

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## **Agenda**

**Friday, May 2, 2025 ♦ 10:00 AM**

**Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203**

### **Opening**

1. Welcome - Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Invocation - Brandon Walton, Bible Fellowship Church
4. Pledge of Allegiance (JW)

### **Regular Business Meeting**

5. Public Comments
6. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Minutes - April 15, 2025 Regular Business Meeting (staff-CC)
  - b. Approval of Minutes - April 25, 2025 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
7. Land Use Assessment Presentation - George Kelecheck
8. Approval of FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1 (staff-Finance)
9. Approval of Vehicles Proposed for Surplus (staff-CM)

### **Reports/Announcements**

10. County Manager Report
11. County Attorney Report
12. Commissioner Announcements

### **Executive Session**

13. Enter Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A. 50-14-4 for Personnel, Litigation, or Real Estate
14. Reopen meeting following Executive Session
15. Authorize Chairman to sign Affidavit concerning the subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting
16. Action, if any, resulting from the Executive Session

### **Closing**

17. Adjournment

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to continue the meeting to another time and place in the event the number of people in attendance at the meeting, including the Board of Commissioners, staff, and members of the public exceeds the legal limits. The meeting cannot be closed to the public except by a majority vote of a quorum present for the meeting. The board can vote to go into an executive session on a legally exempt matter during a public meeting even if not advertised or listed on the agenda. Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Compliance Officer, at least three business days in advance of the meeting at 706-485-2776 to allow the County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

**File Attachments for Item:**

## 6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - April 15, 2025 Regular Business Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - April 25, 2025 Called Meeting (staff-CC)

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 ♦ 6:00 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 15, 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 Adam Nelson  
County Manager Paul Van Haute  
Deputy County Clerk Mercy Fluker

*STAFF ABSENT*

County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

**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 McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**  
**Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Wooten**

3. Invocation  
Pastor Matt Brown from LifePoint Worship Center gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (SH)  
Commissioner Hersey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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## **Zoning Public Hearing**

Chairman Sharp opened the Zoning Public Hearing at approximately 6:02 p.m.

5. Request by Larry Harris, agent for Rise and Shine Development Group, LLC, to rezone 3 acres at 628 Dennis Station Road from AG to R-2. [Map 082, Parcel 013, District 4] (staff-P&D)

No one signed in to speak for or against this item.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for approval to rezone 3 acres at 628 Dennis Station Road from AG to R-2. [Map 082, Parcel 013, District 4] with the following condition:

1. This rezoning approval shall be conditioned upon the resurveying and recordation in the Superior Court of Putnam County of an accurate plat within 60 days of approval by the board of commissioners. A copy of the recorded plat shall be filed with the planning and development department director. Failure to file a plat pursuant to this subsection shall have the effect of invalidating the rezoning action as stated in Section 66-165(e)(3) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.

**Motion to approve request by Larry Harris, agent for Rise and Shine Development Group, LLC, to rezone 3 acres at 628 Dennis Station Road from AG to R-2. [Map 082, Parcel 013, District 4] with the following condition:**

1. **This rezoning approval shall be conditioned upon the resurveying and recordation in the Superior Court of Putnam County of an accurate plat within 60 days of approval by the board of commissioners. A copy of the recorded plat shall be filed with the planning and development department director. Failure to file a plat pursuant to this subsection shall have the effect of invalidating the rezoning action as stated in Section 66-165(e)(3) of the Putnam County Code of Ordinances.**

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

**Motion amended to require as a condition of the rezoning that the recorded plat show a subdivision into three separate parcels.**

**Amended motion made by Commissioner Hersey, Seconded by Commissioner Garrett.**

**Secondary amendment made to require as a condition of the rezoning that the recorded plat show no more than three separate lots.**

**Amended motion amended by Commissioner Hersey, Accepted by Commissioner Garrett.**

**Commissioner McElhenney called for the question. Commissioner Hersey objected.**

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

**Voting Nay: Commissioner Hersey**

**Vote on secondary amendment:**

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

**Voting Nay: Commissioner Garrett, Commissioner Wooten, Chairman Sharp**

**Secondary amendment motion fails.**

**Vote on original motion:**

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

**Voting Nay: Commissioner Hersey**

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Chairman Sharp closed the Zoning Public Hearing at approximately 6:31 p.m.

**Regular Business Meeting**

6. Public Comments

Ms. Erin Olsen commented on overflowing trash at an unlicensed short term rental property.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - April 4, 2025 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - April 11, 2025 Work Session (staff-CC)

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

8. Submission of Names for Appointment to the Hospital Authority-Post 7 (staff-CC)

**Motion to nominate Phillip Ethridge, Rachel Deraney Harvey, and Robert D. Betzel for appointment to Post 7 of the Hospital Authority.**

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

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

9. Approval for Putnam County Fire Rescue to Purchase a Pierce Custom PUC Pumper (staff-Fire)

Chief McClain explained the apparatus replacement plan and that funding for this request is available through SPLOST 9 collections.

**Motion to approve Putnam County Fire Rescue to Purchase a Pierce Custom PUC Pumper at the presented price.**

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

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

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

**Reports/Announcements**

10. County Manager Report

No report.

11. County Attorney Report

No report.

12. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: thanked Chief McClain for looking after fire services.

Commissioner Garrett echoed Commissioner McElhenney and gave a reminder of the second Town Hall meeting scheduled for Thursday at the Lutheran Church Community Center at 5:00 p.m., encouraged everyone to come.

Commissioner Hersey: none

Commissioner Wooten: thanked Public Works for working hard in the heavy rains, getting trees out of the roads and keeping traffic moving, encouraged everyone to thank them when you see them.

Chairman Sharp: thanked Putnam County Fire Rescue for rescuing the horse out of the pond this past week and reminded everyone of the Town Hall meeting on Harmony Road GA, LLC scheduled for Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Lake Oconee Lutheran Church Community Center.

**Closing**

13. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. “Bill” Sharp  
Chairman

**PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

**Called Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Friday, April 25, 2025 ♦ 1:00 PM**

Marriott Savannah Riverfront, Mercer Room,  
100 General McIntosh Blvd., Savannah, GA 31401

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, April 25, 2025 at approximately 1:00 PM in the Marriott Savannah Riverfront, Mercer Room, 100 General McIntosh Blvd., Savannah, Georgia.

***PRESENT***

Chairman Bill Sharp  
Commissioner Tom McElhenney  
Commissioner Richard Garrett

***STAFF PRESENT***

County Manager Paul Van Haute  
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth  
Human Resources Director Cynthia Miller

***ABSENT***

Commissioner Steve Hersey  
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

***STAFF ABSENT***

County Attorney Adam Nelson  
Deputy County Clerk Mercy Fluker

***OTHERS PRESENT***

Johnathan Shaw, Managing Director, NFP  
Public Sector Solutions  
Cindy Drury, Account Executive, NFP

**Opening**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Sharp called the meeting to order at approximately 1:05 p.m.  
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**Called Meeting**

2. Approval of Employee Insurance Benefits (staff-CM & HR)

- a. Medical
- b. Dental
- c. Vision
- d. Basic Life
- e. Voluntary Term Life and AD&D
- f. Voluntary Short Term Disability
- g. Employer-Paid Long Term Disability

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- h. HRA Administrator
- i. AFLAC
  - 1. Voluntary Group Accident
  - 2. Voluntary Critical Illness
  - 3. Voluntary Group Hospital Indemnity
- j. Voluntary Universal Life
- k. Voluntary Ansel

Johnathan Shaw with NFP thanked the board for the opportunity to work with them on employee insurance benefits. He advised that Putnam County has experienced two challenging years in a row and distributed an Employee Benefits Renewal booklet. He reviewed the booklet, including Claim History, Claims Performance, Loss Ratio, Claims Utilization, Cost Drivers, Renewal History, Renewal Offers, HRA Options, Other County Paid Benefits (Dental, Life, Long-Term Disability), and Voluntary Employee Paid Benefits. Mr. Shaw's recommendation was to move back to Anthem with an HRA Strategy and Wellness Plan.

**Motion to elect/renew employee insurance benefits with the following: Anthem (OAP12 2500/30%/7900C Low Plan and OAP5 5000/0%/7900AE High Plan) with HRA Strategy (Admin America) and Wellness Plan; United Healthcare Dental Low Plan and High Plan; Anthem (The Standard) Life and AD&D, Anthem (The Standard) Long-Term Disability; Voluntary Vision Insurance with Anthem/Eyemed; Voluntary employee term life insurance through Anthem/The Standard; Voluntary employee short term disability coverage through Anthem/The Standard; Voluntary Supplemental accident, critical illness, hospital indemnity coverage through AFLAC; Voluntary supplemental coverage through Ansel; Voluntary Permanent Life Insurance through Texas Life; and Voluntary Home warranty protection through Armadillo.**

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

**Voting Yea: Chairman Sharp, Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett**  
(Handout made a part of the minutes on minute book pages \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.)

**Closing**

3. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

**Voting Yea: Chairman Sharp, Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Garrett**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

B. W. "Bill" Sharp  
Chairman

**File Attachments for Item:**

7. Land Use Assessment Presentation - George Kelecheck

**Lynn Butterworth**

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**From:** george kelecheck [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 4, 2025 5:46 AM  
**To:** Lynn Butterworth  
**Cc:** George Kelecheck  
**Subject:** Request to be placed on 4/15/25 BOC agenda

Lynn:

Hope all is well with you, family & friends.

Requesting to be placed on 4/15/25 agenda.

14 minutes:

1. 8 minute YouTube Urban3 video

Suburbia is Subsidized-You Do The Math (eg:Smart Planning) 2. 6 minute presentation regarding Conservation Communities & Farm Belt Communities- will show information via 24 by 36 story boards - Dekalb County Company Land Use Assessment - Urban3 & Village Habitat Rockdale County/City of Conyers Proposals - will Provide information packages to BOC members.

Respectfully,

George Kelecheck

Sent from my iPhone

**File Attachments for Item:**

8. Approval of FY 2025 Budget Amendment #1 (staff-Finance)

## 2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT #1

	Increase (Decrease) to Current Budget	Total
<b>General Fund Revenues:</b>		
Interest & Miscellaneous:		
Proceeds from Sales of Assets	108,962	
Donations	6,515	
Interest & Miscellaneous		115,477
Appropriation from Fund Balance		105,561
<b>Total General Fund Revenue Adjustment</b>		<b>221,038</b>
<b>General Fund Expenditures:</b>		
Public Works	169,500	
Public Transit System	21,538	
Golf Course	30,000	
<b>Total General Fund Expenditure Adjustment</b>		<b>221,038</b>

**File Attachments for Item:**

9. Approval of Vehicles Proposed for Surplus (staff-CM)

**From:** Howard Sills <[sheriffsills@putnamcountysheriff.org](mailto:sheriffsills@putnamcountysheriff.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2025 3:00 PM

**To:** Paul Van Haute <[pvanhaute@putnamcountyga.us](mailto:pvanhaute@putnamcountyga.us)>

**Subject:** Surplus Vehicles

Paul, per our conversation earlier this week, I would like the following vehicles declared surplus and I will sell them at my "sheriff's sale" on Tuesday, May 7th:

\* 1991 Ford F350 Van, VIN: 1FTJE3H6MHB37605

\* 2006 Dodge Charger, VIN: 2B3KA43G86H402375

\* 2016 Ford Explorer, VIN: 1FM5K8B84GGC14410

\* 2001 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN: 2FAFP71W31X169648

\* 2003 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN: 2FAFP71W53X106215

\* 2006 Jayco Jay Flight 29BH (RV Camper Trailer), VIN: 1UJBJ02P061EP0969

2014 Dodge Charger, VIN: 2C3CDXAT5EH367583

2008 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN: 2FAFP71V28X136318

The vehicles with an asterisk preceding them were purchased with seizure funds and I would like to return the proceeds acquired from selling them back into my forfeiture funds. As we discussed, should the county have anything you would like me to sell at this sale just let me know.

HRS

**Sheriff Howard R. Sills**  
**Putnam County, Georgia**  
**111 Ridley Drive**  
**P. O. Box 3637**  
**Eatonton, Georgia 31024**  
**(706)485-8557**  
**(706)485-4840 fax**  
**(478)288-7965 cell**