

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Work Session

Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 ♦ 10:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met for a Work Session on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at approximately 10:00 AM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 204, Eatonton, Georgia.

PRESENT

Chairman Billy Webster
Commissioner Gary McElhenney
Commissioner Daniel Brown
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

ABSENT

Commissioner Bill Sharp

STAFF PRESENT

County Manager Paul Van Haute
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth
Finance Director Linda Cook

Opening

1. Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02 a.m.
(Copy of agenda made a part of the minutes on minute book page _____.)

2. Pledge of Allegiance (JW)

Commissioner Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3. County Email Protocol Discussion

Chairman Webster reiterated the importance of always answering emails within 24 hours. He also reminded everyone that whoever the email is “To” should take action and the people that are “CC” are generally just copied for reference. He further advised that if he gets an email addressed to him but in reference to a specific district, he will defer to another commissioner to respond.

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County Clerk Butterworth explained the new set up for commissioners to check their county emails and advised that she will assist any commissioner that needs help with their phones, tablets, or computers. She also cautioned everyone on properly using “Reply” and “Reply All”. No action was taken.

4. Budget Discussion

Dr. Steve Hersey commented on wants and needs and his understanding of the process through personal past experiences. He encouraged the board to consider the wants and needs of the taxpayers, not just the county employees and commented that a tax increase is not needed on top of inflation.

Chairman Webster complimented the County Manager and Finance Director on the admirable job of taking the requests down to something reasonable that the board could work with; they did what they think necessary to run the county and protect the fund balance. It’s the job of the commissioners to decide to accept their recommendations or make reductions. He reviewed two charts he made: one with 2023 General Fund Budget Statistics and one for the 2023 Budget/Mill Rate.

The board reviewed and discussed various departmental budgets in preparation of the meeting to approve the budget on Friday, August 26, 2022. No action was taken.
(Copy of handouts made a part of the minutes on minute book pages _____ to _____.)

Closing

5. Adjournment

Chairman Webster adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:22 a.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth
County Clerk

Billy Webster
Chairman

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