

**COMMISSIONER MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
September 2, 2025
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	Rick Woodall, President Tom Helmer, Vice President Andy Beck
COUNCIL:	Stephanie Campbell, President
ATTORNEY:	Jim Ensley
AUDITOR'S OFFICE	Kristina Berish
AUDIENCE:	25 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on September 2, 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.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – VEHICLE PURCHASE

Sheriff Baugh and Chief Deputy Tom Sutherlin came to the meeting to present information about financing two Tahoes for the department. Three bids received: First National Bank at 3.85%. North Salem State Bank at 4.28%. First Financial Bank at 5.91%. Beck made the motion to approve First National Bank. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST FOR EMPLOYEE

Sutherlin presented a letter of request for a leave of absence. This employee is currently on FMLA, but the twelve weeks are almost up. Commissioners asked the department for their opinion on the request. Sutherlin replied this is the second incident this year. And the department is struggling to cover shifts, which is utilizing a lot of their overtime allotted for the year. Commissioners asked to see the doctor's note that is notated as being attached to the letter. Sutherlin said he never got a doctor's note. Helmer made a motion to deny until the board sees a doctor's note to further review for the request. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IMMIGRATION LETTER

Woodall made the motion to add Kelsey Kauffman to the agenda. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Kauffman had a letter signed by some of the citizens in our county. The letter is requesting local law enforcement to deny any requests to help in the immigration and custom process. Read letter aloud. The Commissioners do not have any jurisdiction over the Sheriff; he is an elected official.

PTABOA BOARD

Assessor Badolato submitted a request for the members for the 2025 board. Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN RESOLUTION

Chris Miller requested to place the banner once again in front of the dough boy on the courthouse square and to pass a proclamation. Beck made the motion to approve the banner. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Woodall made the motion to approve the proclamation. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Director Clint Maddox presented:

- 1) Bridge 152 – received plans and ready to be sent out for quotes.
- 2) Bridge 154 – working on design proposals (HWC and United).
- 3) Bridge 191 – construction to start on September 10, 2025.
- 4) Bridge 123 – construction to start within the next couple of weeks.
- 5) Update on vegetation spray.
- 6) Mowers are out and working.
- 7) September 9th at 8:00 am special meeting to discuss roads for 2026 and bridge plans for 154.

LIMITED USE AGREEMENT WITH LOCHMUELLER FOR GIS

Woodall asked about the agreement. Ensley researched and contacted the Plan Commission department. Lochmueller Group need the information for a project they are doing with the City of Greencastle. He wants to do further research but advised they could approve pending his discussion with Lisa Zeiner. Woodall made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

HR submitted schedule for Commissioners review. Helmer made the motion to approve. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

August 18, 2025 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail. Razor Aggregates suing since county denied their request. Ensley has paperwork.

BEYOND HOMELESS

Helmer had spoken with Jamie France about an application to apply for opioid funds. Beck felt surrounding counties needed to contribute since they are utilizing this facility.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE TAX

Woodall said legislature wants counties to do all they can do to get income for themselves. To look outside the box for funding for bridges and roads. It is his understanding this could be a potential revenue stream. They are only reviewing this option currently. Beck suggested having public meeting to get input. Woodall felt they also needed to get additional information on how the tax worked from start to finish. And if the county did enact this tax, it was needed to make sure it was strictly used for bridges and roads.

ROAD OUT OF ROACHDALE CR 250E

Discussed at last meeting. Ensley said the county would have to do a study. He will contact Bliss McKnight.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Woodall said they have received all four appraisals for the two buildings along with renovation estimates. At the southern location they could assume the bank loan, but they have to buy it down (40K) and it has a balloon payment. When you factor that in, it is not a savings to assume the loan versus the county getting their own. He wants to have a joint executive session followed by a joint special session to discuss the options so the county can move on with the project. It was decided to hold the meetings on September 16th. Executive at 7:15 pm, Special at 8:15 pm.

ANNEX

Woodall said they had a meeting last week and will have the next one on September 12. Getting closer to the guaranteed 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