COMMISSIONER MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
October 19, 2026
9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:	
COMMISSIONERS:	Andy Beck, President
	Tom Helmer, Vice President
	Rick Woodall
COUNCIL:	Stephanie Campbell, President
COUNTY ATTORNEY:	Jim Ensley
AUDITOR'S OFFICE	Kristina Berish
AUDIENCE:	17 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met on October 19, 2026, at 9:00AM in regular session. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. Beck opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

CHIP & SEAL COUNTY ROAD 1100 N

County resident Rex Cloud asked if anything had been decided about the road. Beck said nothing at this time. They are still working on a bill to be written for a stone tax. It would be like a tipping fee, and the funds would be used towards the roads. Cloud asked about it getting treated with calcium chloride. Maddox gave him the information to contact the company that handled that.

VETERANS OFFICE

Brian Hopkins requested the annual Veteran recognition celebration held on November 11th to be inside the courthouse. It had been past tradition for it to be outside; however, he felt it was better for the veterans for it to be inside in case of cold or bad weather. He also requested a Commissioner be present to present a plaque. Woodall made the motion to approve the request. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

WTH ELECTRONIC MAP DATA APPLICATION AGREEMENT

Beck read aloud the agreement. Helmer made the motion to approve. Woodall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

HIGHWAY REPORT

Highway Director Maddox presented:

1) CR 500 that was discussed at the last meeting, he had Bliss McKnight look at it. It was the engineer's standpoint that it did not warrant a stop sign. If the Commissioners felt due to high count of accidents or a line-of-sight issue they could approve a sign.

Beck felt there was an issue with being able to see clearly, it was unsafe. He thought it should be a 3-way stop. Helmer made the motion to approve a 3-way stop. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ensley will draw up the ordinance.

2) CR 800 S near the entrance to Martin Marietta, it has been closed and will most likely be closed for the rest of the week. The road is in bad shape, and they must be careful not to hit a gas line that runs along the road.
3) Excavator – Maddox said they received quotes from John Deere, First National bank, North Salem bank, and Tri-county bank. John Deere offered the best rate, he recommended going with them. Commissioners asked if they had money in the budget to pay for the annual amount. Hughes stated she had submitted an additional to go before the county council next month and in future years it will be in the budget. Woodall made the motion to approve financing through John Deere pending the council approving the funding and to leave it open ended on how many years (4 or 5). Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4) Bridge 183 – converted to pipe. It will be taken off the bridge inventory.
5) Bridge 211 – work has begun.
6) Bridge 92 – hope to start working on it this week.
7) Bridge 231 – has structural issues so it has been moved up on the bridge list to be worked on. The department will be able to install it themselves. It will be converted to a culvert. Lead time for getting the materials is 4-6 weeks.
8) New hires are doing well. Mark Gubser last day is Friday, retiring after working for the county for 45 years.

COUNTY ATTORNEY APPOINTMENT

Helmer made the motion to appoint Eddie Felling. He felt Felling would do a good job with the background he had in local government. Beck seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Woodall said they had 8 good applicants they interviewed. The Commissioners will contact Felling and offer him the job. They will need to review the salary of what they will offer him for the position.

MINUTES

October 6, 2026 – Beck made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

STATFLIGHT

Woodall said they had discussed what option they wanted to choose. It was the consensus of the board to include Clay, Morgan, and Hendricks. This is pending the Council's approval. The board will attend their meeting next week to present some funding options.

MAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES VEHICLE

Helmer said he found a vehicle and they will go before the Council next week to discuss regarding funding since it is not in the budget.

ANNEX

Woodall gave an update on progress.

DRAINAGE BOARD

Woodall said he and the county attorney have set up a couple of meetings in the next 2 weeks to see what it would take to get regulated drains. After the meetings he will report back to the board on the findings.

COUNTY VEHICLES

Beck felt all county vehicles should be marked. He was addressing all departments except the Sheriff and Highway. They should not be driving them home. Any mileage that is personal which includes driving back and forth to worth is a taxable fringe benefit. The county attorney said they need to work on drawing up a vehicle policy that would address all the issues. Beck said he would work with the attorney to get a draft drawn up.

ADJOURN

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

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Andy Beck, President **Tom Helmer, Vice President**

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Rick Woodall **Attest: Auditor's Office, Kristina Berish**