

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 3, 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:	18 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on January 3, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Putnam County Courthouse. Rick Woodall opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Woodall made the motion to appoint Helmer as President and Berry as Vice President. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – CLERK POSITION

Brian Williams came to the meeting and reminded the board they had a nurse resign. They would like to join two open part time positions into a full-time position. They have the money in their budget to pay for the position for a salary of 41K.

Woodall was concerned with the proposed salary; this was higher than other positions in the county. The county had dealt with this issue in other departments for the last eight months.

Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The Council would need to review and approve the salary.

CLERK'S OFFICE – SPACE ISSUE

Clerk Tracy Bridges came to the meeting along with past Clerk Heather Gilbert to let the Commissioners know they had a space issue with storing the new voting machines. They would be getting 94 machines in February. The current space would not be large enough. Prefer to have space in the courthouse.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Jamie France came to the meeting and took himself off the agenda, he needed to go before the Council first. Asked to be put on the February 6th agenda.

TOWN OF ROACHDALE – INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Lisa Zeiner said at the last town meeting they passed an agreement wanting the county's Planning and Zoning department to handle all their cases for them. She did not feel it would add a lot of work to the office.

Woodall questioned the fees being the same for the town that the county currently has in place to make it more streamlined. Jim Ensley said they could approve the agreement with the contingency of the town agreeing to change their fees.

Berry made the motion to approve contingent upon them approve using the county fee schedule. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MORRISONS PROPERTY

Trudy Selvia came to the meeting to give an update to the Commissioners. The other property owner involved was now out of the picture. It was now between the Morrisons and the county. She wanted to ask the Commissioners what they wanted her to do at this time: state they were in compliance, not in compliance or do nothing.

After discussion, Woodall made the motion to state Morrisons were compliant. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PRECINCTS – CITY OF GREENCASTLE

Laurie Hardwick and Mayor Bill Dory came to the meeting due to population the precincts needed to be re-mapped for City of Greencastle. Submitted documents for the Commissioners to review of the new precincts. Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Jim Peck and Clint Maddox came to give update on department. Peck said he interviewed with INDOT this morning about proposed Dunbar Bridge project. Hope to know more in a month.

Co-Alliance and Petroleum Traders Corp. submitted bids for fuel. Both bids were very close in amounts submitted. We currently work with Co-Alliance, and they know how the department functions, Peck would be more comfortable staying with them for 2023. For 2024 he wants to research and get more information prior to bids. Berry made the motion to approve Co-Alliance. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Bridge 276 – White Construction is starting deck pans and installing reinforcing steel this week.

Peck went over the proposed bridge and paving plan. There was a special session set on January 11, 2023, at 2:30 pm at Highway Department to discuss the plan and would like to also discuss excavation equipment and office improvements.

Clint Maddox went over the request to approve selling some of the excess equipment via an auction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

John Parmley with EPIC came to the meeting regarding the renewal for liability insurance. He shopped around to see if they could get the county a better price. Parmley recommended staying with Bliss since they did lower their price. Berry made a motion to stay with Bliss and Hanover. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Cyber Insurance – Woodall stated we needed all IT companies who are involved in the county to fill out documents to enable them to get the insurance. The problem the county is facing is that they did not have one IT person/company for the county. The companies involved were cautious of signing a document since other companies could have “touched” a department. After discussion, it was decided to hold a meeting with all the providers to get this resolved.

Wage Study – Jim Ensley had been waiting for a department to get him job descriptions. Waggoner Irwin Scheele and Baker Tilly expressed interest. Ensley will send it to the two companies.

Steele Benefits Services – New onboarding program for county employees. Take place of EASE. The total annual cost is \$10,900; however, Guardian will cover 5-6K leaving a balance of approximately 6K to county. Tabled from December 5th meeting. Discussion. Length of contract could be 1-3 years whichever the county prefers. 90 days opt out. Woodall made the motion to approve and pay it from the health insurance trust fund with a cap of no more than 8K with a 2-year contract. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CLAIMS

No claims to approve

PAYROLL

December 30, 2022 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

No minutes for today’s meeting.

MAIL

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

ADJOURN

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

Thomas Helmer, President

David Berry, Vice President

Rick Woodall

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