

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 17, 2023
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:
COMMISSIONERS: Thomas Helmer, President
David Berry, Vice President
Rick Woodall
AUDITOR: Kristina Berish
COUNTY ATTORNEY: Jim Ensley
COUNCIL: Stephanie Campbell
Larry Parker
Danny Wallace
AUDIENCE: 10 Individuals

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

Berry made the motion to add Dave Costin to the agenda for the console center bid that was approved at the last meeting. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Costin said the county attorney had reviewed the contract and needed a signature from the Board of Commissioners to submit to the company.

WALLY'S FOOD TRUCK

Ensley said the county had allowed some others in the past. Berry said the light poles have 110 on them for people to use. He felt in the past when someone had asked to hook up to the 220, we denied it. Tabled since no one was present at the meeting.

ASSESSOR – BIDS FOR COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL

Assessor had one bid turned in to the Auditor's office. This would be for the entire county. A representative from Nexus Group was at the meeting to answer questions. Once completed, there would be a phase in period since some commercial parcels are grossly under assessed. The total contract amount is \$154,500 over a three-year period.

Woodall asked about residential assessed values, would this be contracted out as well. The assessor said they are doing it in house currently. He is the only level III in his office, there are two of his deputies working towards. He felt, at this time they were fine.

Ensley said they could accept the bid. Woodall made the motion to approve not to exceed \$154,500 in the three-year contract. Assessor will work with the Auditor on financing the project. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ensley will read it first, before the Commissioners sign it.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Engineer Jim Peck presented:

- 1) Community crossings grant bids – they were opened at the last meeting. Peck had reviewed and broke them out for the board. Howard Companies is the recommendation he is making to accept. This came in at 50K over budget. He will be submitting an additional to the Council. Berry made the motion to approve Howard Companies. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Dunbar Covered Bridge project looking at an 80/20 grant. Bypass bridge would be \$6,755,750 with local funding commitment of \$1,530,000.

WEST CENTRAL 2024 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION REQUEST

Commissioners want to continue the program. The money is paid from the hazardous waste fund. The request for 2024 is 91,815. Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

June 22, 2023 – Berry made a motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

July 3, 2023 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

METRONET COUNTY BILL

Woodall said the county was still being billed by Metronet for phone numbers we no longer have through them. Metronet is who the courts switched to on their own. Their departments are the only ones that have their internet through Metronet, everyone else is through Endeavor. Woodall has called them numerous times and getting nowhere. He questioned stop paying the bills. Woodall will go to the Auditor's office after meeting and call Metronet again.

CREDIT CARD ISSUE

Woodall stated he thought the issue had been taken care of.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Tabled at a previous meeting since the county attorney was not present. Auditor said there was verbiage in the handbook that needed to be cleaned up. It should never have been included. Woodall made the motion to remove the verbiage of PERF 4.7 handbook policy. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BAKER TILLY

Tabled

INDIANA ARCHIVES

Woodall said the State would destroy the documents already filmed and archived. They just need a document signed authorizing it. They will destroy it free of charge. They will no longer accept paper to microfilm. Helmer made the motion to approve and sign. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLAR FARM

Woodall stated there had been agreements going back and forth between the company and the county. County attorney has been reviewing the agreements. Ensley said they would like to be at the next Commissioner meeting.

AREA 10 AGENCY

Chris Meyers had contacted the Commissioners. Woodall said they received an email informing them they are losing funding. EDIT plan currently gives them some funds for the rural transit. They have lost in total around 90K in revenue. They currently receive 15K a year from Putnam. They will be reaching out to other entities as well to request help.

ADJOURN

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

Thomas Helmer, President

David Berry, Vice President

Rick Woodall

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