

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

Friday, July 7, 2023 ♦ 10:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, July 7, 2023 at approximately 10:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

### *PRESENT*

Chairman Bill Sharp  
Commissioner Gary McElhenney  
Commissioner Daniel Brown  
Commissioner Alan Foster  
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

### *STAFF PRESENT*

County Attorney Barry Fleming  
County Manager Paul Van Haute  
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth  
Deputy County Clerk Donna Todd

### **Opening**

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01 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 Foster, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

3. Invocation

Dr. Avis Williams gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (AF)

Commissioner Foster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Regular Business Meeting**

5. Public Comments

None

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - June 20, 2023 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

b. Approval of Minutes - June 27, 2023 Work Session (staff-CC)

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

7. Request from AT&T for Right-of-Way Permit for work on Harmony Road and Harmony Farms Drive (staff-PW)

Public Works Director Frazier explained the request.

**Motion to approve the request from AT&T for a Right-of-Way Permit for work on Harmony Road and Harmony Farms Drive.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

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

8. Appointment to the Putnam County Board of Health (staff-CC)

**Dr. Robert D. Betzel was nominated for appointment to the Putnam County Board of Health.**

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

**Voting Yea for Robert D. Betzel: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

9. Approval of changes to the Putnam County Personnel Manual (staff-HR)

Human Resources Director Miller explained the requested changes.

**Motion to approve changes to the Putnam County Personnel Manual as outlined in the meeting package.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

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

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10. Awarding of Solicitation 23-42001-001 2023 LMIG Resurfacing Project (staff-CM)  
County Manager Van Haute reviewed the bids. The recommended low bidder was Pittman Construction at \$1,052,083.60.

**Motion to award Solicitation 23-42001-001 2023 LMIG Resurfacing Project to Pittman Construction in the amount of \$1,052,083.60.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

11. Discussion and possible action on TSPLOST Funding Options (staff-CM & Fin)  
County Manager Van Haute advised that this item was to see if there is any interest from the board to go to the Bond Market for TSPLOST2 projects. He explained that this issue would go to the voters and the call for referendum would be March 2024. Commissioner Foster expressed interest in pursuing this matter. Commissioner Brown thanked the voters for approving TSPLOST2 and commented that the bond market seems like a smart way to go. Chairman Sharp commented that this would save money and allow the county to get the roads paved much sooner.

**Motion to proceed with TSPLOST2 funding option one as outlined in the meeting package.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

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

### **Reports/Announcements**

#### 12. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- LMIG allocation for this year came in yesterday and our contribution and the match is a little over \$800,000 which is about \$40,000 more the last year
- Budget work sessions will be next Monday and Tuesday

#### 13. County Attorney Report

No report, but an Executive Session is needed.

#### 14. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Foster: none

Commissioner Wooten: thanked County Manager Van Haute for all he has done this year and was pleased with the LMIG bid; also proud of HR Director Miller for making the county look better and cannot say enough about Public Works Director Frazier.

Chairman Sharp: echoed Commissioner Wooten's comments.

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**Executive Session**

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

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

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting closed at approximately 10:31 a.m.

16. Reopen meeting following Executive Session

**Motion to reopen the meeting following the Executive Session.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

Meeting reconvened at approximately 10:56 a.m.

17. Authorize Chairman to sign Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting.**

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

**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Wooten**

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

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

County Attorney Fleming advised that one legal matter was discussed with no action taken.

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**Closing**

19. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

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

**Voting Nay: Commissioner Foster**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:57 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp  
Chairman

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