

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024 ♦ 6:00 PM**

*Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203*

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 23, 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 6:00 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 Hersey.**

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

#### 3. Invocation

Pastor Craig Williamson, First Baptist Church Eatonton, gave the invocation.

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

Commissioner Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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5. Special Presentations

a. Gary McElhenney Family

County Manager Van Haute reflected on some of the highlights of Commissioner McElhenney’s career with Putnam County. In memory of Commissioner McElhenney his family received a County Logo Commemorative Plate, Marble Commissioner Name Plate, and an Engraved Plate donated by Bill & Barbara Vargo.

b. Proclamation - GRPA Class C 8u Coach Pitch Softball 2024 State Champions

County Manager Van Haute read a proclamation congratulating the 8u girls softball team on their winning season.

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

c. Proclamation - GRPA Class C 10u Live Pitch Softball 2024 State Champions

County Manager Van Haute read a proclamation congratulating the 10u girls softball team on their winning season.

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

**Regular Business Meeting**

6. Public Comments

Mr. Don Sadler commented on the lack of notices, agendas, summaries, and minutes for the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council and submitted a copy of his comments.

Ms. Jennifer Ray commented on the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council, the Audio/Visual system in the public meeting room, and lake setbacks.

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

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - June 25, 2024 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

b. Approval of Minutes - July 8, 2024 Budget Work Session (staff-CC)

c. Approval of Minutes - July 9, 2024 Budget Work Session (staff-CC)

d. Approval of 2024 Alcohol Licenses (staff-CC)

Commissioner Hersey requested to remove item a. from the Consent Agenda.

**Motion to remove item a. from the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

**Motion to approve items b., c., and d. of the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

**Motion to approve item a. the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

**Voting Abstain: Commissioner Hersey**

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

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8. Presentation from the Jimmy Davis Partnership Advisory Council

Mr. Don Sadler questioned who the commission represents.

Jimmy Davis Partnership Advisory Council Chairperson Janie Reid made a presentation, reviewing a five year plan for Grounds and Operations. She also asked the commissioners to approve, as soon as possible, the hiring of additional fulltime staff, establishing seasonal hours of operation, and modifying the fence to accommodate the early morning walkers.

9. Awarding of Solicitation 24-42001-001 LMIG Resurfacing (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute advised that four bids were received with the lowest being from Pittman Construction in the amount of \$1,146,926.76.

**Motion to award Solicitation 24-42001-001 LMIG Resurfacing to Pittman Construction in the amount of \$1,146,926.76.**

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

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

10. Authorization for Chairman to sign Intergovernmental Agreement for the Use and Distribution of Proceeds from SPLOST #10 (staff-CM)

Mr. Billy Webster commented about some invalid points in the IGA.

Ms. Jennifer Ray questioned the specifics of the project lists in the IGA.

County Manager briefly reviewed the county projects advised that the 69%/31% split and six year term came from the initial meeting with the City of Eatonton.

Commissioner Hersey said there was no discussion on the 69%/31% split at the initial meeting.

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Use and Distribution of Proceeds from SPLOST #10.**

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

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

**Voting Nay: Commissioner Hersey**

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

11. Authorization for Chairman to sign documents related to the issuance of General Obligation Bonds to pay the costs of certain Transportation Purposes throughout Putnam County (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute introduced Mr. Doug Gebhardt from Davenport who made a presentation on the bond pricing results and Attorney Jon Pannell who answered questions from the commission.

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign documents related to the issuance of General Obligation Bonds to pay the costs of certain Transportation Purposes throughout Putnam County.**

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

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

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

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12. Discussion and possible action on Parks Mill Speed Study

Commissioner Hersey asked for this item to be included on the agenda. He advised that he has had lots of phone calls about truck traffic and high speeds on Parks Mill Road and that this has become an arterial road to avoid construction on Highway 441. He asked Public Works Director Frazier to come up and answer questions. Director Frazier advised that the road doesn't have all the signage it needs and that all Public Works can do is install advisory speed limit signs which reduce the speed limit by ten miles per hour below the posted limit. He recommends congested area signs be installed.

**Motion to authorize the County Manager and Public Works Department to install congested area and 45 mph cautionary signs on Parks Mill Road from the Morgan County line to Gils Automotive.**

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

**Amended motion to make the signs with flashing solar lights around them.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Wooten, 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**

**Reports/Announcements**

13. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported that Congressman Collins will be here for a Gold Medal presentation to Jayden Daniels on August 13, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

14. County Attorney Report

No report.

15. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Hersey: none

Commissioner Wooten: none

Chairman Sharp: thanked attendees

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**Closing**

16. 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 8:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp  
Chairman

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