

Minutes: Thursday, March 20, 2025

Mr. Wehri moved to approve signing the CDBG Allocation Contracts with Schimmoeller Construction for the Putnam County Historical Society Museum ADA Improvements.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri yes Mr. Brubaker yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes

Purchase Orders and Travel Requests

Veteran Service Commission.....Travel requests for Stan Oren, Lauren Gerten, Dennis Hanneman, Burnell Rau, and Brian Siefker to attend the Spring Conference & Training in Dublin, OH on March 28-30, 2025 with expenses for mileage, lodging, meals and other totaling \$ 3,338.00.

Airport Operations.....Purchase order to Julian & Grube for Prep of 2024 financial statement for Airport for \$ 500.00

Solid Waste Dist. Disp. Fees.....Purchase order to SWANA for 2025 membership renewal for \$ 255.00, purchase order to Cherry Road Media for recycle day ad for \$ 500.00.

Children Services.....Purchase order to Filling Homes for A Houseworth Foster care maintenance for \$ 5,000.00. Purchase order to National Youth Advocate for k. Howell foster care maintenance for \$ 60,000.00.

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

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri yes Mr. Brubaker yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes

Exceptions: Mr. Wehri no Mr. Brubaker no Mr. Schlumbohm no

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the minutes as read from Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri yes Mr. Brubaker yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes

Mr. Brubaker opened the meeting with leading the Pledge of Allegiance with Commissioners Schlumbohm and Wehri, Alaina Siefker and Ashley Siefker.

Ashley Siefker met with Commissioners Wehri, Schlumbohm and Brubaker to let them know that Bernie Bennett called the office yesterday afternoon and he is still upset about the work on his house from the 2021 grant. Per the State's direction we released the lean on the home after the contractor left the job due to conflicts with Bernie and treatment of the crew. There is nothing more we can do for him and he will not accept that answer.

Kevin Niese and Kevin Wischmeyer with Technicon Design Group and EMA Director Brian Hilvers met with Commissioners Brubaker, Schlumbohm and Wehri to discuss the new EMS addition. Bockrath & Assoc. did the survey work and marked out the property. Technicon brought in some drawings of the property. They looked over the setbacks, drive way, parking lot, storm shelter, sidewalks and room setup for the addition. Brian Hilvers mentioned there is grant money out there available for storm shelters. He is going to look into that. Kevin

Wischmeyer showed them the different layout that he came up with. They discussed the logistics of where the items are and what they want or not want. Hilvers talked about the documents stored out there and he has that on his radar to get through some of that. He has the forms he needs from records commission. Schlumbohm said that they are supposed to receive 3 bids for each trade, commissioners will then decide who to use. He also said he thinks bids will come in around June and possibly starting in the fall. He told the manager to give them a timeline for this project. Technicon thinks it would take 10-12 months. They will get a picture done up of what the outside of the building will look like.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schlumbohm, Wehri, and Brubaker, and Alaina Siefker, Asst. Clerk.

The minutes from Tuesday, March 18, 2025 were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Brubaker wanted to put in the minutes that that at the Library Board meeting he attended on Tuesday evening, the library heard that legislators are talking about not wanting to continue funding libraries from the state budget. He wants to see if the other commissioners would be interested in all of them doing a letter of support for the library about them being kept in the state budget for funding.

Allocation Pre-Con Meeting was held with Schimmoeller Construction, Bockrath & Associates and the Commissioners' Office for the ADA ramp to be done by 8/1/25. Construction will start around the end of April. Logistics of equipment and supply storage locations were discussed. Prevailing wage requirements and arrangements were discussed as a typical project would be carried out as well as permits and necessary inspections. Fully executed contract documents were distributed to all parties. Construction questions are to be directed to Bockrath & Associates and grant questions are to be directed to Ashley Siefker.

Mr. Wehri moved to adjourn for lunch.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

Vote: Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm yes

Commissioners Wehri, Schlumbohm and Brubaker resumed session.

Phil Maag with Metalink met with Commissioners Schlumbohm, Brubaker and Wehri to give them a Broadband update. Phil said that the commissioners gave \$50,000 to Metalink back during covid through the ARPA grant for broadband expansion and it was spent on business here in Putnam County, including new technology in Gilboa. They have 3 licenses here in Putnam County. Most of Putnam County is covered by some kind of broadband services except for some of the villages. Phil let them know that they have a new concept they are working on- Smart Farms, Smart Cities, and Smart Counties that he passed out some papers with that information on it. This could include sensors like they use to monitor rivers, HVAC, sewage pump stations, etc. with cellular or email notifications. Commissioner Schlumbohm asked him about the AI that is up and coming. Phil said they use it and like it. He said he is all about growing business but keeping the staff as is and not having to bring in more staff and he said the AI can help with that.

Commissioner Schlumbohm left for the day at 3:30 pm.

Mr. Brubaker moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote: Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, March 20, 2025.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri yes Mr. Brubaker yes Mr. Schlumbohm yes