

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, September 2, 2022 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, September 2, 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 Bill Sharp (via telephone)
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 Wooten.

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

3. Invocation

Pastor Jeff Birch, Lake Oconee Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (BW)

Prior to the Pledge, a Red Skelton video from 1969 was played in which he explained the meaning of each and every word in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Webster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Mill Rate Public Hearing

5. Presentation of Proposed 2022 Mill Rate (staff-CM & Fin)
Chairman Webster advised that the budget was approved last Friday based on the mill rate rollback rate at 6.779 mills.

6. Comments from the Public
None

7. Comments from Commissioners and/or Staff
None

Regular Business Meeting

8. Public Comments
Dr. Steve Hersey thanked the board and staff for their diligent work resulting in the reduction of the mill rate and commented on the F1 freeze exemption for seniors which excludes accessory structures.

- 9. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes - August 16, 2022 Comp Plan Public Hearing (staff-CC)
 - b. Approval of Minutes - August 16, 2022 Mill Rate Public Hearing (staff-CC)
 - c. Approval of Minutes - August 16, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
 - d. Approval of Minutes - August 24, 2022 Work Session (staff-CC)
 - e. Approval of Minutes - August 26, 2022 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
 - f. Approval of Temporary Caterer License for 44 Draft House & Growler Bar (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

10. Approval of Right-of-Way Permit Application from Brad Cole Construction (staff-PW)
Working for GA Power

Motion to approve the Right-of-Way Permit Application from Brad Cole Construction.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

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11. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution Adopting Joint Comprehensive Plan Update (staff-CC)

Chairman Webster thanked the Middle Georgia Regional Commission staff for their efforts on this plan update.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution Adopting the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

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

12. Approval of Changes to the Personnel Policy (staff-CM & HR)

County Manager Van Haute advised this change will follow the State holiday calendar by adding two holidays for Juneteenth and Columbus Day.

Motion to approve changes to the Personnel Policy.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

13. Approval of Administrative Vehicle Purchase with SPLOST 9 Funding (staff-Fire)

Fire Chief McClain explained that ordering vehicles is process these days and he has been working on this for a year. The request is for four 2023 Chevrolet 3500 four door diesel trucks, one for EMS and three for Fire, at \$52,650.05 each, totaling \$210,600.20.

Motion to approve the Administrative Vehicle Purchase for EMS and Fire in amount of \$210,600.20.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

14. Ratification of the Board of Education Mill Rate and Authorization for Chairman to sign Tax Levy Resolution (staff-CM & Finance)

Motion to ratify the Board of Education Mill Rate and authorize the Chairman to sign the Tax Levy Resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

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

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15. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution setting 2022 Mill Rate for Incorporated County Maintenance and Operation (staff-CM & Finance)
Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution setting the 2022 Mill Rate for Incorporated County Maintenance and Operation.
Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.
Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten
 (Copy of resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

16. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution setting 2022 Mill Rate for Unincorporated County Maintenance and Operation (staff-CM & Finance)
Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution setting the 2022 Mill Rate for the Unincorporated County Maintenance and Operation.
Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Brown.
Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten
 (Copy of resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

17. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution setting 2022 Mill Rate for Special Service District (staff-CM & Finance)
Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution setting the 2022 Mill Rate for the Special Service District.
Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.
Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp, Commissioner Wooten
 (Copy of resolution made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

Reports/Announcements

18. County Manager Report
 County Manager Van Haute reported that bids for the Splash Pad Solicitation came in higher than anticipated at between \$1.6M and \$2.4M. He advised this is much higher than the grant we have been awaiting and he is looking at options.

19. County Attorney Report
 No report.

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20. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: thanked the taxpayers for voting to approve the last TSPLOST. He recently traveled to another state that doesn't have the TSPLOST and their roads were in poor shape.

Commissioner Sharp: thanked everyone for prayers for his recent knee surgery.

Commissioner Wooten: inquired if anyone knew how much Baldwin County paid for their splash pad and expressed his pride our EMS, Fire and Public Works employees.

Chairman Webster: advised about a meeting after this one with himself, the Vice Chairman, the County Attorney, the County Manager, the County Clerk, and the Public Information Officer.

Closing

21. 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 9:35 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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