

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

**MINUTES
PUTNAM COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR SESSION
May 26, 2026**

OPENING

Commissioners C. Brian Ellis, Douglas Pierson, and R. Andrew Skidmore were present when the 9:00 a.m. meeting convened in the old courtroom by County Commission President R. Andrew Skidmore. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

R. ANDREW SKIDMORE, COUNTY COMMISSION PRESIDENT

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve invoices as reflected in the edit registers as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the May 14, 2026 commission meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the May 18, 2026 canvass meeting minutes from the May 12, 2026 Primary Election as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS

None

COURT ORDERS APPROVED

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve and sign the following orders, personnel payroll changes and certifications as presented:

1. An Order to delete from payroll for Joshua Cox, Full-Time, Accounts Payable, Department 402, effective May 15, 2026 as presented by the Commission Secretary
2. An Order to add to payroll for Jennifer Harpold, Part-Time, Mapper, Department 407, \$24.00/hourly, effective May 26, 2026 as presented by the Commission Secretary

3. An Order to add to payroll for John Dyer, Part-Time, Kennel Tech, Department 716, \$13.65/hourly, effective May 25, 2026 as presented by the Commission Secretary

Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve payment of invoices and orders as presented.

1. An Order to issue a check from the Putnam County Community Criminal Justice Fund (#72) in the amount of \$81.00 to Roy Kuhl Sports
2. An Order to issue a check from the Putnam County Community Criminal Justice Fund (#72) in the amount of \$2,456.00 to Kimberly Sizemore (March Invoice)

Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ESTATE SETTLEMENTS

The Fiduciary Supervisor Mr. Frye presented the following documents to the Commission and recommended that they be approved as presented:

Short Form Settlements: Joseph Michael Muto, William Frank Persinger, Jr., Linda Lou Snodgrass, Shirley Glen Snodgrass, Earl Bennett Wymer

Long Form Settlements: None

Partial Settlements: None

Annual Settlements: None

Certificates of Completion: None

Report and Notice of Fiduciary Supervisor on Order to Show Cause Against Delinquent Or Unprogressed Estate (No Good Cause Shown):
None

An Order of "Appointment List" of Actions of Fiduciary Supervisor from May 13, 2026, through May 26, 2026

An Order to disburse \$12.00 from the Fiduciary Special Fund to Brian Wood, Clerk for the recording fees of the Estate of Lois Ann Bowen.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the documents and authorize the Commission President to sign all necessary documents as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET REVISIONS

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Budget Revision for Department 700 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Budget Revision for Department 713 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Budget Revision for Department 713 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to transfer from the 911-07 Fund to INdigital in the amount of \$96,041.82 for Milestone 2 – 911 call handling equipment and network upgrade as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to transfer from the 911-07 Fund to Lightrr in the amount of \$86,172.00 for tower site hardware purchase as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to issue checks from the Putnam County TIF Fund as presented:

- Acct # 273-430-2-23.0 in the amount of \$5,542.50 payable to Potesta & Associates, Inc. for design and bidding services on the Valley Park Draining Project for the Putnam County Parks and Recreation Commission
- Acct # 273-430-5-66.0 in the amount of \$63,431.19 payable to WesBanco Bank, Inc., Trustee for April 2026 TIF Revenue (Acct #108507771 Revenue Fund) – Trustee is to issue debt service payments for Putnam Bonds 2017AB

Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to issue a check from the Dog Fund (#003-716-2-30.0) in the amount of \$1,750.00 payable to Tri-Waves Electrical Inspections, LLC for the electrical services for the Putnam County Animal Shelter as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to issue a check from the Water and Sewer Fund (#045-809-2-23.0) in the amount of \$30,000.00 payable to Regional Intergovernmental Council for Project Administration on the Custer Ridge Waterline Extension Project as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to issue a check from the General County Fund (#001-425-5-66.0) in the amount of \$250,000.00 payable to the Putnam County Network Fund (#042) as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to re-appoint Destiny Newcome to serve on the Putnam County Dilapidated & Abandoned Enforcement Agency Board, effective May 11, 2026 with a term to expire on May 10, 2028 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to re-appoint Sheriff Bobby Eggleton to serve on the Putnam County Dilapidated & Abandoned Enforcement Agency Board, effective May 11, 2026 with a term to expire on May 10, 2028 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

BRIAN WOOD, COUNTY CLERK

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Certification of the 2026 Primary Election Results as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

JORDAN CHAPMAN, PLANNER 1

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to dismiss DAEA Case 2025-19 and forgive accrued penalties as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Multiple citizens spoke in opposition of the DATA Center.

Logan Beabout spoke regarding flooding on Bent Tree Estates, Crooked Creek, Scott Depot. Stated lake retention was low, drainage flow was backed up. Commissioner Skidmore spoke with Senator Tarr and the DOT and there is a meeting on 5/27/26 with DOT.

LeeAnn Gregg spoke regarding the PCPC REZ 2026-01 and the DATA Center.

At 7:24 p.m., Commissioner Ellis made a motion to go into a recess as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:34 p.m., Commissioner Ellis made a motion to enter back into session as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MELISSA SARGENT, SENIOR PLANNER

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to open public hearing on PCPC REZ 2026-01 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mark Drennon spoke regarding the rezoning.

Shirley Jones spoke regarding the rezoning.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to close public hearing on PCPC REZ 2026-01 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PCPC REZ 2026-01 - Criteria #1 – Will the proposed amendment protect and promote the public health, safety, convenience, morals, and general welfare:

Commissioner Ellis voted yes stating: Reflecting back on a previous rezoning at Hurricane Creek Road, the area was dangerous and the State of West Virginia, they will not upgrade that crossing, turning lane or bridge until the traffic increases. Rt. 35 needs upgraded, so rezoning, this will increase traffic.

Commissioner Pierson voted yes stating: This went through the Planning Commission, and they had no issues with this and no real evidence to see that this does not meet requirements

Commissioner Skidmore voted yes stating: The rezoning site is located off US RT 35 and is in proximity of the Kanawha River, putting it in a major transportation infrastructure corridor and the C-2 designation is consistent with corridor-based development pattern in that area.

PCPC REZ 2026-01 - Criteria #2 – Is the amendment consistent in achieving the objectives for the adopted Comprehensive Plan, US 35 Corridor Management Plan, and the Teays Valley Land Use Plan:

Commissioner Ellis voted yes stating: For the same reasons stated above.

Commissioner Pierson voted yes stating: It meets the requirements of the plans.

Commissioner Skidmore voted yes stating: In the US 35 plan, the intent of the plan is to meet the county's future needs of job creations and tax generation. Also, to achieve economic sustainability from the investment in the relocation of US 35. And future development will continue to be focused in areas that are considered prime location where roadway access meets utility infrastructure.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the PCPC REZ 2026-01 as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

LARRY FRYE, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Putnam County Commission's designation of banking institutions as depositories of public moneys pursuant to W.Va. Code §7-6-1, et. seq. as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

At 7:57 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, having no further business, Commissioner Ellis made a motion and Commissioner Pierson seconded to adjourn the regular session of the County Commission until Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Smith
Executive Assistant