

COMMISSIONERS MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 6, 2022 9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:

COMMISSIONERS:	Rick Woodall, President Thomas Helmer, Vice President David Berry
ATTORNEY:	James Ensley
AUDITOR:	Kristina Berish
COUNCIL:	David Fuhrman Larry Parker
AUDIENCE:	15 Individuals

The Putnam County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on June 6, 2022, at 9:00 AM at the Putnam County Courthouse. Rick Woodall opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

PLANNING & ZONING – ORDINANCE

Planning Director Lisa Zeiner requested approval of ordinance for development review (drafted in November) but was not heard until recently. This was before the county hired HWC to completely redo the ordinance which would include the ordinance she brought today. Woodall asked for interested parties to attend the July planning meeting. Jim Ensley said anything you change today could potentially change when HWC was finished.

Kristin Clary said the solar company was planning to attend Wednesday night's meeting. Zeiner said the current ordinance was done in 1992. Woodall made the motion to table to the July 18th meeting. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

COVERED BRIDGES & PARKS

Eric Freeman came to the meeting because the Park Board would like to help the county and manage the maintenance of the covered bridges and area surrounding them. He had helped get quotes for the county for the lawn care. The board had access to apply for funding. No changes would be done without consulting with the Commissioners and Highway Department. The Commissioners tabled and will get back with him.

Freeman also asked the murals across the county to become part of the Park Board. They would help in the maintenance of them and to insure them.

200 YEAR CELEBRATION

Ben Fox came to the meeting to discuss adding a 6th mural to the five they already have going in the county. The additional mural would represent the celebration of the county. They were looking to put it on the wall where Dicks Barber Shop is located downtown. It would be a perfect spot, visible to the community and for the festival. The Commissioners would review designs submitted and approve before the mural was started. If approved, the estimated cost to the county would be 15K. The Commissioners tabled until their June 20th meeting.

MORRISON

William Morrison said they would be going to great lengths to explain the violations of civil rights they have had to endure due to his neighbor. If the Judge determined the Commissioners did not have the authority to enforce the ordinance, then why was there an ordinance. Morrison felt it had also been a conflict of interest that past Commissioner Don Walton had been involved in it. He felt the county had spent a lot of time and money in the attack against him. Richards' attorney had recently inspected his property, it was extremely intrusive, and he had no regard for the safety of his animals. No matter the difference, his property should be respected.

2022 AMENDED EDIT ORDINANCE

Jim Ensley said it was advertised for the meeting. Adding \$15,000 Barnes & Thornburg and \$12,900 Putnam County Fairgrounds. Changing warchest to \$45,551. Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Continue paying Barnes for now from ARPA fund per Woodall.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Engineer Jim Peck presented a report to the Commissioners:

2022 paving projects include 25.88 miles of chip/seal, 17.61 miles of chip/seal over asphalt millings, and .40 miles of HMA. Milestone Contracting South would be paving 9.70 miles of HMA as part of the community crossings grant and an additional .54 miles for paving Hospital Drive, Medic Way, and Medallion Drive. The total cost of these projects was \$2,831,575.51.

Peck had reviewed the cash funds in MVH and MVH restricted. He felt there was enough money in the funds to appropriate \$900,000 from each fund to put towards these projects. He would be submitting these additional requests at a Council meeting. He would also be utilizing the 300K they received of EDIT funds.

Hendricks county approached them regarding a small strip of road. John Ayers said they would pave it and invoice Putnam County for our portion. Peck estimated 18-20K. They would need an interlocal agreement. Peck said the project had already been completed. Ensley would get agreement drawn up.

Community crossing 1M waiting for Attorney General signature.

Medic Way – Milestone quote in the amount of \$148,111.60 Woodall made the motion to approve contingent on Council approval. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Personnel matters: Clint Maddox, asked to extend his status until they got approval from the Council on restructure. Helmer made the motion to approve extension until the new status was approved. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Filled vacate truck driver position. Highway was now fully staffed. Requested to leave Clint Maddox's pay as is until proposed change was submitted to the Council. After some discussion the proposed structure was amended to the two office administration positions from a 10% to a 5% increase in their current pay. The pay structure proposed was utilizing monies freed up by not filling a vacant foreman position.

Bridge 276 – Woodall made the motion to approve change order #1 in the amount of \$188,882. Helmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Once the beams were delivered/installed the county would issue another change order deducting the \$188,882.

Bridge inspection/inventory RFP has been posted by INDOT.

FYI Posting requirements for INDOT/FHWA have been changed for emergency vehicle load limits for all county bridges in Indiana.

CELL REIMBURSEMENT

Tabled from a previous meeting to further research was the monthly per diem allowed to qualifying county positions. Currently it is \$30 a month per the county policy. After discussion, decided to leave it.

INSURANCE RENEWAL

Switching from MetLife to Guardian starting 8/1/22. Basic life insurance currently 10K and employees pay 50 cents a paycheck (except Highway). Commissioners increasing it to 20K and the county would pay the entirety of the bill. Employee only. Woodall made the motion to approve. The extra premium amount for 2022 would be paid from the health insurance trust fund. Berry seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Health insurance – Woodall said the numbers Anthem submitted to insurance broker reflected a 10.48% increase in premium. They have asked them to reduce it to 4%. Waiting for response. Commissioners will need to decide how to pay the premium amount. They paid the increase last time from the health insurance trust fund. But there was not enough money in the fund to do it again for 8/1/22 – 7/30/23. Woodall would like to hold a joint meeting with the Council.

Woodall also covered the possible switch away from Anthem in the next renewal 8/1/23 – 7/30/24.

COUNTYWIDE EMAIL IMPLEMENTATION

Woodall how do the Commissioners want the emails set-up. It was decided to do it utilizing the first and last name of the employee. If a department wanted it differently, they would need to contact the Commissioners. IT said if someone leaves a position, they could simply change the name and the county would not lose the emails.

Travelers policy for cybersecurity. DJ said it was more than just countywide emails. A lot more moving parts to the requirements. He needs a list of all companies the county works with for IT. Auditor Berish would send out a memo to all departments.

DOMAIN LETTER

Jim Ensley had drawn up document for Rick Woodall as Commissioner President to sign. It was a request to provide access to our domain.

TEMPORARY EASEMENT IN FRONT OF EMS BUILDING

Jim Ensley presented document. County would receive 3K. Put the money in the EMS fund (go towards remodel expense). Woodall signed.

CAPITAL ASSET POLICY

Jim Ensley said he needed to know from the Commissioners what to set for a threshold for the different categories. He provided examples. Tabled until July 5.

COUNTY VEHICLES

Helmer drafted letter to department heads about shutting off vehicles while not in use due to the increase in the cost of fuel. Commissioners signed and it would be distributed to departments. Department Heads would be responsible for enforcement.

THRIVE

Kristin Clary said there would be a meeting on June 17, 2022 in Parke County. She would be sending out invitations.

CLAIMS

May 19, 2022 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried.
May 26, 2022 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.
May 31, 2022 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.
June 2, 2022 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried.
June 6, 2022 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.

PAYROLL

May 20, 2022 – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried.
June 3, 2022 – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.

MINUTES

May 16, 2022 – tabled
May 17, 2022 (Executive) – tabled
May 19, 2022 (Executive) – Berry made the motion to approve. Helmer seconded. The motion carried.
May 19, 2022 (Special) – Helmer made the motion to approve. Berry seconded. The motion carried.

MAIL

The Board of Commissioners acknowledged their mail.

ADJOURN

Berry made a motion to adjourn. Helmer seconded. The motion carried.

Rick Woodall, President

Thomas Helmer, Vice President

David Berry

**Attest: Auditor's Office
Kristina Berish**