

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Minutes

Friday, November 5, 2021 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, November 5, 2021 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 9:02 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 Wooten.**

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

3. Invocation

County Attorney Nelson gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (GM)

Commissioner McElhenney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Regular Business Meeting**

5. Public Comments

The following individuals commented on concerns with construction of a pond by a neighbor, which is settling in their cove and not meeting code regulations: Pamela Tibbitts, Donald Tibbitts, Sharon Dickens, Sue Gentes, Marianne Bruhn Popik, and Duane Gentes (submitted photos).

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

PDA Executive Director Matt Poyner invited the board members to a PDA strategic planning retreat at Cuscowilla on November 17, 2021.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - October 19, 2021 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - October 25, 2021 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
- c. Approval of Minutes - November 1, 2021 Work Session (staff-CC)
- d. Ratification of Revised Submittal of GDOT 5311 Grant Application for Putnam County Transit (staff-Transit)
- e. Authorization for Chairman to sign MOU between Putnam County and Ocmulgee Circuit Adult Treatment Court Collaborative (staff-Finance)

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

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

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

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

7. Discussion and possible action regarding Solid Waste Disposal (staff-CM)

Mr. Steve Edwards and Mr. Josh Raugh from Waste Management explained that costs of labor and fuel, the transfer station, disposal, and recycling have all gone up due to the pandemic and the national labor shortage and because of this they must raise prices. There are other options to consider such as mandatory curbside pickup or a combo of convenience centers and curbside pickup. They will present a new contract to the county manager for board approval.

County Manager Van Haute thanked the Waste Management team for their quick response to a situation of a possible infant in a dumpster and advised that the increase is approximately \$57,000 per month. No action was taken.

8. Authorization for Chairman to sign Probation Services Agreement between Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) and Putnam County Magistrate Court (BW-Magistrate-PCSO)

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Probation Services Agreement between Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) and Putnam County Magistrate Court.**

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

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

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

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9. Approval of FY21 Budget Amendment #2 (staff-Finance)

**Motion to approve FY21 Budget Amendment #2.**

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

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

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

10. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution Authorizing the County Attorney to Prosecute Code Violations (staff-CA)

**Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign a Resolution authorizing the County Attorney to prosecute Code Violations.**

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

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

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

11. Appointment to the Board of Assessors (staff-CC)

**Motion to appoint Mr. John Richter to the Board of Assessors.**

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

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

12. Authorization for staff to schedule a Public Hearing on proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 66-Zoning; Chapter 18-Buildings and Building Regulations; Chapter 28-Development Regulations; Chapter 32-Fire Protection and Prevention; Chapter 50-Solid Waste and Scrap Tires; Appendix B-Special Events (staff-CA,P&D)

**Motion to authorize staff to schedule a Public Hearing on proposed changes to the Putnam County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 66-Zoning; Chapter 18-Buildings and Building Regulations; Chapter 28-Development Regulations; Chapter 32-Fire Protection and Prevention; Chapter 50-Solid Waste and Scrap Tires; Appendix B-Special Events.**

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

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

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

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13. Authorization for the staff to schedule a Public Hearing on proposed changes to the County Commission District Map(s) (BW)

**Motion to authorize the staff to schedule a Public Hearing on proposed changes to the County Commission District Map(s).**

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

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

14. Discussion and possible action concerning the LOST Renegotiations (BW)

Chairman Webster advised that board members received a letter from the city yesterday responding to our latest letter regarding Local Option Sales Tax renegotiations. It does not, however, contain a formal offer and he commented that he doesn't see any need to enter into negotiations until they send us an offer. He asked the board if he should write another letter to that effect.

Commissioner McElhenney agreed that they need to put something on the table.

Commissioner Brown commented that maybe we need to try to set up a meeting again.

Commissioner Sharp agreed that the Chairman should write a letter asking them to pick a date to meet.

Chairman Webster asked County Manager Van Haute to talk to the City Administrator about a possible meeting date and advised that he would compose a letter.

### **Reports/Announcements**

15. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- The recently approved Hospital IGA needs to be revised to reflect only the bonus pay only - he will send the revised version to Mr. Alan Horton today.
- Breast Cancer support was much appreciated - the Planning & Development department raised over \$1000
- The redrawing of district maps went very smoothly; thanks to the staff at Middle Georgia Regional Commission and all who attended
- Morgan County is interested to possibly partnering with Putnam County a landfill. Ms. Monica Moseley with Republic Services presented information on a landfill/environmental campus which would include C&D, recycling, a landfill, and an educational component

16. County Attorney Report

County Attorney Nelson advised that an Executive Session is needed.

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17. Commissioner Announcements  
Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: invited everyone to Ryan's Run, Walk, Stroll and Roll which supports giving scholarships to homeless children/foster care with disabilities and health disorders. It will be held November 6, 2021 at 8:00 AM in Eatonton

Commissioner Sharp: none

Commissioner Wooten: commented that he has been here a year now and has never worked with such good people

Chairman Webster: advised that the November 16, 2021 BOC meeting will be cancelled

**Executive Session**

18. 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 10:20 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Meeting reopened at approximately 11:35 a.m.

20. Action, if any, resulting from the Executive Session  
No action was taken.

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**Closing**

21. 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 11:36 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

Billy Webster  
Chairman

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