

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 17, 2023
9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	Thomas Helmer, President David Berry, Vice President Rick Woodall
ATTORNEY:	James Ensley
AUDITOR:	Kristina Berish
COUNCIL:	Larry Parker Phillip Gick Stephanie Campbell
AUDIENCE:	18 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on January 17, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Putnam County Courthouse. Tom Helmer opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

BIDS OLD JONES SCHOOL DEMOLITION OF BUILDING

Commissioners opened the following bids received for the demolition:

Gentry Demolition – \$182,000
PFS Excavation – \$205,169.90
Denney Companies – \$166,948 + 42K add topsoil seed and straw
JAShroyer Group LLC – \$284,000
Woolridge Construction – \$174,096
S & G Excavating – \$299,650
Collom Excavating – \$163,000
All American Construction - \$272,000

Commissioners need to review and compare to make sure these bids are “apples to apples”. Set a special session on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 8:00 am. Review and make decision.

Highway Engineer Jim Peck asked if he could bring two letters of financial commitment to this meeting as well to get signed. Peck had said he would have them ready for today’s meeting but did not get it done. Commissioners said it could be presented on the 23rd.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Auditor Berish stated representative from Health department could not make it unfortunately to the meeting and had asked her to make request in her place.

Two years ago, the Commissioners and Council allotted money from the cares act and rainy day funds. As she requested last year, would like balance in each account not used by 12/31/22 to roll into 2023. If Commissioners approved, an additional would be presented to the Council at their February meeting. The money is used to pay compensatory time since they are required to stay open later Wednesdays and to be open on Saturdays. Cares act account had a balance of \$1,254.75 and the rainy day \$11,116.66. Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

EMS

Director Kelly Russ passed out information, when they became an agency in 2020, they had to establish an ordinance at that time for billing. In review, they realized they are billing 92% less than other similar agencies. This would raise the rates for insurance companies and for someone that requires medical attention that lives outside of Putnam County. See page 5 for rates. Would like to make this effectively immediately.

Woodall made the motion to adjust the billing rates to the submitted fee schedule in XXXX.05 procedure for EMS Billing section C as follows:

BLS Emergent \$1,400
ALS1 Emergent \$1,700
ALS2 Emergent \$2000
BLS/ALS Treat no transport \$360
Loaded Mileage \$25/mile
Standby Service Fee \$125/hour

effective February 1, 2023, for insurance purposes that would not affect Putnam County citizens. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ensley said he would advertise for the February 6th meeting. Since this was a rate change it would need to be advertised. He had advised Russ to come to today's meeting to bring proposed rate change to the Commissioners for review.

CLERK'S OFFICE – UPDATES TO OFFICE

Clerk Tracy Bridges asked for renovations to the office: blinds, counters, paint, carpet. She passed out quotes. Total of all 4 quotes is \$20,480.17. Bridges had called the jail department and they have approved inmates coming to help with the labor involved for carpet which would reduce the cost by \$820.

Bridges had also called the State and she can pay 12.5% of the total cost from her Title IVD Incentive fund. The county would have to pay the bills upfront and then she submits to the State for reimbursement of \$2,457.26. Balance left \$17,202.91. Helmer made the motion to approve work not to exceed \$18,000 for the renovations of the office. The expenses would be paid from the cumulative courthouse fund. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PEOPLE PATHWAYS

Allison Leer passed out a map. Small section highlighted in yellow asking for maintenance access for the trail. People Pathways would pay for the improvements needed on access. Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ensley would get with Ms. Leer for the legality part of it.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Jim Peck

- 1) Community Crossings grant
- 2) Bridge preservation for #109 & #112
- 3) Track excavator – researched other finance options as requested. Purchase option of First National Bank at 3.79% rate. They have a line item in their budget this year but would need to increase the appropriated amount starting in 2024.
- 4) Bridge 276 – contractor installing reinforcement steel
- 5) Truck Fleet Management – have a meeting set on 1/19/23 at 11 am
- 6) BOT funding option for public works projects: road or bridge work. Would like to talk to Travis Underhill with AVENEW
- 7) 2023 dust control – contractor used in past no longer providing dust control services. County needs to decide if they want to offer dust control services or get out of it entirely. Woodall said citizens living on a gravel road get the least spent on the road, least maintenance. Playing devils advocate, should we stop any kind of dust control or should the county put it in the budget to pay for it and find another contractor. Looking at both sides of this issue. Problem with calcium chloride you cannot see it on the road, so it is easy for highway department personnel grading to not know it is there and grade over it. No decision made.

BEASLEY SUBDIVISION REPLAT (new name)

Director Lisa Zeiner submitted: lot 3 replat divide it into two lots. County Road 600S, Washington Twp. Meets requirements. Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REDACTION CSI AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Recorder Heather Gilbert had submitted a services agreement with CSI for the Commissioners to sign. They asked for her to give explanation of what agreement entailed. Tabled until January 23rd meeting

SALARY STUDY

Ensley has not received bids back yet from companies interested in conducting the study. Hoping to have this week.

EDIT 2023 PLAN

Ensley passed out submissions received to this point. Advertising for 2/6 meeting.

CAPITAL ASSET POLICY

Ensley said the Auditor is requesting some minor changes. Will discuss changes and get amended policy submitted for review.

IT SERVICES

Ensley said Auditor had sent an email out to all departments asking who they used for IT services. The responses have been getting funneled back to him. He will compile a list of names and contact them asking them to be at the 2/6 meeting.

ARPA

Woodall stated he would be utilizing Barnes and Thornburg for additional help in getting the reports done. He had also been informed the county was eligible for an additional 100K but need to do paperwork to request it.

PLAN COMMISSION BOARD MEETINGS

Moving meetings to Monday so Plan and BZA meetings will be on the same day. 2nd Monday of the month 5:30 pm.

UPDATE COVID POLICY

Woodall said they need to work on updating the COVID policy. A change had been made in a meeting and notated in minutes, but it is confusing for department heads to know what to tell employees when they call in saying they have COVID. Need something in writing.

SOLAR

Woodall said the Council had approved a tax abatement contingent upon an agreement being made for economic development with the company. However, to date they have not been able to come to terms on an agreement. Woodall said he had left a message but no one from solar company had responded.

AUDIT OF COURTHOUSE FOR SECURITY PURPOSES

Helmer said someone would be coming to audit courthouse to help them know what needed to be done.

CLAIMS

January 5, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

January 12, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

January 17, 2023 – Helmer made the motion to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

PAYROLL

January 13, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

December 19, 2022 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

January 3, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Commissioners signed Dr. Warren Macy MD certificate of appointment.

MAIL

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

ADJOURN

Berry made a motion to adjourn. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Thomas Helmer, President

David Berry, Vice President

Rick Woodall

**Attest: Auditor's Office
Kristina Berish**