BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025
PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board of County Commissioners convened in a regular session on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 2509 Crill Avenue, Palatka, Florida.

Present were: Commissioner JR Newbold, District 1; Commissioner Leota Wilkinson, District 2; Commissioner Josh Alexander, District 3; Commissioner Larry Harvey, District 4; Commissioner Walton Pellicer, District 5.

Also present were: Terry Suggs, County Administrator; Julianne Young, Deputy County Administrator of Administration; Matt Reynolds, Clerk of Court and Comptroller; JR Grimes, Deputy County Administrator of Operations; Rich Komando, County Attorney; Laura Berardi, Staff Assistant; Ashley Beard, Deputy Clerk

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CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Eddie Stith, Church of the Heights, led the Invocation, and Commissioner Pellicer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On Motion of Commissioner Harvey, seconded by Commissioner Newbold, the Board unanimously approved the following minutes, as presented:

July 8, 2025, Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

(Visit main.putnam-fl.com for a copy of Minutes)

RECESS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING/
CONVENE PORT AUTHORITY MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting was recessed at 9:03 a.m., and the Port Authority meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

ADJOURN PORT AUTHORITY MEETING/ RECONVENE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The Port Authority Meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m. The Board of County Commissioners' regular meeting reconvened at 9:04 a.m.

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PRESENTATIONS

MARICARMEN BELTRAN; RIDESOLUTIONS PRESENTATION

Maricarmen Beltran, Ride Solutions, made a presentation on the Ride Solution transportation services update. She discussed the grant approved from FDOT and the routes 5 days a week. She noted that service is expected to resume by early October 2025.

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BRITTNEY SPANGLER, EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES FIRST QUARTERLY PRESENTATION

Brittney Spangler, Episcopal Children's Services, made a presentation to the Board on the Episcopal Children's Services First Quarterly Presentation.

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CLAY DAVIS; PROPERTY APPRAISER

- **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION; VICTORIA MCRAE, 10 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Clay Davis, Property Appraiser, recognized Victoria Mcrae for 10 years of service.

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LAURIE PARKER, HUMAN RESOURCES

- **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH (MAY 2025); DONEDA COLE, PROJECT MANAGER-ENGINEERING**
- **EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER (Q2); BRYER TILTON, BUDGET SPECIALIST**

Laurie Parker, Human Resources, recognized Doneda Cole, Project Engineer as Employee of the Month May 2025 and Bryer Tilton, Budget Specialist as Employee of the Quarter (Q2).

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LEE WILSEY, NEFRC

Lee Wilsey, NEFRC, said on the return on ivestment Putnam County has received a 39-1. She said they provide technical assistance, training, purchase equipment, healthcare, and regional projects.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

ED Killebrew recognized the fire ems team for their assistance and spoke about the binderlift that was used in the process. He showed full support of the new equipment.

PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE A PORTION OF WOODCREST AVENUE (RESOLUTION 2025-055)

JT Stout, Public Works Director, spoke about vacating a portion of Woodcrest Avenue.

PUBLIC COMMENT-PUBLIC HEARING

Jennifer Olive, a Citizen spoke in favor of the vacated the property.

On a Motion by Commissioner Newbold, Seconded by Commissioner Alexander, The Board unanimously approved the Vacate a Portion of Woodcrest Avenue (Resolution 2025-055).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE UNDEVELOPED RIGHTS OF WAY IN HUNTINGTON GROVES AND HUNTINGTON UNIT B SUBDIVISIONS (RESOLUTION 2025-056)

JT Stout, Public Works Director, spoke about vacating undeveloped rights of way in Huntingon Groves and Huntington Unit B Subdivsions.

Commissioner Harvey spoke about the solution between the citizens with the previous issues.

Commissioner Alexander spoke about illegal dumping.

PUBLIC COMMENT-PUBLIC HEARING

The Floor was open for public comment. There being none, public comment was closed.

On a Motion by Commissioner Newbold, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer the Board unanimously approved the Vacate Undeveloped Rights of Way in Huntington Groves and Huntington Unit B Subdivisions (Resolution 2025-056).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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RECESS

The Board was recessed at 10:03 am and reconvened at 10:08 am.

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PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS

Dan Steele, A Citizen, spoke about grading concerns in his neighborhood.

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CONSENT AGENDA

On Motion of Commissioner Harvey, seconded by Commissioner Alexander, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda Items A, B, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L.

A.) ADMINISTRATION; BUDGET RESOLUTION- VFD DONATION, $250.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-057)

The Board unanimously approved the Budget Resolution – VFD Donation, $250.00 (Resolution 2025-057)

(See Supplementary File for a copy of Information)

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B.) CHANGE ORDER- REPLACEMENT OF CARPET AT THE GOVERNMENT COMPLEX BUDGET RESOLUTION $124,435.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-058)

The Board unanimously approved the Change Order – Replacement of Carpet at the Government Complex & Budget Resolution, $124,435.00 (Resolution 2025-058)

(See Supplementary File for a copy of Information)

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D.) ADMINISTRATION; FAIRGROUNDS ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT BUDGET AMENDMENT $34,260.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-060)

The Board unanimously approved the Fairgrounds roof Replacement Project Budget Amendment, $34,260.00 (Resolution 2025-060)

(See Supplementary File for a copy of Information)

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E.) ADMINISTRATION; PURCHASE OF PROPERTY- ADJACENT TO WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT $1,038,000.00

The Board unanimously approved the Purchase of Property – Adjacent to Waste Water Treatment Plant, $1,038,000.00.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of Information)

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F.) EMERGENCY SERVICES; BUDGET RESOLUTION- CARPET REPLACEMENT AT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER $70,725.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-061)

The Board unanimously approved the Budget Resolution – Carpet Replacement at Emergency Operations Center, $70,725.00 (Resolution 2025-061).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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G.) EMERGENCY SERVICES; PURCHASE OF DIESEL CHASSIS AMBULANCE AND BUDGET RESOLUTION $371,185.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-062)

The Board unanimously approved the Purchase of Diesel Chassis Ambulance and Budget Resolution, $371,185.00 (Resolution 2025-062).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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H.) EMERGENCY SERVICES; PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE REMOUNT AND BUDGET RESOLUTION $330,000.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-063)

The Board unanimously approved the Purchase of Ambulance Remount and Budget Resolution, $330,000.00 (Resolution 2025-063).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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I.) EMERGENCY SERVICES; TERMINATE FDEM SUBGRANT AGREEMENT 4486-057-R MIDDLETON-BURNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GENERATOR

The Board unanimously approved the Terminate FDEM Subgrant Agreement 4486-057-R Middleton-Burney Elementary School Generator.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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J.) PUBLIC WORKS; FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES GILBERT WWTF EFFICIENCY UPGRADE AND BUDGET RESOLUTION $409,712.00 (RESOLUTION 2025-064)

The Board unanimously approved the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Gilbert WWTF Efficiency Upgrade and Budget Resolution, $409,712.00 (Resolution 2025-064).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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K.) PUBLIC WORKS; MODIFICATION DIRT TO PAVE 2025

The Board unanimously approved the Modification dirt to pave 2025.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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L.) PUBLIC WORKS; MSBU APPROVAL OF ASSESSMENT ROLLS

The Board unanimously approved the MSBU Approval of Assessment Rolls.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

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PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM C-COMMISSIONER NEWBOLD

C.) ADMINISTRATION; DUNNS CREEK WEST SIDE BOAT RAMP PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN SERVICES & BUDGET RESOLUTION $294,780.20 (RESOLUTION 2025-059)

Commissioner Newbold said he was in favor of the project and he said there are two other boat ramp programs in the Que.

A discussion ensued on the cost of the projects and discussed design services.

Commissioner Wilkinson made a recommendation to table Item C to look further at the outstanding projects that need to be completed.

On a Motion by Commissioner Newbold, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer The Board passed a motion to table the Dunns Creek West Side Boat Ramp Proposal for Design Services & Budget Resolution, $294,780.20 (Resolution 2025-059) Vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Alexander opposing.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

CODE ENFORCEMENT

FINE REDUCTION REQUEST-CODES CASE NO. 2008-00215

On a Motion by Commissioner Harvey, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer, The Board unanimously approved a Motion in Codes Case No. 2008-00215 reducing the code enforcement fines to a total of $1,521.00 to be paid within 90 days

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS; REQUESTS TO ADVERTISE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE SECOND AVENUE (RESOLUTION 2025-065)

JT Stout, Planning and Development Director, said staff is seeking a date to hold the second hearing.

On a Motion by Commissioner Harvey, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer, The Board unanimously approved the Request to Advertise for a Public Hearing to Vacate Second Avenue (Resolution 2025-065).

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

TOURISM; TDC MARKETING PLAN & BUDGET $720,455.00

Kimberly Morgan, TDC, presented a slideshow presentation on the TDC marketing plan and budget.

Commissioner Harvey spoke about the TDC and expressed his support.

Commissioner Alexander asked Ms. Kimberly to discuss the plan for the advertising agency.

Ms. Morgan explained the plan for the advertising.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked if the $720k would be a yearly request.

Ms. Morgan said no and explained the branding study.

Commissioner Wilkinson spoke of the need for capital outlay project. The money should be working with the county in tandem.

Commissioner Alexander said he agreed with Commissioner Wilkinson and spoke about the funds for the advertising agency.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Justin Morris, A Citizen, addressed his concerns regarding spending money for advertisement.

Commissioner Newbold spoke of phased approach at a lower funding level.

A leghtnhy discussion ensued on the subject of the cost of advertisement.

Commissioner Harvey made a Motion to support the TDC funding as proposed. Motion dies due to lack of second.

Commissioner Newbold made a Motion for the TDC to bring back a less aggressive plan with a lesser budget of $520k. Motion Dies due to lack of Second.

A lengthy discussion ensued on how to move forward.

Commissioner Pellicer said he would like to have something to show exactly where the funds are going.

Ms. Morgan spoke about the funds and where they would be going.

Commissioner Alexander spoke of his concerns of the amount being asked.

On a Motion by Commissioner Harvey, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer, The Board unanimously approved the TDC marketing and budget, minus agency advertisement and website development costs, for a total of $370,000.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

SHERIFF'S OFFICE; SEX OFFENDER ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE 2025-021)

Sheriff Gator Deloach gave a brief overview of the Sex Offender Ordinance.

On a Motion by Commissioner Harvey, Seconded by Commissioner Alexander, The Board unanimously approved the Sex Offender Ordinance (Ordinance 2025-021) to move forward to the August 26, 2025 Board meeting.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

ADMINISTRATION; THE PAVILION @ CRESCENT LAKE- ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT $256,430.45 (RESOLUTION 2025-066)

Julianne Young said the nursing home reached out and is in need of renovations for their elevator.

A brief discussion followed on the subject of safety concerns.

On a Motion by Commissioner Alexander, Seconded by Commissioner Pellicer The Board unanimously approved The Pavilion @ Crescent Lake – Elevator Modernization Project, $256,430.45 (Resolution 2025-066).

A discussion ensued regarding properties own by the county.

Commissioner Wilkinson spoke about the county owning the nursing home and spoke about properties that need to be in the private sector and back on the tax rolls. She recommended getting appraisals on the buildings and move forward with the process to surplus the properties.

The Board waved in support to get appraisals on the two buildings.

(See Supplementary File for a copy of the Information)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The floor was open to public comment. There being none, public comment was closed.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments made.

CLERK OF COURT- MATT REYNOLDS

Matt Reynolds, Clerk of Court and Comptroller, gave a brief update on the construction of customer service building at the Clerks office.

COUNTY ATTORNEY- RICH KOMANDO

Rich Komando, County Attorney, had no remarks.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR-TERRY SUGGS

Terry Suggs, County Administrator, had no remarks.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Pellicer spoke about the buildings that the county owns and how to move forward.

Commissioner Alexander asked for a an update regarding project spending limits for staff to approve without having to bring the item before the board.

Julianne Young said they have been successful with getting quotes and working toward a final version to bring to the board.

Commissioner Newbold spoke of George Miller Middle School building and asked the Board for permission to try to acquire the building.

The Board gave their support to have Commissioner Newbold work with staff to see if the Miller Middle School building could be acquired.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked for an update on spay and neuter and adoption events.

Julianne Young spoke about the adoption events and the spay and neuter program.

Commissioner Harvey gave $30,000.00 of his discretionary funds to the Expo building and $16,000.00 to the asphalt at the Maltby Building.

Commissioner Wilkinson asked the board to consider what they would like to have as legislative priorities.

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the Board of County Commissioners Meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Leota D. Wilkinson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Matt Reynolds, Clerk of Courts
And Comptroller

Minutes By: Deputy Clerk, Ashley Beard.