

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

**Tuesday, September 20, 2022 ♦ 6:30 PM**

*Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203*

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at approximately 6:30 PM 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 Barry Fleming  
County Manager Paul Van Haute  
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth

### **Opening**

1. Welcome - Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 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 Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.**

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

3. Invocation - Pastor James Smith, Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church  
Pastor James Smith gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (BW)

Chairman Webster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Zoning Public Hearing**

5. Request by JPC Design and Const. LLC, agent for William B. Jones, to rezone 0.94 acres at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1 [Map 096B, Parcel 063, District 1] (staff-P&D)  
The Zoning Public Hearing was opened at approximately 6:34 p.m.

Attorney Fleming read the rules for Public Hearings from Code Section 66-159.

Mr. Jeremy Crosby of JPC Design and Const. LLC requested that this item be tabled until the November 15, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting.

No motion to table was made.

Mr. Jeremy Crosby spoke in support of the request.

The following people spoke against this item:

Ms. Marian Zerkus (submitted documents); Mr. Alan Foster; Mr. David Field; Mr. Russell Whorton (showed a boat storage fire video); Ms. Patti Field (played a recording of noise from the current facilities); Ms. Erin Olson; Mr. Jimmy Zerkus (read and submitted a letter from Mr. Steve Hersey); Ms. Sandra Holloway; Ms. Adria Riley (submitted documents); Ms. Lynne Woods; and Mr. Charles Trumbo.

Mr. Jeremy Crosby used his remaining time for rebuttal.

Planning and Development staff recommendation was for denial to rezone 0.94 acres at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1.

Planning & Zoning Commission’s recommendation was for denial of the proposed rezoning at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1.

**Motion to deny the request by JPC Design and Const. LLC, agent for William B. Jones, to rezone 0.94 acres at 114 Briarpatch Road from R-2 to C-1 [Map 096B, Parcel 063].  
Motion made by Commissioner McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.  
Voting Yea: Commissioner McElhenney, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Sharp  
Voting Nay: Commissioner Wooten**

The Zoning Public Hearing was closed at approximately 7:32 p.m.

Meeting was recessed at approximately 7:32 p.m.  
Meeting reconvened at approximately 7:38 p.m.

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## Regular Business Meeting

### 6. Public Comments

Mr. Lavoniah Sanders commented on the condition of Jimmy Davis Park.

Mr. J.D. Jones commented on the condition of Jimmy Davis Park and not getting its fair share of recreation funds.

Mr. Charles Trumbo commented on the ownership of Jimmy Davis Park.

### 7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes - September 2, 2022 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)

b. Authorization for Chairman to sign ACCG Group Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation Fund (GSIWCF) Safety Discount Verification Form (staff-HR)

c. Authorization for Chairman to sign ACCG Interlocal Risk Management Agency (IRMA) Safety Discount Verification Form (staff-HR)

#### **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

### 8. Approval of Right-of-Way Permit Application from Phillips and Jordan, Inc. (staff-PW)

**Motion to approve the Right-of-Way Permit Application from Phillips and Jordan, Inc.**

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

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

### 9. Approval of Fourth Transit Bus (staff-Transit)

County Manager Van Haute explained that the county only pays 10% of the cost and needs to put in an order for the bus now so we can get it when available.

**Motion to approve a Fourth Transit Bus.**

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

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

## Reports/Announcements

### 10. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Splash Pad Grant – the bids for building a splash pad came in exceedingly higher than the budget. The DNR grant was for \$200K and the minimum bid was \$1.4M, making this project impracticable to tackle at this time.
- A traffic study for a left turn signal at Scott Road and Highway 44 was done and the study supports a turn signal. The project will have to go through the GDOT chain of command.
- The new backup generator has been placed on a concrete pad and is installed but not operational; waiting on a transfer switch with a 20-50 week delivery estimate.
- Rain has slowed the new Fire/EMS/Coroner building but progress is still being made.

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11. County Attorney Report

County Attorney Fleming advised that an Executive Session was needed.

12. Commissioner Announcements

None

13. 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 McElhenney, Seconded by Commissioner Sharp.**

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

Meeting closed at approximately 7:53 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Meeting reopened at approximately 8:11 p.m.

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

No action taken.

**Closing**

16. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

Billy Webster  
Chairman

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