

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 6, 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
AUDIENCE:	27 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on February 6, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Putnam County Courthouse. Tom Helmer opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

MENTAL HEALTH OF AMERICA & OPIOID GRANT

Karen Martoglio came to the meeting to thank the Commissioners for their past support and ask for continued support through funding they receive from EDIT for Mental Health of America. She was also requesting money from the Opioid Grant funds the county had received. Maci Valdez and Sheila Holloway were also at the meeting to discuss the funding request.

Woodall said he had received phone calls in the last week or so from several entities regarding the Opioid grant. Auditor Berish had sent him emails regarding the grant and how much the county had already received in the restricted and unrestricted funds. He had spoke to other counties to see how they are distributing their money. A lot of them created a committee to give recommendation on how to allocate it. He felt a panel of no more than five individuals. Some of the entities said if they received funding that would allow them access to more grant funds. But needed to know by February 28, 2023. Berry said that was a short turnaround since no one had formally even requested funding at this time. Today was the first they had been approached.

After some discussion, it was decided to have a Special session on February 13th at 1 pm to further discuss the Opioid grant and how to allocate it.

FRANKLIN TWP ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Commissioners received an email regarding appointment needing to be made for the board. Ensley read the email. Tabled until next meeting.

EMS AMBULANCE

Woodall said they were having issues getting an ambulance, wanted to solicit another bid. Commissioners agreed to allow them to seek another bid.

MAINTENANCE

Woodall said Tom Gilson had asked if the maintenance “shop” could be moved to EMS building where there was a better set-up. Commissioners tabled.

AUDITOR CREDIT LIMIT INCREASE

Auditor Berish requested a limit increase for her Chief Deputy which would make her new limit \$3,000. With the Auditor’s office using our card to book rooms for boards and register for conferences it sometimes cut us short on having money on the card for expenses for their office. Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PUTNAM COUNTY RECOVERY

Lori Mitchell was at the meeting for opioid funds. She hoped when the Commissioners reviewed the requests for funding they gave it to organizations that would help in the fight against drugs.

HERITAGE ENVIRONMENTAL – COVERED BRIDGES

Phil Gick came to the meeting to discuss the 9 covered bridges in the county. They want to apply to the State requesting the bridges be added to the National Register. This would open more funding for the restoration of the bridges. Helmer made the motion to submit the applications for all 9 bridges. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY

Peck said he submitted grant applications for community crossing grant and for bridges #109 and #112.

Other topics:

- 1) Anticipating track excavator in mid-April delivery
- 2) Low Boy February 20th delivery
- 3) Bridge 276 – contractor installing reinforcement steel
- 4) 2023 – 2026 bridge inventory/inspection issued to United Consulting
- 5) Oakalla Covered Bridge – preparing cost estimate to fix structure
- 6) INDOT bridge asset management – deterioration modeling program
- 7) Local road safety plan – proposal from HWC Engineering. And looking at SS4A grants. Manhattan road asked DLZ to look at this road for possible 90/10 funding.
- 8) Enterprise fleet management – another meeting on 2/23/23 @ 11 am
- 9) Kenworth truck rotation – existing trucks average 100K miles
- 10) IN Dept. of Environmental Management – Landfill inspection 2/7/23 and fueling station inspection (second inspection)

- 11) Submitted additional appropriation for February Council meeting in the amount of \$810,000
- 12) Planning & Zoning – final review of stormwater ordinance & comprehensive plan
- 13) Purdue Road School coming up March 13 – 15 and CDL training program

WAGE STUDY

Ensley said one company decided to not submit a proposal due to lack of staff. The county has received one quote from Waggoner Irwin Scheele in the amount of \$48,240 plus travel expenses and it would take 6-8 months to complete. Woodall asked do we try to get another bid which would further delay the process or go with the bid we received. Berry said try to contact another company and see if we can get another bid by their next meeting. If not, move forward with the bid they received.

EMS FEES ORDINANCE

Ensley said it was approved at last meeting, but he advertised it for today's meeting since it was dealing with fees, needed to be advertised. Helmer read proposed fee schedule aloud. Opened meeting to public comment. Seeing no comments, closed public comment. Woodall made motion to approve as presented, effective February 6, 2023. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

DEMOLITION FOR OLD JONES SCHOOL ELEMENTARY

Approved bid from Denney but bid not signed. Commissioners signed. Ensley had received their certificate of insurance.

FREEZE/THAW ORDINANCE

Ensley submitted the ordinance for review. Helmer read ordinance aloud. Said they would need to open it for public comment. Closed public comment after seeing no comments from audience. Woodall made the motion to approve, effective March 1, 2023. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PLAN COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Helmer made the motion to appoint Chris Mann. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ENDEAVOR/GIGTEL

Melissa Ensor came to the meeting, when they submitted original proposal, they did not realize we would possibly need power adapters. They wanted to get permission to purchase in case they were needed, if they are not, the county would not be charged for them. Date they are shooting for is February 16, 2023 to install the new telephones.

Also, departments currently have fax machines in their offices. Proposed the county switching to e-fax which would save them \$204 a month.

Woodall made the motion to approve the adapters, if needed, and the e-fax. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLAR PROJECT

Woodall said they would be meeting on February 9th with the Solar company. Kristin Clary will be there along with Baker Tilly.

MOWING COVERED BRIDGES

Woodall asked the Sheriff would the trustees be able to care for them again instead of contracting it out. Sheriff said he had already spoke to his personnel about implementing this again, they would take care of it for the county. Woodall said if they needed a piece of equipment or chemicals to treat weeds to let them know.

INDIANA ARCHIVES

Woodall said the documents were done and they need to go and pick them up. The documents can now be destroyed.

ARPA FUND

Woodall said he applied for the additional 100K they were eligible for. Would need to figure out how to spend.

Auditor Berish stated the Commissioners had approved \$30,565.50 for monitors for EMS but the invoice submitted had additional line items which made the total cost \$32,201.07. Asked for the Commissioners to amend their motion to the adjusted cost. Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SEWER LINES AT EMS

Woodall said new sewer line had been installed. The old lines were not installed correctly.

200 YEAR CELEBRATION

Woodall said they approved 30K from EDIT funds in 2022 for the celebration but did not get it accomplished. The museum had asked if they wanted to join them on the celebration they planned to have this year. Commissioners agreed.

COUNTY ROAD 285

Ensley asked Peck would it make sense to grant an easement. Would the road go anywhere besides where it does now. Peck said no. People Pathways would like to talk to Ensley more, would prefer not to have an easement.

2023 EDIT PLAN

Ensley submitted a draft. Commissioners tabled.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Jamie France said the Community Corrections Advisory Board had 3 changes. Seeking approval of the changes. Sheriff Jarrod Baugh in the statutory position. Council President Stephanie Campbell designee would be Wayne Huffman. Prosecutor

appointee is Austin Malayer. Woodall made the motion to approve the changes. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CLAIMS

January 18, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

January 19, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

January 26, 2023 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

February 2, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

February 6, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve with exception for claim for S & W in the amount of \$3,455.01. Wrong vendor. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Woodall made motion to change the incorrect vendor to Sysco and pay bill. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PAYROLL

January 27, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

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

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

January 23, 2023 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MAIL

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

CYBER SECURITY – IT COMPANIES THAT WORK IN COUNTY

EPIC Insurance gave the county paperwork to fill out and needed paperwork from IT companies that do work in the county so the county could get cyber security insurance. Discussion. IT companies said they would fill out documents and work with getting whatever was necessary done for the county to be eligible for the insurance.

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**