

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

**Tuesday, February 18, 2025 ♦ 6:00 PM**

*Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203*

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at approximately 6:00 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

### *PRESENT*

Chairman Bill Sharp  
Commissioner Tom McElhenney  
Commissioner Richard Garrett  
Commissioner Steve Hersey  
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

### *STAFF PRESENT*

County Attorney Associate Simon Williams  
County Manager Paul Van Haute  
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth  
Deputy County Clerk Mercy Fluker

### **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 Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

3. Invocation

Rev. Dylan L. Bowden, Associate Pastor & Minister of Music, First Baptist Church of Eatonton was unable to be here. Planning and Development Director Lisa Jackson gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (TM)

Commissioner McElhenney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes	Page 1 of 4	Approved
February 18, 2025		March 7, 2025

**Zoning Public Hearing**

5. Request by Henry E. Bowden, agent for Henry D. Bowden to rezone .37 acres at 100 Angeline Circle from R-2 to R-1. [Map 111A, Parcel 100, District 4] (staff-P&D)

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT PREJUDICE

No one signed in to speak for or against.

**Motion to approve request for withdrawal without prejudice for the request by Henry E. Bowden, agent for Henry D. Bowden to rezone .37 acres at 100 Angeline Circle from R-2 to R-1. [Map 111A, Parcel 100, District 4].**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

**Regular Business Meeting**

6. Public Comments

Ms. Jennifer Ray commented on rezoning changes and creating a committee to keep Putnam County beautiful.

Ms. Erin Olsen agreed with Ms. Jennifer Ray’s comments regarding rezoning and commented on creating an ordinance for developers and standards for businesses in Putnam County to look a certain way.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes-February 5, 2025 Work Session (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes-February 7, 2025 Regular Business Meeting (staff-CC)
- c. Approval of 2025 Alcohol Licenses (staff-CC)

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

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

8. Report from Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council

Ms. Janie Reid presented the report from the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council. Committee members, Ms. Annie Bishop and Mr. Sidney Jackson, were present in the audience. The council’s next meeting is currently scheduled for March 11, 2025 but needs to be rescheduled. A new date will be announced soon.

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

9. Submission of Names for Appointment to the Hospital Authority-Post 3 (staff-CC)

**Motion to submit Jeff Hodge, Lou Benjamin, and Charlene Swain for appointment to the Hospital Authority-Post 3.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

Minutes	Page 2 of 4	Approved
February 18, 2025		March 7, 2025

10. Approval of Right-of-Way Permit Request by AT&T for work on Harmony Road (staff-PW)  
**Public Works Office Manager Rindi Daniel explained the request.**

**Motion to approve the Right-of-Way Permit Request by AT&T for work on Harmony Road.**

**Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

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

11. Authorization for Chairman to sign a letter to the City of Eatonton to discuss SPLOST #10 projects (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute explained the necessary step to schedule a kickoff meeting to discuss SPLOST #10 projects, and that no bond market will be needed this time.

Commissioner Hersey requested a detailed discussion of projects at the meeting instead of the generic ideas presented last time.

**Motion to authorize Chairman to sign a letter to the City of Eatonton to discuss SPLOST #10 projects.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

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

### **Reports/Announcements**

12. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute commented that Public Works, Fire, EMS, and the Sheriff's Office responded to the wind storm that created havoc over the weekend, and appreciates the hard work; extends a job well done to the Sheriff's Office and Putnam County Fire trying to recover the missing body in the lake, and sends prayers to the family.

13. County Attorney Report

No report.

14. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: no announcements.

Commissioner Garrett: encouraged people to buy tickets for The Color Purple at the Plaza, February 22, 23, 27, 28.

Commissioner Hersey: no announcements.

Commissioner Wooten: thanked Public Works for cleaning up the county roads, they look better than state roads outside of the county; proud of Frazier and his crew, Fire and Rescue, and whoever it took did a great job making the county look good; thanks to Janie Reid and the committee for understanding business and appreciates their patience, interest, and time.

Chairman Sharp: thanked Public Works for cleaning up the roads from the storm.

Minutes	Page 3 of 4	Approved
February 18, 2025		March 7, 2025

**Closing**

15. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey,  
Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp  
Chairman

Minutes	Page 4 of 4	Approved
February 18, 2025		March 7, 2025