

**Minutes, Thursday January 25, 2024**

Mr. Lammers 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, 2024, 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 058, HAVA Grant

58 ELC, Election Security .....\$ 157.98

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 4

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the annual mileage certification from the Putnam County Engineer for the county to maintain 329.813 miles of public roads.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 5

Mr. Schroeder moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Board of Putnam County Commissioners, Putnam County, Ohio has received a request to appropriate an easement on property, pursuant to O.R.C. Chapter 163, for the purpose of a ditch layover on the east side of road 12-k South of US 224 and North of Road M in Putnam County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, December 7, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio adopted Resolution Journal pgs. 385-386 declaring it necessary to complete a ditch layover on the east side of road 12-K South of US 224 and North of road M in Putnam County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2024, the board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio after complying with Ohio revised Code Chapter 5553, adopted Resolution 451-452 finding the improvement and ditch layover on the east side of road 12-K South of US 224 and North of road M in Putnam County, Ohio necessary to serve the public convenience and welfare and

authorized the Putnam County Engineer and the Ottawa Township Trustees to take action according to law to complete the improvements and ditch layover on said road; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam county Ohio has consulted with the Putnam County engineer and has determined that on the east side of County Road 12 K south of US 224 and north of County Road M in Putnam County, Ohio improvements and a ditch layover should be made to insure the safety for the traveling public and that an easement for County Highway purposes be appropriated and titled in the name of the Board of Putnam County commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio since the Putnam County Engineer and the Ottawa Township trustees have been unable to reach an agreement with Michael L. Hamel and Jean A. Hamel, the owners of a parcel affected by and necessary for said improvement and ditch layover; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio find that the request for appropriation to obtain an easement for County highway purposes to complete a ditch layover on the east side of County Road 12 K south of US 224 and north of County Road M in Putnam County,

Ohio to ensure the safety of the traveling public should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PUTNAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO THAT:

1. That the property described as:

permanent easement for highway purposes - see attached

and

temporary easement for highway purposes - see attached

Shall be appropriated to the board of Putnam County commissioners, Putnam County, Ohio, being less than a fee simple absolute, that being a perpetual easement for Putnam County highway purposes.

2. The appropriation as described is necessary and for the public use as it is in the public's best interest to improve and complete a ditch layover on the east side of Putnam County Road 12-K south of US 224 and north of Putnam County Road M in said area, to ensure the safety of the traveling public.

3. The appropriation is necessary for the reason that the public agency is unable to agree with the owners of the property reasonable efforts were made to reach an agreement through negotiations by the Ottawa Township Board of Trustees of Putnam County Ohio and the Putnam County Engineer with an offer of Five thousand Five Hundred Fifty-One and 00/100 Dollars (\$5551.00) being made after an appraisal of said property.

4. The owners of the property are:

Michael L. Hamel and Jean A. Hamel

377 Park Ave.

Ottawa, Ohio45875

The owners claim title by instruments recorded in volume 342 page 343 and volume 452 page 138 of the deed records in the Putnam County recorder's office. There are no known persons having a mortgage or lien on the within property.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 6-7

Mr. Schlumbohm moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Board of Putnam County Commissioners, Putnam County, Ohio has received a request to appropriate an easement on property, pursuant to O.R.C. Chapter 163, for the purpose of a ditch layover on the east side of road 12-k South of US 224 and North of road M in Putnam County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, December 7, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio adopted Resolution Journal pgs. 385-386 declaring it necessary to complete a ditch layover on the east side of road 12-k South of US 224 and North of road M in Putnam County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2024, the board of Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio after complying with Ohio revised Code Chapter 5553, adopted Resolution 451-452 finding the improvement and ditch layover on the east side of road 12-k South of US 224 and North of road M in Putnam County, Ohio necessary to serve the public convenience and welfare and authorized the Putnam County Engineer and the Ottawa Township Trustees to take action according to law to complete the improvements and ditch layover on said road; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam county Ohio has consulted with the Putnam County engineer and has determined that on the east side of County Road 12 K south of US 224 and north of County Road M in Putnam County, Ohio improvements and a ditch layover should be made to insure the safety for the traveling public and that an easement for

County Highway purposes be appropriated and titled in the name of the Board of Putnam County commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio since the Putnam County Engineer and the Ottawa Township trustees have been unable to reach an agreement with The Osterhage Family Trust, the owners of a parcel affected by and necessary for said improvement and ditch layover; and

Whereas, the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio find that the request for appropriation to obtain an easement for County highway purposes to complete a ditch layover on the east side of County Road 12 K south of US 224 and north of County Road M in Putnam County,

Ohio to ensure the safety of the traveling public should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PUTNAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO THAT:

1. That the property described as:

permanent easement for highway purposes - see attached

and

temporary easement for highway purposes - see attached

Shall be appropriated to the board of Putnam County commissioners, Putnam County, Ohio, being less than a fee simple absolute, that being a perpetual easement for Putnam County highway purposes.

2. The appropriation as described is necessary and for the public use as it is in the public's best interest to improve and complete a ditch layover on the east side of Putnam County Road 12-K south of US 224 and north of Putnam County Road M in said area, to ensure the safety of the traveling public.
3. The appropriation is necessary for the reason that the public agency is unable to agree with the owners of the property reasonable efforts were made to reach an agreement through negotiations by the Ottawa Township Board of Trustees of Putnam County Ohio and the Putnam County Engineer with an offer of Twelve Thousand Eighteen and 00/100 Dollars (\$12,018.00) being made after an appraisal of said property.
4. The owner(s) of the property are:

The Osterhage Family Trust

c/o Craig Osterhage, Trustee  
317 Lima Street  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

The owners claim title by instruments recorded in volume OR 171 page 342 of the deed records in the Putnam County recorder's office. There are no known persons having a mortgage or lien on the within property.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 8-9

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the land exchange agreement with the Village of Ottawa for 3.991 acres of property located on Putnam Parkway.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 10-10D

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2024.

For Sheriff/Jail

From.....6 A 4, Equipment.....to.....6 A 12, Training Travel.....\$5,000.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 11

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, 2024, 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

2 A 7, Other Exp.-Judges Crt of Appeals, .....\$767.89

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 12

Mr. Schlumbohm moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, The Engineer, Michael L. Lenhart, has deemed it necessary to advertise for sealed bids for the rehabilitation of the TR 2-3.53 Bridge;

Now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, The Board of Commissioners will receive sealed bids for the rehabilitation of the TR 2-3.53 Bridge on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 10:30 AM;

And be it further

**RESOLVED**, specifications are on file in the Putnam County Engineer's Office and may be obtained by contacting the Engineer's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by logging onto <https://putnamcountyohio.gov/bid-info/> and downloading the Bid Document. Each bid shall contain the full name and correct address of every person, firm or company interested in the same and should be accompanied by a certified check or cashier's check upon a solvent bank in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the bid, payable to the Board of County Commissioners, or a bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Ohio, for a sum equal to the amount of the bid submitted, as guarantee that, if the bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and its performance properly secured;

And be it further

**RESOLVED**, The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 119, Page 13

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Putnam County Engineer has deemed it necessary to advertise for sealed bids for bituminous materials for 2024;

now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, the Board of County Commissioners will now receive sealed bids for bituminous materials on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 10:45 AM.

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, Specifications are on file in the Putnam County Engineer's Office and may be obtained by contacting the Engineer's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by logging onto <https://putnamcountyohio.gov/bid-info/> and downloading the Bid Document. Each bid shall contain the full name and correct address of every person, firm or company interested in the same and should be accompanied by a certified check or cashier's check upon a solvent bank in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the bid, payable to the Board of County Commissioners, or a bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Ohio, for a sum equal to the amount of the bid submitted, as guarantee that, if the bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and its performance properly secured.

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 120, Page 14

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve change order #5 for the new event center for additional site work increasing the amount by \$ 5,311.21.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

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

### **Then/Now Purchase orders**

**EMS**.....purchase order 5142

**Youth Subsidy**.....purchase order 47227

**Juvenile Court**.....purchase order 47225, 47226

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the then and now purchase orders.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

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

Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Lammers none

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## Purchase Orders and Travel Requests

**Children Services.....**Purchase order to Nicole Bash for foster care maintenance for Z. Howell for \$ 14,640.00.

**Sheriff/Jail.....**Travel request for Deputies Kelly Iliff, Eric Van Wagner, Cole Bowers, Ryan Troyer and Russ Lammers to attend the Tactical Team Response to Active Threat Course at Van Wert on March 11 & 12, 2024 with purchase order for registration, meals and other totaling \$ 4,250.00. Travel Request for Paulette Bennett to attend the 2024 Food Safety Trainings in Fulton Co OSU office on variable date with purchase order for registration, meals and other totaling \$ 560.00.

**Engineer.....**Travel request for Mike Lenhart to attend the Ohio Asphalt Paving and Conference on Feb 7, 2024 with expenses for registration totaling \$ 120.00.

**County General.....**Purchase order to Allen Co Auditor for Putnam portion of Third Dist Court of Appeals for \$10,267.89

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the purchase orders and travel requests.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

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

Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Lammers none

Ashley Baumgartner the United Way Executive Director met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers. Brad Brubaker sat in on the meeting. She introduced herself to the Commissioners and gave updates on the United Way. The United Way campaign is down, with the economy being a contributing factor to that. In the past seven months she has seen that poverty and evictions are at an all time high. The biggest issue are older people not being able to find assistance. They are long term residents of the county. She gave an example of a person who had left work due to being sick and found the issue was a leaking heart. This person is in limbo, who cannot find assistance. There are no minor children in the household, there is a waiting period for receiving SSI disability payments. HHWP Community Action is agency trying to assist, but a court order is needed to initiate assistance. We do not want it to get to this stage. There is no assistance for those who are in the 50-60 age range, who find themselves needing assistance for housing. There are resources for utilities assistance but not rental assistance. There is another case of an elderly person in need of critical home repairs and has a bed bug infestation. There is no assistance available out there for them in this case. The Commissioners asked about the surrounding counties and if they have similar problems. The Surrounding counties have more staff to deal with these issues. Contact info for Ashley at United Way is phone 419-523-4505 and email [unitedwayofputnamcountyoh@gmail.com](mailto:unitedwayofputnamcountyoh@gmail.com). Ashley said the newer generation wants to see what they are getting out of it before they will donate, they are not educated about what the United Way is and does. Ashley explained the programs that the United Way is conducting and supporting. 29% of support is given to Leipsic but the donation participation from Leipsic is low. Any contacts from Mars would be helpful to get them included also. The annual campaign was about \$275,000 in 2022, and in 2023 it was considerably lower and this year looks the same at about \$80,000-\$90,000. The campaign calendar was discussed. They are looking to convert the campaign to a full year term rather than just the three months it

is now. Other options for fundraising were discussed, including what other counties are doing. They would like to get the students involved and not just the staff and administration, to get the next generation involved. The Commissioners recommended contacting the school guidance counselors.

Tom McCarthy and Garrett Brinks of Rev Renewables met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers to discuss solar projects and the commissioners' stance on the moratorium on the Alternative Energy Zone. Brad Bruabker sat in on the meeting. They have been in the area for a while working with some of the landowners. They are looking to put together a project for presentation. They are watching the current projects in Miller City. They are looking at 50 megawatts possibly larger. Mr. Bendele from Ottoville is one of their landowners. The municipality will have the final say. The status or the moratorium was questioned. The Commissioners are not hearing good feedback on the project in Miller City. The townships are setting their own limits regarding projects. The setback and foliage rules by the Planning Commission must be followed by the projects. The Commissioners are not looking to make any other changes at this time to the current rules. Who determined that solar panels are farming? They are not agricultural. If federal government would not be dumping buckets of money into this, would it be worth pursuing? The PILOT has been rescinded for Putnam County, the Commissioners wanted them to be aware of that. The AEZ would benefit the company in the early years and benefits the county in the later years. Rev Renewable is part of Ellis a private company. They are not affiliated with Blue Harvest or Avangrid. They wanted to meet with the Commissioners and put a face with the company name. Mr. McCarthy was in attendance at the Sept 5 meeting and he said that was the most balanced public meeting he has been to. The looks of the solar field are different for the area, once completed with the foliage they are not bad looking. Does the existence of the solar panels contribute to the climate change? That is not verified. The make-up of the panels are constantly being studied for efficiencies. The reflection of water was also discussed. The load in the system versus usage was discussed. Battery energy storage was brought up. The technology on this is developing. They are lithium ion. Mr. McCarthy was an electrician in the Navy and worked with nuclear power. Different types of energy were discussed, cold fusion and nuclear. The sizes of battery facilities were discussed.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk. Brad Brubaker and Don Croy sat in on the meeting.

The minutes from Tuesday January 23, 2024 were reviewed and approved.

Tracy Warnecke, Kim Redman met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers for an Investment meeting.

Anna Mae Blankemeyer stopped into voice her opinion on the condition of the driveway to Recycling. The Commissioners said this time of year is awful with freezing and thawing. The holes can be filled with stone. Eventually it would like to be paved.

A public hearing for the Planning Commission was held for presenting regulation amendments. Nolan Croy presented the amendments to the regulations regarding the depth to width ratios. Patrick Blasius of the Putnam County Sentinel attended the hearing. This is to address an issue with non-development lots and extending property.

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers attended the solar eclipse planning meeting at the Office of Public Safety.

Mr. Lammers moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote Schlumbohm yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, January 25, 2024.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

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