

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Minutes

Friday, February 5, 2021 ♦ 9:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, February 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 9:00 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 - Rev. Ford G'Segner

Rev. Ford G'Segner gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance (JW)

Commissioner Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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5. Special Presentations

a. Alice Walker Proclamation

The commissioners presented a proclamation to Alice Walker in recognition of her 77th Birthday and her contributions to Eatonton-Putnam County. Rev. Simone Jones and her daughter Adia Jones accepted the proclamation on Ms. Walker's behalf.

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

b. GPSTC Recognition

County Manager Van Haute and Fire Chief McClain thanked Ariel Covington for her outstanding work that was recently recognized by the Georgia Public Safety Training Center. Our regional representative for GPSTC was here for training and let us know that Ms. Covington submits perfect paperwork. He explained that he represents 72 departments and only five of them are 100% compliant, with Putnam County being one of those five.

Regular Business Meeting

6. Public Comments

Mr. George Kelecheck recognized and thanked several county employees that he has had recent contact with. He also inquired about disposing of some outdated Sheriff's cars at the shop and getting some money for them.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes - January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting (staff-CC)
- b. Approval of Minutes - January 22, 2021 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
- c. Approval of Minutes - January 28, 2021 Called Meeting (staff-CC)
- d. Approval of 2021 Alcohol Licenses (staff-CC)
- e. Authorization for Chairman to sign Judicial Alternatives of Georgia Probation Services Agreement for Putnam County Superior Court (Judge Trammell)

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 _____.)

8. Approval to allow employees to convert vacation leave in excess of 240 hours into a 401/457 Plan (staff-CM/HR)

County Manager Van Haute explained that this started several years ago to mitigate the pension liability and exposure. It gives employees two choices: pay vacation leave in excess of 240 hours to the employee at their retirement by additional time of service or convert them into a 401/457 plan each year.

Motion to allow employees to convert vacation leave in excess of 240 hours into a 401/457 plan.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

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9. Request from PDA to allow the BOC to proceed with engineering and construction of the right turn lane on Dennis Station Road (BS/JW)

Interim Economic Development Director Pat Topping talked about Interfor and their recent growth, which will double the number of truck loads that they process to about 560 a week. This new lane on Dennis Station Road will help tremendously to keep them out of the travel lane.

Motion to approve the request from PDA to allow the BOC to proceed with engineering and construction of the right turn lane on Dennis Station Road.

Motion made by Commissioner Sharp, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

10. Authorization for Chairman to sign Settlement Agreement between Putnam County and Pittman Construction Company (staff-CM)

County Manager Van Haute explained that an 80,000 pound vehicle, owned by Pittman Construction, crossed over our 5 ton bridge on Crooked Creek Road and this agreement, which has been reviewed by the County Attorney, is for repairing the bridge.

Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Settlement Agreement between Putnam County and Pittman Construction Company.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner Wooten.

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

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

Reports/Announcements

11. County Manager Report

County Manager Van Haute reported the following:

- Paramedic Ronnie Franklin is doing well after spending 110 days in the hospital with COVID-19.
- Georgia DNR has advised that our splash pad grant has been approved to move to the next round - thanks to MGRC for helping with this grant application.

12. County Attorney Report

No report.

13. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner McElhenney: none

Commissioner Brown: none

Commissioner Sharp: none

Commissioner Wooten: none

Chairman Webster: none

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Closing

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, Seconded by Commissioner McElhenney.

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:43 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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