

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

**Tuesday, September 17, 2024 ♦ 6:00 PM**

*Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203*

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on September 17, 2024 at approximately 6:00 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

### *PRESENT*

Chairman Bill Sharp  
Commissioner Daniel Brown  
Commissioner Steve Hersey  
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

### *STAFF PRESENT*

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

### **Opening**

#### 1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01 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 Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

#### 3. Invocation - Avis Williams

Pastor Avis Williams, School Governance Authority member for Putnam County Middle School, gave the invocation.

#### 4. Pledge of Allegiance (staff)

County Manager Paul Van Haute led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes	Page 1 of 4	Approved
September 17, 2024		October 4, 2024

5. Special Presentation - Proclamation for 10u Girls State Basketball Champions  
 The commissioners presented a proclamation to the 2024 Putnam County GRPA Class C 10U Girls Basketball Team congratulating them on winning the 2024 GRPA Class 10U State Championship.

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

**Regular Business Meeting**

6. Public Comments

Mr. William Vargo commented on car shows and requested to use the Administration Building to hold a car show on a Saturday between now and mid-November.

Ms. Jennifer Ray read comments from Mr. Billy Webster that commissioners should not advocate for SPLOST votes either way or quote statistics without backup documentation.

Ms. Karen Henry Garrett commented on the improvements at Jimmy Davis Park, the Advisory Board not allowing public comments at their meetings and the need for more personnel and longer hours.

Mr. Richard Garrett advised that he supports Karen's comments and is appreciative of the investment in Jimmy Davis Park but has concerns about the Advisory Board meetings not allowing public comments.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - September 6, 2024 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

b. Approval of 2024 Alcohol License - Yarbrough & Sons and Finish Line Sports Bar (staff-CC)

c. Authorization for Chairman to sign GDOT-FTA FY2026 Section 5311 Program Grant Application (staff-Transit)

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

(Copy of documents made a part of the minutes on minute book pages \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.)

Minutes	Page 2 of 4	Approved
September 17, 2024		October 4, 2024

8. Authorization for Chairman to sign the 2024 Contract between the Putnam County Board of Commissioners and the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce dba/Visit Eatonton (staff-CC)

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the 2024 Contract between the Putnam County Board of Commissioners and the Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce dba/Visit Eatonton.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

**Motion amended to change the contract with the Chamber of Commerce to state the term of agreement shall be until December 31, 2024 commencing upon execution by both parties.**

**Amended motion made by Commissioner Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

**Vote on original motion as amended:**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

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

9. Approval of Lease Agreement for Convenience Center on Wards Chapel Road - Holt Spivey (staff-Finance)

County Manager Van Haute advised that the lease is \$2,500 per year.

**Motion to approve the Lease Agreement for the Convenience Center on Wards Chapel Road – Holt Spivey.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

(Copy of lease made a part of the minutes on minute book page \_\_\_\_\_.)

### **Reports/Announcements**

10. County Manager Report

No report.

11. County Attorney Report

No report but advised that an Executive Session was needed for two real estate matters.

12. Commissioner Announcements

None

13. 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 Real Estate.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting closed at approximately 6:46 p.m.

Minutes	Page 3 of 4	Approved
September 17, 2024		October 4, 2024

14. Reopen meeting following Executive Session

**Motion to reopen the meeting following Executive Session.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting reconvened at approximately 7:26 p.m.

15. Authorize Chairman to sign Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

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

**Motion made by Commissioner Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

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

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

No action taken.

**Closing**

17. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp  
Chairman

Minutes	Page 4 of 4	Approved
September 17, 2024		October 4, 2024