

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
REGULAR SESSION  
APRIL 3, 2023  
9:00 AM**

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

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on April 3, 2023, at 9:00 AM. Meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. Tom Helmer opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

**PEDDLE PUTNAM**

Mike Richmond stated they had a road cycling event in the county a few years ago and would like to have it again this year on May 6<sup>th</sup>. They have been working with City, Depauw University, Police Department and last stop to Commissioners to coordinate the event. Submitted a map of the race, they will need to modify part of it due to road construction. Jim Ensley will work with them regarding the proper documents for approval (example insurance). Woodall made the motion to approve the event on May 6<sup>th</sup> on the county roads pending proper documents signed. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MEDICAL STATFLIGHT HELICOPTER FOR COUNTY**

Jill Spaulding had been to previous meeting with a proposal offering a membership program for the county. Submitted new quote and it was lower than last year due to census data. If anyone in the county is flown, they cover all out-of-pocket expenses. 2022 there were 83 flights out of Putnam County. And they are already trending higher in the first few months of 2023. If someone does not have insurance, they cover it 100%. If they have insurance, they will file with the insurance company and pay any expense not covered. The cost averages out to \$6 per household that the county would pay. This county program would only cover Putnam County residents, not someone who is visiting the county and needed to be flown out. Individuals can purchase for \$65 an international plan. The Commissioners felt it was a good program. But they would need time to consider and figure out where the funds would come from. Woodall made the motion to table. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**CLERK'S OFFICE - ELECTION SOFTWARE**

Stacia Hathaway, Election Deputy stated the Clerk had gone to the last Council's meeting for approval of the software. They saw a demonstration of the program at a conference and was excited at what it could do. It will give live election results. It will have pictures of the candidates and their bio for individuals to see. And can notify people as votes are coming in.

Were advised since there was a contract, needed to come before the Commissioners. She turned it over to representative from An Island LLC to give presentation of the software. Helmer asked how secure the site was for hackers. There are several security measures to ensure only authorized people can have access to make changes. It is \$25,000 initial cost and then \$8,000 per year. The contract presented was a 5-year contract. To help cover the annual maintenance fee they could have paid ads on the county site.

Commissioners asked what Hathaway thought about the program since she would oversee it as the Election deputy. Hathaway was very excited about the program. Anyone anywhere could see the voting results live as they come in and see history of the votes. Sheriff Baugh thought this would benefit the public and give transparency. Make them more involved in the voting process. He thought it was a great idea.

Helmer made the motion to approve the 5-year contract, 25K first year and 8K each year after. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **HIGHWAY**

Engineer Jim Peck:

- 1) West Walnut Bridges #109 & #112 still under review by INDOT
- 2) Community Crossing grant still under review by INDOT
- 3) Bridge inventory/inspection: Bridges #154 & #191 – lane closure, Bridges #211 & #252 (Huffman & Oakalla) – closed, Bridge #187 & #45 – critical findings
- 4) Baker Tilly reviewing the wheel tax and excise surtax for the county
- 5) Anticipated delivery of track excavator is week of April 10<sup>th</sup>
- 6) Enterprise fleet management – under review
- 7) Kenworth truck rotation – obtaining lease quotes
- 8) IDEM – landfill inspection – summary of findings meeting April 17<sup>th</sup> & obtaining quote to replace fuel spill buckets
- 9) CSX Bridge – CSX indicated will not be able to fund removal of the 3 bridges

### **SAM LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION**

Auditor submitted letter for Commissioners to sign. It is to remove Lorie Hallett's name and change it to Kristina Berish. Commissioners signed.

### **GIGTEL PROPOSAL FOR E-FAX**

Need Commissioners approval on proposal submitted. Signed.

### **COVID SMALL BUSINESS GRANT**

Need Tom Helmer's signature. Woodall explained it was another round for the grant received in 2021. First round 26 businesses received \$9,615.38 each. If this grant application is approved, they will receive additional grant money. The State found a pot of money and decided to give a small window of opportunity to submit for a second round. Grant Administrator Kristy Jerrell had reached out to the Commissioners to apply for the grant. Waiting to see if approved.

### **FRONTIER BILL**

Evelyn Williams, Claims Deputy Auditor's office sent down a stack of documents from Frontier on the numbers they are charging incorrectly. She had spoken with Helmer

regarding the bills. She has notified them several times to delete the numbers but they continue to send her bills. They will investigate the matter.

**FRANKLIN TWP ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Berry said he had reached out again to the trustee, and he is not responding.

**CLAIM VERIFICATION OF APPROVAL**

Claims deputy submitted two claims for Commissioners to review for approval. Protocol is all meal receipts should be the detailed to verify nothing purchased that does not meet requirements of the policy. They were submitted by jurors. Commissioners approved, but asked Auditor to send out an email to all departments that it must be detailed receipt.

**CLAIMS**

March 23, 2023 (emergency) – Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

March 30, 2023 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

April 3, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**PAYROLL**

March 24, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

March 20, 2023 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

March 24, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MAIL**

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

**ADJOURN**

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

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**Thomas Helmer, President**

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**David Berry, Vice President**

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**Rick Woodall**

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