/Announcements

14. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported that Breast Cancer Awareness month is October and lots of activities are scheduled: decorated pumpkins are in each department, doors in the Admin Building have been decorated by the high school students and commissioners need to judge them by October 19th, and there will be a chili cookoff on October 7th.

15. County Attorney Report

No report.

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16. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Sharp: thanked the board for the vote on the EPWSA grant

Commissioner Wooten: none

Chairman Webster: none

Closing

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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