

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING
SPECIAL SESSION
March 15, 2024
10:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	David Berry, President Tom Helmer, Vice President Rick Woodall
ATTORNEY:	Jim Ensley
AUDITOR'S OFFICE:	Kristina Berish
AUDIENCE:	1 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on March 15, 2024, at 10:00 AM. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. David Berry opened the meeting.

2024 EDIT PLAN

Ensley presented a draft for the board to review:

THRIVE – WCED	\$ 34,935.50
SPARK Revolving Loan	\$ 13,750.00
Economic Development	\$ 55,000.00
Senior Center	\$ 20,000.00
Edgelea Annual Payment	\$ 27,150.00
Edgelea Debt Contingency	\$ 10,000.00
Rural Transit	\$ 40,000.00
Beyond Homeless	\$ 20,000.00
Food Pantry	\$ 20,000.00
People Pathways	\$ 20,000.00
Courthouse Security Equipment	\$ 50,000.00
Countywide Email Project	\$ 18,000.00
Russellville Community Center	\$ 13,000.00
Area 30 – Adult Education	\$ 30,000.00
Warchest	\$989,747.50

Woodall felt the board did not need to put the annex in the plan since the county is in the process of getting one. Berry and Helmer agreed.

Woodall conveyed his concern with giving any funds this year to the highway department due to their inability to spend within their appropriated line items in the budgets. The Administrative Assistant had stated there was 300K appropriated for rock this year, as it was being depleted, she was advising the Engineer and Supervisor. Even with being advised of how much was left periodically in the account, they spent more than 300K and expect her to find money in another account to do a transfer to cover it.

Woodall is frustrated with how the highway department is being operated. The Commissioners hired individuals to run the department. However, they are showing their inability to live within the financial perimeters. Berry said we hire people and should not have to micromanage to ensure things are getting done properly. It was decided to have a meeting on March 25th at 9:45 am to discuss personnel issues and the budgets.

Ensley let the Commissioners know they can approve the plan today; the remaining money would go into the warchest fund. If they wanted to appropriate money for an entity, they would need to submit an additional to the Council.

Berry called for a vote on the proposed plan, Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Auditor Berish asked for clarification on the claim submitted by EMA for Jack Smith for \$1,000. The information had been emailed to the board and the county attorney. Is this allowable? Smith is a volunteer, does the county pay for this auto insurance deductible for an accident? And was he the cause of the accident or did the other driver not have insurance? Helmer said it was a one vehicle accident caused by Smith not seeing a tree stump. After discussion, it was decided by the board to allow the claim, but Ensley said they needed to tell Smith if the state takes exception of it during audit he may need to pay it back to the county.

ADJOURN

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

David Berry, President

Thomas Helmer, Vice President

Rick Woodall

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