



117 Putnam Drive ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024 ♦ Tel: 706-485-1884
www.putnamdevelopmentauthority.com

Minutes

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 ♦ 3:30 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

The Putnam Development Authority met on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at approximately 3:30 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 204, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Walt Rocker III
Member Patty Burns (via telephone)
Member Brice Doolittle
Member Mylle Mangum
Member John Wojtas

STAFF PRESENT

Attorney Kevin Brown (via telephone)
Executive Director Matt Poyner
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rocker called the meeting to order at approximately 3:43 p.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes.)

Minutes

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting
- b. December 14, 2021 Executive Session

**Motion to approve the December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes.
Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.**

**Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum,
Member Wojtas**

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Financials

3. Approval of Financials - December 2021

Executive Director Poyner advised that OneGeorgia needs the 2019 audit which needs the Chairman's signature. Chairman Rocker questioned his ability to sign it since he was not on the board for the entire time period covered in the audit. Attorney Brown advised that it was okay for him to sign in his capacity as Chairman. He further advised that the law requires a new audit every two years, so the board needs one for 2021.

Chairman Rocker requested that the budget be included in future financial reports.

Motion to authorize Chairman Rocker to sign the 2019 audit.

Motion made by Member Wojtas, Seconded by Member Mangum.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Motion to engage McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks and Company for the 2021 audit.

Motion made by Member Doolittle, Seconded by Member Wojtas.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Executive Director Poyner advised that a new account was opened at Peoples Bank and currently has around \$82,000 in account. The funds came from GDOT for Highway 441 widening at Rock Eagle Tech Park and bond fees for Interfor.

Motion to approve the December 2021 financials.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

(Copy of financials made a part of the minutes.)

Reports

4. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Poyner advised that he will email his report to save time during the meeting. He also advised that the Chamber of Commerce has requested \$1500 for an upcoming job fair and \$1500 for their annual Sweet Tee Golf Tournament.

Motion to approve \$1500 to the Chamber of Commerce for their job fair.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Motion to approve \$1500 for the Chamber of Commerce golf tournament.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

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Regular Business

5. Selection of Officers

- a. Chairman
- b. Vice-Chairman
- c. Secretary/Treasurer
- d. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Attorney Brown took over for the selection of Chairman.

Member Wojtas nominated Walt Rucker for Chairman, Seconded by Member Burns
Voting Yea: Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas
Voting Abstain: Chairman Rucker

The meeting was turned over to Chairman Rucker.

Member Mangum nominated John Wojtas for Vice Chairman, Seconded by Member Doolittle
Voting Yea: Chairman Rucker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Member Doolittle nominated Patty Burns for Secretary/Treasurer, Seconded by Member Wojtas
Voting Yea: Chairman Rucker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Member Doolittle nominated Lynn Butterworth for Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Seconded by Member Mangum
Voting Yea: Chairman Rucker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

6. Rebranding Session

Mr. Jim Stone provided an update on the rebranding campaign. He advised that he has received back questionnaires from three of the board members. The others advised they will send it back in the morning. He also sent out a similar questionnaire to around 40 random Putnam County citizens and received back 15 responses. He plans to send it out again to around 100 people and will sit down and do one on one interviews with a dozen people. The questions included:

- How many years have you lived in Putnam County?
- What is your favorite thing to do in Putnam County?
- What does Putnam County provide better than other areas?
- What is Putnam County's distinct competitive advantage?
- Are there any local amenities in Putnam County for healthy lifestyles?
- What is the most exciting thing that has happened to or for Putnam County in the past 5 years?
- What is unique, unusual, or interesting about Putnam County?
- What is one amazing fact or characteristic about Putnam County?
- What businesses or people have impacted Putnam County?

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- How interested do you believe most residents and tourists are in historic aspects of Putnam County?
- As a resident, did history draw you to Putnam County?
- If you had to live and/or work in another area - where would it be? and why?
- Is there another city and/or county that has gotten your attention in a positive way?
- Are there any game changing technologies or events that affect your decision about where to live and work?
- What one word or phrase would you pick for Putnam County?
- If Putnam County were a car, what would it be?
- If Putnam County were a song, what would it be?
- Is there anything we need to know?

Mr. Stone will continue working on the brand direction and assigned a new homework to the board to send him one to three favorite existing brands that are well executed, can be big or small (who does a good job of representing their brand.)

No action was taken.

Other Business

7. Other Business

Chairman Rocker congratulated Member Mangum on her recent election to the Eatonton City Council.

Next Meeting Items

8. Next Meeting Items

None

Executive Session

9. Enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4, if necessary, for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate

Motion to enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Real Estate and Litigation.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Meeting closed at approximately 4:34 p.m.

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10. Reopen meeting and execute Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

Motion to reopen the meeting and execute the Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting.

Motion made by Member Mangum, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

(Copy of Affidavit made a part of the minutes.)

Meeting reopened at approximately 5:46 p.m.

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

No action was taken.

Closing

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Member Burns, Seconded by Member Doolittle.

Voting Yea: Chairman Rocker, Member Burns, Member Doolittle, Member Mangum, Member Wojtas

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Walt Rocker III
Chairman

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