

Minutes, Thursday, August 31, 2023

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The CCAO Service Corporation (CCAOSC) a subsidiary of Palmer Energy Company and Putnam County Board of Commissioners are in a Participation Agreement regarding various energy purchasing programs;
and

WHEREAS, Putnam County has decided to join the CCAOSC Electricity Purchasing program; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Putnam County Commissioners does hereby agree to enter into the Third Amendment for the Electricity Purchasing Program between the CCAOSC, and the Putnam County Commissioners.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 220

Mr. Schlumbohm moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, County General

4 B 19, Putnam County Complex\$15,000.00
4 B 20, Glandorf Complex.....\$ 15,000.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 221

Mr. Schlumbohm moved the adoption of the following Resolution:
that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, the following sum be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 016, Ditch Maintenance

R 6, Advance Out.....\$ 56,000.00
(Advance back to County General)

RESOLVED, that per the request of the Putnam County Commissioners for the purpose of the County General Fund the following advance of funds is authorized by the Board of County Commissioners:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
R 6, Advance Out (Repay County General advances from May 2023)	A 25A, Advance In	\$ 56,000.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 222
Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 010, Capital Projects –
N 13, PROJ 23N056\$94,049.73
(R & I Construction)
Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 223

Then/Now Purchase orders

County General.....Purchase order 46449, 46451
Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the then and now purchase orders.
Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Exceptions: Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Lammers none Mr. Schlumbohm none
Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 224

Purchase orders and travel requests

County General.....Purchase order to Just GO Dry for carpet cleaning at BOE for \$ 630.00
Mr. Lammers moved to approve the purchase orders and travel requests.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.
Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes
Exceptions: Mr. Schroeder Mr. Lammers Mr. Schlumbohm

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers attended a progress construction meeting at the Fairgrounds with Kevin Niese of Technicon Design Group and the contractors working on the project.

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers held discussions with Brian Hilvers, Nancy Erhart, EMS staff and public attendants regarding using Hanco Transports for transport services. There was some misinformation shared with the public it is not the wish to outsource the County EMS services. This is a result of the new union negotiations which are ongoing. The Commissioners have to weigh what is fair for the taxpayers since this is an EMS levy in place. There is thought to be an increase in the millage with the increased property taxes. The EMS will be funded there is no intention to eliminate the EMS. It was asked who posted the original post. The Commissioners did issue a response that there is no intent to eliminate the County EMS. The initial issue was a problem with staffing levels. The Commissioners are looking for a solution. The Commissioners thanked everyone for showing up today with hopefully some input for a solution. A tax increase is hoped to be a last resort. It was asked how to increase the response time of the volunteers. What percentage of the \$ 2.1 m budget that goes to the volunteer staff, it depends on how many runs the volunteers make. 67.9% of runs are covered by full time staff. Having volunteers would be quicker to arrive at the scene before the full time staff could arrive from the County station. Time is the issue. Time is important for treatment of a heart attack or stroke. Brian said private companies is not the route to go. If the Commissioners have already reached out to the private companies. But the Commissioners are not looking to outsource the emergency services. Bodies are needed for recruitment for volunteers as well as full time staff. The Commissioners reached out to Hanco and LACP Why? The Commissioners are looking for information what rates they pay and such. The Coroner provided some information supporting the EMS also. The Commissioner did not intend to disrespect anyone. The worker shortage across all industries is felt within the County as well. Additional budget figures will be requested for the Director for the additional staffing needed. The current housing for staff is full so additional housing would be needed for additional staff which would increase the cost to the taxpayers also. Updating the facility is also needed. The undo stress on the existing staff needs to be addressed. The Commissioners are trying to keep Hanco out of the county's service area. Brian said his staff is the best in the area and the Commissioners agreed. Brian said his staff works because they love their jobs it is not for the money they want to help their communities. Putnam does assist in adjoining counties also. Brian explained all they do. The Commissioners were confused that why is he saying he is understaffed if he is helping in adjoining counties. Brian explained the mutual aid with the adjoining counties also. The EMS staff is the back bone of this county. The pay increase has not gotten the inactive volunteers to participate and has not gotten more people to respond it is the same people still participating and responding. If the run responses increase by 10% by the volunteers would it alleviate the stress of the full time staff. If the inactive volunteers would run it would help. The training for new EMT would be paid for by the EMS. If they train new high school students then they leave for college the situation is back to the same shortage sometime those college kids come back but not always. For the high school ride along program if no local volunteer shows up there is no one for them to ride with. We all agree we need help but an outside agency is not the answer per Nancy Erhart. There was no intention of replacing the EMS in Putnam County. Inviting an outside agency would not be good to give them a foot in our door. Hanco may have similar staffing issues as well. Commissioner Lammers did make phone calls

to get information, Marlene said since he made the calls he had intention of giving away the services. A solution is still needed for the situation that was brought to their attention. Reaching out for volunteers is an immediate solution. Asking the volunteers to give up family time is a great ask. Commissioner Schroeder said his granddaughter needed assistance a few weeks ago and he was impressed with the service that was provided to her. The volunteer treated his granddaughter as if she was her one. The volunteer staff is the asset we need to expand. Mr. Burwell asked about Mr. Lammers calls to the private companies. Did he ask for additional support to the county? Isn't the full time staff for supporting the volunteer staff. The full time staff does their jobs well and do support the volunteers. Can the problem be solved with more volunteers and expanding the workforce within the County? The Commissioners are looking for input to help with a resolution to the staffing issues. It as stated that private EMS is about money not about patient care, it is for profit. Dave Odenweller was in original class asked what kind of help are the staff getting after dealing with the trauma that they witness. The stress of the job and nowhere to turn to get help. Keep the people that you have and give them support for the trauma. A representative of Hanco shared that there is shortage of staff there also. They have three full time trucks to cover the city of Findlay and one transfer truck. The Commissioners have not said the EMS staff is not doing a good job. Brad Brubaker shared information on services to adjoining counties it goes through the phone exchange. If the call is routed to Putnam's dispatch then the squad is dispatched from a county squad. That is how the districts were established. Bringing in Hanco is off the table. Encouragement to the volunteers to help when they can will be promoted. Steve Odenweller explained the original districts were defined by phone exchanges and school districts. There is nothing different going on in other counties than there is in Putnam County. The original day crews were stay at home Moms that is not the case anymore. There are not single income families like there used to be. Steve explained a study that was done to determine we needed only one ambulance within the County. But the County can provide better coverage than that. The taxes do not matter when a family member is on the ground not breathing. The County will look out of each other. Charlene Williams thinks Putnam EMS should just serve Putnam County, since the adjoining counties are not paying our taxes for their services. Joann Gerdeman the first medic 300 for Putnam County, believe outsourcing for Putnam County would put them at a disadvantage since we already do not have a hospital. Maybe a committee can be formed to come up with some possible solutions. Early retirees could be options as well as high school graduates. Putnam County has great people. The money has to come from somewhere, it will come from the residents. Having someone go on a call after working 14 hours is not wanted either. Barb Wildenhaus asked for consideration of this issue since the aging population is increasing, the percentage of people over 65 is increasing each year. Look to the future for the increased need of service for the aging population. Commissioner Schlumbohm said it is the County's EMS if you can help in any way please do.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Thursday August 24, 2023 were reviewed and approved.

The minutes from Tuesday August 29, 2023 were reviewed and approved.

Commented [CL1]:

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers attended the final ditch hearing for the John Hermiller Tile # 996 in the Assembly Room.

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote Schroeder yes Lammers yes Schlumbohm yes

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday August 31, 2023.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes