

# PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

## Called Meeting

### Minutes

Monday, January 11, 2021 ♦ 3:00 PM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 203

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, January 11, 2021 at approximately 3:00 PM in the Putnam County Administration Building, 117 Putnam Drive, Room 203, Eatonton, Georgia.

#### *PRESENT*

Chairman Billy Webster  
Commissioner Daniel Brown  
Commissioner Bill Sharp  
Commissioner Jeff Wooten

#### *ABSENT*

Commissioner Gary McElhenney

#### *STAFF PRESENT*

County Attorney Adam Nelson  
County Manager Paul Van Haute  
County Clerk Lynn Butterworth  
Planning & Development Director Lisa Jackson

#### **Opening**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at approximately 3:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance (BS)

Commissioner Sharp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Regular Business Meeting**

3. Appeal by 1054 Lake Oconee Parkway LLC dba/Anchors Marina to the Fire Chief Administrative Decision to require a fire suppression system at Anchors Marina (BW) Chairman Webster explained the rules regarding speaking time: the Fire Chief and the designated speaker for Anchors Marina will each receive ten minutes each, questions from the board don't count; all others receive three minutes each.

County Attorney Nelson reviewed the circumstances leading up to the appeal and explained the process for this meeting. The Fire Chief reviewed the request from Anchors Marina for a Certificate of Occupancy and denied it. Under our Code of Ordinances the appeal is supposed to go to the Board of Commissioners and it was filed timely. The project is nearing completion and during the inspection process the problem was identified. At this meeting we will hear from both sides to determine the best way to move forward. The Board of Commissioners has no authority to waive requirements of the code, but can determine when the code applies and when it doesn't. The board can either approve the Fire Chief's decision or grant the appeal to Anchors Marina or direct staff to work out additional arrangements between the county and the developer which would require a motion to table today. He also advised that staff is available here at the meeting to answer questions.

Fire Chief McClain gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining his reasons for the denial.

Attorney Doug Dillard, representing Anchors Marina, expressed his concerns with the requirements of the Fire Chief. He also submitted and reviewed handouts.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the appeal: David Nix (showed video), Erin Olson, Renee Burgdorff, and Karen Craig. The following individuals spoke in support of the appeal: Charles Conner, Brandon Burgess, and Josh Sprayberry. Economic Development Director Pat Topping provided comments from the Putnam Development Authority.

**Motion to accept the appeal by 1054 Lake Oconee Parkway LLC dba/Anchors Marina to the Fire Chief administrative decision to require a fire suppression system at Anchors Marina based on Exhibit D in the handouts by Doug Dillard.**

**Amended motion to allow issuance of a certificate of occupancy for 1054 Lake Oconee Parkway LLC, with respect to fire protection systems only consistent with the fire protection systems presented by the appellant in a letter dated 12/23/20 by Life Safety Consulting of GA LLC**

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

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

**Voting Nay: Chairman Webster, Commissioner Wooten**

Tie vote is denial of appeal.

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

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**Closing**

4. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

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

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:37 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lynn Butterworth  
County Clerk

Billy Webster  
Chairman

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