

**COMMISSIONER MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
June 16, 2025
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

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| COMMISSIONERS: | Rick Woodall, President Tom Helmer, Vice President Andy Beck |
| ATTORNEY: | Jim Ensley |
| AUDITOR'S OFFICE | Kristina Berish |
| AUDIENCE: | 18 Individuals |

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on June 16, 2025, at 9:00 AM in regular session. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. Woodall opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

EMA DIRECTOR POSITION

911 Director Dave Costin stated the EMA board had interviewed candidates for the new full-time EMA Director position and are recommending Sarah Owen to the Commissioners to appoint. He introduced her to the board and asked if appointed for her to be able to start immediately.

Woodall said it was normal protocol for the Commissioners to interview individuals before they appoint. Costin said by statute the EMA board selects the director with the approval of the county executive body. Ensley said the EMA board may select an individual, but this individual must be approved by the county executive body (Commissioners).

Beck said if there is an issue with the individual hired people will be contacting them. Of course, the Commissioners can always let people know it was the EMA board that recommended and why this person was hired. Helmer said the EMAC will keep a close eye on how the EMA is being run and making sure things are being done correctly. If they are not doing the job they will be terminated. Helmer made the motion to appoint Sarah Owen. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY BOARD

Board member Larry Tippin came to the meeting to recommend appointing Diana Brumfield for an opening they have on the board due to the resignation of a board member. Beck made the motion to approve and appoint to fulfill the term. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PLANNING – REZONE FAGIN

Lisa Zeiner presented a petition to rezone property for Paul Fagin, A1 to R1. Helmer made the motion to approve ordinance#2025-6-16. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY

Director Clint Maddox presented:

- 1) Installation quotes for bridges 122, 123, and 124 – 100K each. CivilCon out of Jeffersonville, IN. Woodall made the motion to approve for the 3 bridges CR 150 W not to exceed 300K. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2) They had received quotes for single and tandem axle trucks. Maddox recommended going with Stoots Freightliner. Robyn Hughes said they had the money in the budget for the trucks. Woodall made the motion to approve and for the total price of the 3 trucks not to exceed \$665,828 (2 tandem, 1 single). Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3) Asphalt grinder – demonstration requested. They would be coming from Iowa, and it would cost \$3,500. This would be credited towards the purchase of a machine (cost of 90K). Woodall asked if the county decided to get one, financially anything appropriated. Robyn Hughes replied there was nothing. Commissioners asked if the funds in hazardous waste fund could be used. Hughes said this year's money was already obligated for CR 1200 N. Could earmark near year's money. There is money in equipment rental account to pay for the demonstration (\$3,500). Beck made the motion to have the demonstration done and pay from the equipment rental account. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Working on chip and seal roads and dust control program started this morning.
- 5) Bridge 133 – CR 500 E. United is coming on June 25 to look at it with them and give a recommendation. Will need 3 quotes since this is over the threshold. Estimating cost will be over 300K. A special meeting is set for June 26 at 10:30 am.

HEALTH INSURANCE 8/1/25 – 7/31/26

Woodall said open enrollment starts in July. Commissioners changed brokers from Broker McGowan to EPIC. He met with them last week to go over the numbers from Anthem. The premium is increasing by 8.9%. It started at a 17% increase and negotiated down. The monthly premium will go from \$236,620.94 to \$257,669.52. Increase of \$252,582.96 a year.

Health insurance employee portion – went over options. It has been around 7 years since it has been increased. Beck made the motion to increase the employee portion by 10%. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Clinic – Woodall made the motion to continue with the clinic. This is a great benefit for the county in what they offer and the savings. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

\$500 HSA – Woodall made the motion to continue putting \$500 in the employee's HSA account for anyone that signs up for the health insurance on 8/1/25 and has an HSA account. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

\$1,000 HSA – Helmer made the motion to continue with the county match of up to \$38.46 a paycheck into an employee's HSA account which would amount to 1K at the end of year. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

May 22, 2025 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

May 30, 2025 – Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

June 2, 2025 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Beck seconded. The motion passed.

June 11, 2025 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

WEST CENTRAL 2026 CONTRIBUTION

Tabled from last meeting. Increased by 25 cents per person \$110,178 total contribution request. Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

LIVE STREAM MEETINGS

Helmer said the new equipment had been installed. Unfortunately, someone came into the room and vandalized the equipment. He felt due to this the room needed to remain locked.

Arrangements would need to be made by individuals/boards wanting to use the room to get it unlocked. Lisa Zeiner requested a second tv for the room for presentations. Helmer made the motion to have the room locked and to purchase a tv. The tv and the mount not to exceed \$500. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – OFFICE SPACE

Beck said at first the hospital board wanted the health department to stay in the hospital, and they were working on more office space for them. This went on for months. They had a meeting set up to discuss the additional space, but instead of telling them what space they had found, they let them know they wanted the health department to now move out because they needed the space for doctor offices.

Beck went on to say the hospital board proposed a building the county could buy off of them that is located beside the hospital. If the county was interested in purchasing two appraisals would need to be done. The hospital board said they would cover the cost of one and the county pay for the other. After discussion, the Commissioners decided to not move forward at this time with appraisal.

ANNEX UPDATE

Woodall said the first estimated cost was 18M. The companies went back and reduced the size of the annex by 3,000 square feet and made some other revisions. They are working on an updated cost. The county needed to come up with a maximum price.

ADJOURN

Helmer made the motion to adjourn. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Rick Woodall, President

Tom Helmer, Vice President

Andy Beck

Attest: Auditor's Office
Kristina Berish