

Minutes Thursday, August 7, 2025

Mr. Wehri 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 111, Youth Subsidy FDCC

2111-32-070-502200, Juv Prob Workers Comp.....\$ 149.09

2111-32-070-501100, Juv Prob Employee Comp..... \$ 7,243.20

2111-32-070-506025, Other Expenses.....\$ 54,633.71

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 338

Mr. Wehri 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 163, SD #1 Water & Wastewater

4163-40-010-505000, Construction.....\$ 7,200.00

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 339

Mr. Brubaker moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has received a request from Court of Common Pleas Probate And Juvenile Division, Judge Michael A. Borer, to rename fund 146 to the Supreme Court Technology Grant fund.

now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Putnam County Auditor to rename the fund, to "Fund 146, Supreme Court Technology Grant".

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 340

Mr. Wehri moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners agree to authorize the agents Fortman Insurance Services and UIS Insurance and Investments to obtain proposals on health insurance costs for county employees. Proposals will be solicited from all major group medical insurance carriers doing business in Northwest Ohio as well as from CEBCO. and

WHEREAS, Putnam County is in a participation agreement with CEBCO that expires on December 31, 2025.

now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners has agreed to authorize the agents Fortman Insurance Services and UIS Insurance and Investments to obtain proposals on health insurance costs for county employees for 2026.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page 341

Then and Now Payments

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

Mr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri Mr. Brubaker Mr. Schlumbohm

Exceptions: Mr. Wehri Mr. Brubaker Mr. Schlumbohm

Comm. Jrl. 121, Page

Purchase Orders and Travel Requests

SD#1 Water & Wastewater ...Purchase order to Hohenbrink Excavating for repair & completion of storm sewer project for \$ 7,200.00

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

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

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

Exceptions: Mr. Wehri Mr. Brubaker Mr. Schlumbohm

Purchase order Adjustments

Mr. moved to approve the purchase orders adjustments.

Mr. seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Wehri Mr. Brubaker Mr. Schlumbohm

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

The minutes from Tuesday August 5, 2025 were reviewed and approved.

Commissioners Brubaker and Wehri left to view the 1225 Third St storage building.

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.

Brian Hilvers met with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker to discuss a dog policy. He said this would be for emergency evacuations for flooding or other disaster in the county and he wanted to come up with a policy for what would happen to any dogs they would have to evacuate. Brian said he would like to do a memorandum of understanding with Kathy Kaufman with Country K9 Kennels. She said she has kennels for up to 50 animals and he talked to lams and they would donate food. He has left a message for the vet to see if they would have any room. Brian will have a form that if the dog doesn't have a tag, they can identify the dog that is brought in. Brian said the dog warden will have a role in the process and will have to help get the dogs from point A to point B and assist in identifying the dog owners, etc. Brian said he took them to Gary Lammers and he reviewed them and signed them. Brian mentioned that Seneca County has 50 kennels they could bring also if the county would need more. Funds may be reimbursable if they meet FEMA's standards for the emergency or evacuation declared by commissioners, governor or from anywhere else. Brian would do the training with Kathy on the process of dogs coming in and out and mentioned that the OSU Extension Office should have something in place for livestock. The document has a couple tweaks that are needed to remove the livestock language and Brian will take care of fixing those and get a clean copy to the office.

Commissioner Brubaker made a motion to go forward with the memorandums.

Commissioner Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote: Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent

Bob Benroth met with Commissioners Wehri and Brubaker regarding the Fiscal Audit Report and Review Committee. Other members in attendance were Brandi Swickrath representing the Prosecutor, Breann Niese and Jeremy Maag from the Auditor's office. The county finances were discussed along with the current status and the trends. Bob explained the budget approval and the shares that go to the other entities such as the library, townships, schools and villages. When any budget changes are made an amended budget certificate is filed. The county's proposed budget for 2026 was reviewed. Bob explained the new financial

system and the modules that are available. Another module will need to be purchased to help in budget preparation. All the budget submissions were compiled into a comprehensive report. The wages were figured at a 3% increase and insurance at a 10% increase for preliminary budget figures. There is a gap in the budget for balancing. The anticipated cash carryover balance is comprised over what was approved versus what has been spent for this year. The auditor and treasurer figure projections very conservatively. Since we are spending down the reserves there will be less to invest so the interest revenue will be lower. The same goes for the appropriation side the spending could go up or down. The previous Commissioners considered the county reserve to be too high, which is why property taxes were not fully collected and local government funds were given to the townships and village for a year. Since there are plans for capital projects and the projected cost of those projects has come in higher than anticipated, the budget figures must be reviewed more closely. There is money encumbered for the Annex improvements. The question of what is enough carry over, it is thought to have at least one year's worth of expenses in carry over. It is a good comfort level but the county has been there for a few years. Are there any other big projects coming up? The additional cost of the new software module would be considered. The new system has much higher costs than the old system due to the need to upgrade. In Bob's first years it was comfortable to have \$1m in carryover now it would be much more. The capital improvement fund has been depleted with projects to supplement the ARP funds that were spent at the fairgrounds. The rental income from the Ag Complex building goes directly to the capital improvement fund. And money was saved for the courthouse improvements. There have been some revenue streams that have been setup to help provide revenue for the county. Those streams must be maintained. The EMS building addition is doable but must be done with caution. The EMS levy bring in \$590,000 per year which is a permanent levy. The building addition is needed and the EMS services are expanding. EMS will have to increase their revenue stream as well to be able to maintain the new building addition. Some of the items on the wish list for the building can be dialed back to just needs. Hopefully the bidding will come in under the projections. Any future plans must be done with caution. Software costs have greatly increased in the recent years. There are more projects that are wished to be completed that may have to wait due to being cautious with spending to keep the county operating. All the county properties have been well maintained in the past few years. Lots of good updates. What is the projected revenue for the solar projects? The county would be getting \$100,000. Which has been received from the Continental site, the TIF payments are being received. The Powell Creek project, those payments will take a long time to bring in the big revenue since the past Commissioners lowered the TIF payments. The elected officials and judges will be getting increased wages. The Ohio Public Defender will create a savings to the county for the pilot indigent defender program coming out. The real estate taxes may retain and increase with the triennial update coming up, unless the legislation comes up with any changes. Sales tax is a big driver of revenue for the county. These meetings are important to see where the county stands and the projects we important as well to see where some things can be cut back. The estimate for the storage has not been received yet to see what the cost could be for the county. Would all the storage items be moved to the new location or would the short-term items be kept somewhere else. And would the old location need to be retained by the county? The Commissioners are aware of the concerns regarding the budget. The EMS must be able to maintain the new facility and increased staff expenses that will be coming with this project. They are trying to be proactive and thinking of all the new and additional expenses that would be incurred with a bigger facility. A political subdivision must adopt a cybersecurity policy, which the county has done and still continuously upgrading. The

county audit has been completed and there are very few findings. The allocation of the local government money was reviewed and the budget commission meeting on Monday and it was approved to return the allocation to the status of 2024. There could be an amendment done but it must have a public hearing and a commissioner vote. The budgets for each entity will be reviewed. Tracy Warnecke Treasurer joined the meeting. If this is changed who takes the deduction and how to figure it to be fair. It was done for one year to give the townships the county portion. There are no changes for the next year as of now. The county does not want to continue to give up when their balance is shrinking. Putnam County does share more than other counties within Ohio. The interest income is holding steady but will eventually go down.

Mr. Brubaker moved to adjourn for the day.

Mr. Wehri seconded the motion.

Vote: Wehri yes Brubaker yes Schlumbohm absent

Mr. Wehri moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, August 7, 2025.

Mr. Brubaker seconded the motion.

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