

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, April 1, 2022 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on April 1, 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
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 Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 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 McElhenney.

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

3. Invocation - County Attorney Adam Nelson

County Attorney Adam Nelson gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (staff)

County Manager Paul Van Haute led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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5. Special Presentations

a. National Donate Life Month Proclamation

The Commissioners proclaimed April 2022 as DONATE LIFE MONTH in Putnam County, to honor all those who made the decision to give the gift of life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ, eye and tissue donation, to encourage all residents to take action and sign up on Georgia’s Donor Registry at www.donatelifegeorgia.org, to discuss the miracle of transplantation as a family, and to make a family commitment to organ, eye, and tissue donation. (Copy of Proclamation made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

b. National County Government Month Proclamation

The Commissioners also proclaimed April 2022 as National County Government Month and encouraged all county officials, employees, schools, and residents to participate in county government celebration activities. (Copy of Proclamation made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

c. Putnam Development Authority

Executive Director Matt Poyner gave an update on recent activities of the Putnam Development Authority. (Copy of presentation made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

Code of Ordinances Public Hearing

6. Proposed adoption of changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) and Chapter 22 (Businesses)

Dr. Steve Hersey asked some clarifying questions on Chapter 22 regarding political candidates soliciting votes and businesses invited to come give quotes.

Motion to adopt the changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances - Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) and Chapter 22 (Businesses) as presented.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

Regular Business Meeting

7. Public Comments

Mr. Don Romand commented on the poor condition of Alexander Lakes Drive.

Ms. Marianne Bruhn Popik commented on the bad smell coming from a pond built by her neighbor, Mr. Adam Schulze.

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- 8. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes - March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
 - b. Approval of 2022 Alcohol License(s) (staff-CC)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

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

- 9. Discussion and possible action regarding the Clerk of Courts request of ARPA Grant Funds for record imaging and preservation (COC)

Clerk of Courts Trevor Addison requested ARPA money for preservation of records with a PowerPoint presentation.

Motion to approve the request by the Clerk of Courts for ARPA Grant Funds for record imaging and preservation in the amount of \$209,871.70.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Chairman Webster.

Voting Yea: Chairman Webster, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp

Voting Nay: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Wooten

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

- 10. Approval of Election of Standard \$10M Allowance for Determining Replacement of Lost Public Sector Revenue (ARPA funds) (staff-Fin)

Dr. Steve Hersey commented that ARPA funds are just a recapture of the public's income tax and not free money and to use it wisely.

County Manager Van Haute advised that this will make reporting easier and gives a reporting break to smaller jurisdictions. He also clarified that Putnam County is receiving a little more than \$4.3M, well under the \$10M allowance.

Motion to approve the Election of the Standard \$10M Allowance for Determining Replacement of Lost Public Sector Revenue (ARPA funds).

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.

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

- 11. Approval of Data Security Policy (staff-Fin)

Motion to approve the Data Security Policy.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

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12. Approval of Cell Phone Policy (staff-HR)

Motion to approve the Cell Phone Policy.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

Reports/Announcements

13. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Received the check for the sale of the old jail and that property is now back on the tax rolls
- Matt from PDA has done a good thing with the asphalt plant coming here; reworking some of the road projects to take advantage of this

14. County Attorney Report

No report.

15. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: thanked Matt and Trevor for their good presentations

Commissioner Brown: commented that he is proud of Putnam County and its people, we are very blessed in this county, there is lots of good development coming, and we live in a great county

Commissioner Sharp: commented that he is also proud of Putnam County and that it is moving forward with enthusiasm. He thanked the citizens for their patience as we wade through problems and try to help all residents and thanked Trevor for his nice presentation. He also invited everyone to the ribbon cutting of the traffic light at Scott Road on April 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Wooten: thanked Public Works, EMS, and Fire the great job they do - the roads look good and the response time for emergencies is good; Putnam County is a good place to live

Chairman Webster: commented that he is looking forward to the upcoming Government Fun Day on April 14, 2022 and that there is a busy schedule ahead

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Closing

16. 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 10:44 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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