

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Work Session

Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 ♦ 10:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met for a work session on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at approximately 10:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 204, 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

STAFF ABSENT

Deputy County Clerk Mercy Fluker

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the work session to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

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

Work Session

2. Proposal(s) of alternative examples for a Recreation Advisory and/or Authority/Board (staff-CM & CA)

County Manager Van Haute explained some of the options for creating a Recreation Advisory and/or Authority/Board: legislatively-the least preferred option because the county gives up a lot of power or via ordinance. He advised that a 501c3 organization could be created inside the authority to go after grants for all recreational services because socioeconomics do not allow Putnam County to get grants like the City of Eatonton. Specifics of the authority would need to be decided on by the commissioners, such as number of members, compensation or not, etc.

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County Attorney Williams presented four options for creating a Recreation Advisory and/or Authority/Board: 1) Georgia statutes (Recreation Board); 2) local law through legislature (Recreation Authority) - both of these operate outside Board of Commissioners authority; 3) via current ordinances - could create committee like the Jimmy Davis Park Partnership Advisory Council - this power already exists and is best for temporary committees; 4) creating new ordinance to set out how the committee would be established, duties, etc. He advised that a 501c3 organization could be done under options 3 or 4.

The sense of the group was to proceed with option 4 – creating a new ordinance. Attorney Williams will work on a draft to be reviewed by commissioners and staff.

No action was taken.

Closing

3. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the work session.

Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett.

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

Work session adjourned at approximately 10:54 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

B. W. “Bill” Sharp
Chairman

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