

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 4, 2023
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	Thomas Helmer, President David Berry, Vice President Rick Woodall
COUNCIL:	Stephanie Campbell, President Phillip Gick Larry Parker
AUDITOR'S OFFICE	Kristina Berish
AUDIENCE:	22 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on December 4, 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.

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Karen Martoglio came to the meeting to update the board on what has been happening with the Mental Health Association.

AREA 30 – REQUEST FOR EDIT 2024

Kristin Clary and Laura Elsbrock request funding next year to help with adult education in Area 30. She takes at risk high school students through adults and gives them skilled training. The amount requested is \$20,000. The Board will take it into consideration for their 2024 EDIT plan.

ADULT PROBATION – CREDIT CARD REQUEST

Chief Probation Officer Teresa Parrish came to request two additional credit cards for her department at \$1,000 each. The three employees to have a card is Teresa Parrish, Tiffany Boswell and Garret Nichols. Woodall made the motion to approve a total of 3 cards at \$1,000 each. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PROSECUTOR – OPIOID SETTLEMENT

Tim Bookwalter and Teresa Parrish came on behalf of the JRAC committee to discuss the opioid funds the county receives. They would like some input into where the funds are being directed since they deal with the problem firsthand through the courts. Bookwalter said the JRAC committee would like to be the entity that receives the request for funding and makes recommendations to the Commissioners on how to disburse the funds. Woodall said before the Commissioners did this, would like to make sure of the guidelines to ensure they are following the correct legal process.

ANNUAL HIGHWAY BID OPENING

Peck said they had advertised for bids to be submitted to be opened at this morning's meeting. The Board will open them, and Peck will review and give recommendations at their December 18th meeting.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Peck presented report:

- 1) At the last Council meeting it was stated there were available funds for the Highway Department for roads, 10% of the January 1st balance. He stated in the past they rented a piece of equipment; he would like to take this money and purchase a crack seal. He did ask for a quote from SealMaster. They quoted \$91,457.43. He asked the Commissioners for their approval to purchase the piece of equipment. Commissioners questioned the rush to decide, this piece of equipment is used a very limited time each year. Peck was trying to utilize part of the money for 2023 and not “lose” it. Berry said he did not realize the 10% for roads had been available. He had thought there was not any money available. Helmer made the motion to approve the purchase. The motion died from lack of a second.
- 2) 2024 road plan – asked to hold a joint meeting with Commissioners and Council next year.

2024 APPOINTMENTS

Tabled until the next meeting.

Weights & Measurers appointment – will have an opening. The person they are looking at does not have a vehicle that would handle the equipment needed to do the job. The County may need to purchase a vehicle. Also, the county is looking at needing to rent or purchase equipment.

MINUTES

November 20, 2023 – Berry made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPA

Ensley is working on getting the documents back from all the entities. Woodall said let him know who had not responded and he will help get the documents. If someone refuses to give us the needed documents, then they can return the money.

PROPERTY IN CLOVERDALE

Ensley said he had been asked to look at a property that has been on tax sale and no one wants to buy it since the town has a substantial lien on it. It is a vacate lot. Woodall made the motion transfer the property to the Town of Cloverdale. Berry seconded. The motion passed.

INVOICES:

Woodall stated the county had some bills accrued due to the potential solar project that fell through. The contract between the county and the company had stated they would pay for it. However, when looking at, the contract was never signed. The company has said they will not pay for it and we do not have the contract to debate it. The county is now responsible for paying the bills from: Baker Tilly \$42,000 and Barnes & Thornburg \$63,279.03. If the solar company tries to do another project with the county, we can put in the contract to reimburse for these two bills. Otherwise, the county is liable for making payment. The bills are due to be paid before the end of the year. Woodall made the motion to pay it from the EDIT warchest, pending Council approval of additional. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Wheel tax analysis invoice from Baker Tilly: Berry made the motion to pay from county general, pending Council approve of additional. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Professional services for proposed Government Annex building and Bridge projects. Woodall made the motion to pay for it from the annex fund, pending Council approval of additional. Berry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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**