

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



117 Putnam Drive, Suite A ♦ Eatonton, GA 31024

Called Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 25, 2022 ♦ 11:00 AM

Putnam County Administration Building – Room 204

Opening

1. Welcome - Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance (JW)

Called Meeting

3. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution to Enact a Moratorium on the Solicitation for Business by Solicitors and Canvassers (PCSO)

Closing

4. Adjournment

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to continue the meeting to another time and place in the event the number of people in attendance at the meeting, including the Board of Commissioners, staff, and members of the public exceeds the legal limits. The meeting cannot be closed to the public except by a majority vote of a quorum present for the meeting. The board can vote to go into an executive session on a legally exempt matter during a public meeting even if not advertised or listed on the agenda. Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Compliance Officer, at least three business days in advance of the meeting at 706-485-2776 to allow the County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

File Attachments for Item:

3. Authorization for Chairman to sign Resolution to Enact a Moratorium on the Solicitation for Business by Solicitors and Canvassers (PCSO)

RESOLUTION TO ENACT A MORATORIUM ON THE SOLICITATION FOR BUSINESS
BY SOLICITORS AND CANVASSERS WITHIN PUTNAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Georgia, under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Georgia is empowered by virtue of its police power to regulate the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Putnam County to provide for and enact regulations of certain business activities; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff of Putnam County has received numerous complaints concerning deceptive practices within the County by solicitors and canvassers, has investigated the same, and believes there is an ongoing coordinated effort to defraud individuals within the County in the same or similar fashion; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has become aware of a sudden rise in the business activities of solicitors and canvassers within the County and recognizes the current Code of Ordinances do not adequately regulate such activity; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Georgia, seeks to maintain the status quo while evaluating whether it is necessary to revise and/or adopt an Article governing the licensure and activities of solicitors and canvassers within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Georgia seeks to prevent any solicitors and canvassers not registered with the Sheriff's Office from conducting or continuing to conduct any business within the County during this period of evaluation and/or adoption of solicitors and canvassers regulations.

NOW THEREFORE, IT SHALL BE AND IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Georgia, that a moratorium restricting certain business activities in the County shall be enacted, as follows:

1. For purposes of this Resolution, and this Resolution alone, *solicitors and canvassers* shall mean any person who solicits orders or appointments on behalf of himself/herself, a firm, corporation, company, association, partnership or individual for any goods, wares, services, or merchandise or other things of value, going from house to house or other premises. Any person who obtains orders or appointments for merchandise, services, or other things of value shall be deemed a solicitor. The term solicitor or canvasser shall not mean an individual or field sales representative working for or on behalf of a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, or students and/or parents who are participating in approved school-sponsored fund raisers.
2. The Board of Commissioners of Putnam County does hereby impose a moratorium of ninety (90) days, on the business activities of solicitors and/or canvassers, in order to maintain the status quo while County officials expeditiously undertake a review of the County's business regulations. During the course of this moratorium, County officials are directed to halt any solicitor and/or canvasser activity unless the same is conducted in accordance with the provisions contained herein. This is a temporary emergency

measure and shall be in place only until such time as the Board of Commissioners have duly adopted a new or revised set of regulations or until the expiration of ninety (90) days, whichever comes first.

- 3. Any solicitor and/or canvasser may continue to conduct business activities upon registration with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, who shall attain, at a minimum the following information: name of all individuals acting as solicitors and/or canvassers, physical address of such individuals, anticipated duration of business activities, and nature of business. The Sheriff shall not charge any fees associated with such registration and shall allow such operation following receipt of the above indicated information.
- 4. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Commissioners that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are and were, upon their enactment, believed by the Board of Commissioners to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

SO RESOLVED this the 25th day of February 2022.

BY: _____
Billy Webster, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Lynn Butterworth, County Clerk