

COMMISSIONER MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
July 21, 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:	26 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on July 21, 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.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Director Clint Maddox:

- 1) Received information from three banks to obtain a loan for two tandem and one single axle truck. The total amount to be borrowed is \$665,828. Banks were: First National Bank, Tri-County Bank, and North Salem Bank. First National Bank offered the best interest rate. Commissioners reviewed the information, Woodall pointed out that the total amount with interest would be 25K more than what was budgeted. Maddox said they would have to look at their overall budget to see where they could pay it from. Beck made the motion to approve First National Bank with a six-year loan at an interest rate of 4.12%. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Grinder – Maddox will see it next week. If he likes it, they will set-up a demonstration.
- 3) Broom – Debate on whether to fix current one or purchase another one. To replace the motor is around 12K. Or they could get another one for 30-40K. It should not take long to get another one if they go that route. Helmer made the motion to purchase one not to exceed 35K, taking 15K from the roads & streets fund (1169) and 20K from the cumulative bridge fund (1135). And to approve it going through the emergency claims process to expedite the payment. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Bridge 133 – E & H Bridge had submitted bridge as concrete with exposed eye beams. Woodall pointed out this goes against previous motion made by the Commissioners for the type of bridge. Maddox stated this is the only bid they have. Woodall was concerned with how the bridge is angled, would it cause an issue for a vehicle crossing the bridge. A representative from E & H Bridge was at the meeting and he had gone and looked at the bridge before he came to the meeting. He said it would not cause any issue. Ensley said he did not think the previous motion was an issue. Just because a motion has been made does not mean you are obligated to only do the bridge in that manner. Woodall made the motion to approve using the annual bids for bridges the county had received. Beck seconded. The

motion passed unanimously. They had two quotes submitted for construction: Jamrr Excavating \$72,000 and Collom Excavating \$147,200. Woodall asked if they were apples to apples since the quotes were so far apart on price. Maddox had reviewed the quotes and felt they were. Helmer made the motion to accept the quote from Jamrr Excavating. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5) Bridge 191 – it is currently one lane due to damage, want to get it back to where both lanes are open. Again, looking at an E & H bridge. Woodall asked about the sight difference. Maddox said it could be adjusted. Helmer made the motion to approve E & H from the annual bids. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Received two quotes for the construction: Jamrr Excavating \$69,000 and Collom Excavating \$144,930. Helmer made the motion to approve Jamrr. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Update on paving in the county.
- 7) Dust Bowl 100 race is this weekend. They want to have part of the race go through three bridges that are currently closed. Commissioners said they would allow it.

HANNIG CONSTRUCTION

Vince Davitto came to the meeting to make an introduction of the company to the board.

HERITAGE LAKE CR 700 & 500 INTERSECTION

County resident Gary Dickson said the intersection is dangerous. It is a three-way stop, and vehicles are slowing down but not coming to a complete stop and there have been several close calls of vehicles colliding. He asked if different signage could be installed. Discussion, Maddox will contact Bliss McKnight to have them study the intersection and give recommendation.

BEYOND HOMELESS

Representatives from the organization came because they are running low on funds and reaching out to people and boards to seek help. They sent out 300 letters. The county has already obligated 20K for this year, but they are asking if the county could possibly donate more. Due to grant cuts and delays they are afraid they may have to close the doors. It costs around 35K a month to run the shelter. And they also help people that are struggling to pay for their utilities or rent. The Commissioners will further discuss and see if there is any way the county could give them additional funds.

UDO ON SOLAR

Eddie Felling came to the meeting asking if the board would consider a UDO. After reading the county's current ordinance he felt there were several areas that needed to be addressed. He did not want to see the county in a bad position later. Ensley said he has spoken with Felling about this. He felt the county was okay. When they were starting the process with the company before it did not go through the company commented on how our county was asking for far more regarding decommission than others had. Plan Commission Director Lisa Zeiner said the county's ordinance is currently at the minimum requirements for solar.

Beck felt it was too late at this point to make a change. Helmer agreed. He felt this was a premature request. Woodall said he disagrees with making a moratorium. Felling asked that they county look at updating their ordinance to protect them in the future and to keep a close eye on these agreements.

MINUTES

July 7, 2025 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPRAISALS – HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Ensley said the Council had approved the appraisals at their July meeting. He was working on getting the appraisals set-up. The Commissioners said to pay for the appraisals out of the hazardous waste fund (3K). There will be a joint executive session on August 6th to discuss.

RAZOR AGGREGATES LAWSUIT

Woodall stated someone from Barnes & Thornburg had contacted him. The county has used this company when needing this type of legal work. They contacted him because Razor Aggregates was wanting to hire them for the lawsuit they have filed against the county. Would the county be alright with the same company representing both parties. If they were, a waiver would need to be signed. Helmer made the motion to not sign the waiver. The company needed to choose who they would represent. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – COUNTY TIF DISTRICT

Kristin Clary gave an update. Their next meeting will be held on July 30th.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

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**