

Minutes Friday, June 6, 2025

Mr. Wehri moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Elected officials/department heads were requested to submit estimates of their budget requirements for the next fiscal year by May 27, 2025.

WHEREAS, According to Section 5705.28 of the Ohio Revised Code the county commissioners are required to prepare a budget for the next fiscal year.

now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby set the date of Thursday, June 24, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners office as the date for the public hearing on the prepared budget for the next fiscal year ending December 31, 2026.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 242

Mr. Brubaker 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, 2025, 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 076, Sewer Dist #1

5076-66-010-503300, Contracts-Repairs..... \$ 30,000.00

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 243

Mr. Wehri moved to approve signing the Ohio Department of Youth Services Juvenile Court Grant Agreement and Funding Application between the State of Ohio, Dept. of Youth Services and Putnam County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Putnam County Juvenile Court starting July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Brubaker moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners have approved improvements for Sewer Dist #1. And

WHEREAS, The Sewer Dist #1 Fund may not have enough funds to cover these improvements, so an advance may be needed to cover these expenses. This resolution is requesting an additional appropriation line and an additional revenue line for Fund 5076-Sewer District #1.

Now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Putnam County Auditor to establish the following appropriation lines in Fund 5076, Sewer District #1:

5076-42-010-509000, Advance Out

and be it further

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Putnam County Auditor to establish the following revenue lines in Fund 5076, Sewer District #1:

5076-20-010-420000, Advance In

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 244

Mr. Wehri moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Board of Elections submitted a letter requesting appropriation modification on May 14, 2025.

and

WHEREAS, This request was completed on the May 20, 2025 agenda Comm. Jrl 121 page 227, however the transactions were done backwards.

and

WHEREAS, A correction is needed to appropriate the money correctly.
now therefore, be it

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, 2025.

Fund 001

For Board of Elections...

From...1001-30-190-506101, Computer Fees...to...1001-30-190-501103, Comp Time Pay Off..\$ 1,572.72

From...1001-30-190-506101,Computer Fees ...to... 1001-30-190-501102, Judges & Clerks compensation ...\$149.08.

From...1001-30-190-504001, Ballots & Absentee Env....to...1001-30-190-501104, Part-Time Compensation.\$ 1,800.00

From.. 1001-30-190-504001, Ballots & Absentee Env. 1001-30-190-501100,to...1001-30-190-501100, BOE Emp. Compensation ...\$5,200.00.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 245

Mr. Brubaker moved to approve the Statement of Cash from Revenue & Expense as of May 30, 2025.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Brubaker moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners has informed the Board that a petition praying for annexation of certain territory in Pleasant Township to the Village of Columbus Grove, Putnam County, Ohio, was filed on the 22nd day of May, 2025.

and

WHEREAS, Said petition is hereby attached and becomes a part of this Resolution. The petition was signed by owners Brandon M. and Chassidy R. Grigsby.

and

WHEREAS, The owners of the land, which is contiguous with the Village of Columbus Grove, Ohio, requests that the petition be approved, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 709.022. Brandon M. Grigsby is appointed agent for the petitioner(s), who specifically elect that this petition for annexation follow the special procedures for annexation as outlined in Ohio Revised Code 709.021.

now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The petition for annexation to the Village of Columbus Grove is hereby granted.

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of the entire record of the annexation to the Clerk of the Village of Columbus Grove for further processing.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 246-246F

Mr. Wehri moved to adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, is the governing board over the Putnam County Emergency Medical Services (PCEMS) and

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Emergency Medical Service (PCEMS) is a recipient of federal financial assistance, and is therefore subject to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin; and

WHEREAS, the PCEMS is committed to ensuring nondiscrimination in its programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, a Title VI Plan has been developed to address the agency's obligations under Title VI; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio hereby adopts the attached Title VI Plan, listed as "EXHIBIT A" effective as of June 13th, 2025 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be included in the Title VI Plan;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Title VI Plan shall be updated and reapproved at least every three years, or more frequently if required by federal regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution and the Title VI Plan shall be made available to the public.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 247

Mr. Brubaker 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, 2025.

For Office of Public Safety

From...5120-66-110-505000, Vehicle Replacement...to....5120-66-110-504000 Care Supplies.....\$10,000.00

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 248

Mr. Wehri moved to approve the contract with Professional Service Industries, Inc for soil borings for the new EMS building addition for \$ 6,000.00

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Then and Now Payments

E-911 to

Lima Radio Hospital to program & autotune mobiles at police depts. For \$ 2,887.50

Ditch Maintenance to

Byrne Excavating for work on Bernard German Dt for \$ 1,650.00

County General to

Village Hardware for supplies for O-G Rd building for\$ 199.73

Office of Public Safety to

Wood County LEPC for County share of NW Oh Hazmat Conference March 2026 for \$ 210.00.

Clerk of Courts to

Ross Sutherland for court interpreter services for \$ 164.80

Ross Sutherland for court interpreter services for \$ 164.80

Mr. Brubaker moved to approve the then and now payment requests.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Exceptions: Mr. Wehri none Mr. Brubaker none Mr. Schlumbohm

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 249

Purchase Orders and Travel Requests

Office of Public Safety....Purchase order to Lima Radio Hospital to swap out radios in ambulances for \$550.00, Blanket purchase order for radio maintenance for \$2,500.00. Blanket purchase order for housing ambulances for \$ 14,400.00. Travel request for Brian Hilvers to attend the Pre-100 Active Shooter Exercise at Ohio EMA in Columbus, OH on August 12, 2025 no expenses listed.

Sewer Dist #1.....Purchase order to Advanced Rehab Technology to reline the remaining manholes out to the old nursing home for \$ 31,119.93.

Capital Improvement.....Purchase order to E. Lee Construction for restoration work on the Annex building for \$ 56,600.00.

Auditor.....Travel request for Jeremy Maag to attend the ODA Regional Training in Hancock Co on June 17, 2025 with expenses for meals totaling \$ 45.00.

County Airport.....Purchase order to Putnam Oil for diesel fuel for \$ 660.60.

Solid Waste Dist Disp Fees....Purchase order to 4imprint for fair booth giveaways for recycling for \$ 1,000.00.

County General.....Purchase order to Village Hardware for a new sprayer for \$ 600.00.

Recorder....Amended travel request for Sherri Britsch to attend the ORA Summer conference in Canton, OH on Jun 11-13, 2025 with expenses for mileage, lodging, meals and other now totaling \$644.53.

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

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Exceptions: Mr. Wehri none Mr. Brubaker none Mr. Schlumbohm

Purchase order Adjustments

County General....extra needed for shipping on pressure washer of \$200.00.

County General...additional needed for 2025 advertising of \$ 800.00.

Ditch Maintenance...additional needed to work on Dean Bach Dt # 270 of \$ 126.70.

County General...additional needed for April water usage for Courthouse for \$130.86

Mr. Wehri moved to approve the purchase orders adjustments.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

John Rodriguez from Leipsic PD came in to talk to Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker to discuss working with the Dog Warden in getting people to register their dogs. Mr. Rodriguez has had some difficulty in dealing with the dog warden on some issues.

Martin Schroeder met with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker to discuss the county auction results. Martin explained the sale and provided the totals by each department. He explained the online bidding in comparison to the in-person bidding. He presented the bill for his services to the Commissioners and explained the itemization of the bill.

Ashley Aston and Lorie Brodie with Senator John Husted's office came in to meet Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker and give updates. Lorie had been with the State Auditor's office and has changed with Senator John Husted and has an office in Toledo. The "big beautiful bill" is being reviewed, Medicaid will not be eliminated, but the waste will be eliminated. Lorie attended the Regional Growth Partnership event that was held in Ottawa and viewed the renovations to the buildings that were done in downtown Ottawa.

Mr. Wehri led the Pledge of Allegiance with Commissioner Brubaker, Joe Burkhart IT Director and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Thursday May 29, 2025 were reviewed and approved.

John Folk, JFS Director met with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker to give updates on Job and Family Services. John explained that he used the Workforce Development's Virtual Reality goggles to experience different occupations. He was quite impressed. John explained the match and mandated funds versus the federal funding that may be changing with the "big beautiful bill". This is concerning to the agency since then they will have to rely on local dollars. The bill is looking to reduce the SNAP benefits. The fraud they are dealing with has to do with the SNAP cards being scanned and the money being removed prior to the recipient being able to use it for their needed expenses. The security system is being updated and everyone has new badges and the system has been tested and is working. Fishel Downing & Riepenhoff has been contacted for an HR policy. The VR goggles will be used to assist with the Workforce Partnership and helping them assist people to find jobs so they do not need benefits any longer.

Mr. Brubaker moved to go into executive session with Commissioner Wehri and John Folk to discuss employee compensation and employee discipline.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent.

Mr. Wehri moved to adjourn for lunch.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion,

Vote Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent

Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker resumed session.

Mike Lenhart stopped in to talk with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker about a dedicated right of way of Maple St. in Ottawa just off of Old SR 224, outside of village limits. In reviewing records there is no record showing that the Commissioners ever accepted this right-of-way. A question of if it is a public or private right of way was asked. The person has asked about making it a private drive. It also needs to be repaved. He wanted to give the Commissioners a heads up if someone comes in to ask about this situation.

Greg Luersman and Bob Benroth stopped in to talk with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker regarding a house bill submitted that would have drastic measures affecting property taxes. A copy of the press release was shared with the Commissioners. If this would be passed it would have immediate effect in that it would be in effect as of January 1. This bill passing would mean that the inside millage that was non collected this year would not ever be collected again. The school rates were reviewed. There are schools that are gaining an unrealized rate based on the 20-mill floor. The reduction factors were reviewed. The homestead exemption was reviewed. An additional homestead exemption could be added with this bill by the Commissioners. The Commissioners would have to reimburse for this added exemption. The proposal is to eliminate all inside millage for the counties and schools, only townships get to keep their inside millage. The other entities have means to increase their revenue where townships do not. Greg showed examples of how this could affect the future collections and the balance of the general fund. With the elimination of sales tax the county could raise their rate by 1% with a vote from the voters. The sales tax revenue was reviewed. This does not include the half mill that goes to the Veteran Service Commission, it is not addressed in the bill. The budget commission can hold public hearings if any entities have a balance over 30%. This would affect 911, Brookhill, Health Dept etc. anyone who has a levy currently. Something big is going to happen, big changes are coming. It may not be bad changes but we must be prepared for any changes. Where is the State making cuts? The State is trying to cut local government, it is thought that Ohio has too many taxing districts. The purpose is to combine services and share costs. Putnam has 15 townships and 15 villages. Will the state be ready for these small communities to go into fiscal emergency, do they have staff to oversee. The state wants to have more control. The production of the solar farm in Miller City was brought up since it was in the paper that they are now in production. This PILOT payment may take the place of the inside millage for the county's revenue. Hopefully there will still be an option to make changes to the sales tax by the county, or the county may struggle to provide services to the public. This will make for interesting times to be a commissioner. A projection of these changes predicted the sales tax rate would be 18% with no property tax to keep things operating and have the ability to provide the services needed. The county is a subdivision of the state. We do not want to drive down dirt roads and do want the ability to call 911 if needed for an emergency.

Mr. Brubaker moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent

Mr. Brubaker moved to approve the minutes as read from Friday, June 6, 2025.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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