

PUTNAM COUNTY REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 14, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Putnam County Board was called to order at 5:30 P.M. on Monday, July 14, 2025, by the County Board Chairman, Charles Lenkaitis. The meeting was held in the courtroom at the Putnam County Courthouse in Hennepin, Illinois

The Clerk of the County Board took Roll Call with Tony Rue, Luke Holly, Marlee Giacometti, Floyd Holocker, and Charles Lenkaitis answering.

All who were in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: It was moved by board member Rue to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting. Board member Giacometti seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent.

Bills: It was moved by Holocker to pay May and June Bills. Board member Rue seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent.

Public comment: Donna Blomquist was present and attended to represent Putnam County C02 Action Team (PCCAT). It is a group of residents that formed together with the goal of enabling transparency for residents in Putnam County. They are committed to Community, Safety, and Environmental Stewardship. Donna stated, "We are not FOR or AGAINST C02 Sequestration or the Marquis project; we simply want to know what steps are being taken in the areas of safety and environmental security for our water and air. Donna did ask the board on behalf of PCCAT if the board would consider a moratorium on c02 sequestration and pipelines. The board had no comment as this was public comment and not on the agenda to discuss. There were no other comments from the public.

State Attorney Christina Judd Mennie was present and had no action items for the board. Mennie did attend a conference that was very informative, but had nothing for this meeting. There were no other questions for the State's Attorney.

County Highway Engineer Catherine Terando was present with her June report regarding County Highway Engineering and Maintenance Activities to the board. Terando reported the highway crew assisted with crack sealing in Marshall County. Most of all, the road work is complete for the county, just waiting on completion of Senachwine Township. Terando reported a small sinkhole on the bottom road. It doesn't appear to be a major issue. A small seam has likely opened up between two pieces of culvert pipe. There were no other questions regarding her report. (The County Highway Engineer report is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

Sheriff Joshua Boedigheimer was present with his report. Sheriff Boedigheimer reported, the ADA Automatic doors have been installed; however, we are waiting for the electricians to come and do more wiring. This was paid for with an election grant that the County Clerk applied for.

It should be completed soon. In the storm last week, a couple of AC units went down. Everything is up and running now, but we did spend some money getting everything back up and going again. There were no other questions regarding his report. (The Sheriff's and Civil Processing Transaction Reports are on file at the Office of the County Clerk for review by any interested parties.)

County Treasurer Kevin Kunkel was present with his report.

June, FY' 2025

Income - \$1,049,724.27

General Fund Account Balance

General Fund Balance – \$21,269.32

General Fund Savings - \$937,615.52

NCB CD - \$525,005.73

Illinois Funds - \$2,065,229.26

IIIT (PFM) - \$448,102.20

PMA - \$555,731.23

Total – \$4,552,953.26

FY' 2025 Total Revenues - \$2,330,399.05

FY' 2025 Total Expenses – (\$2,408,049.09)

(The County Treasurer's financial reports are on file at the Office of the County Clerk for review by any interested parties.).

County Clerk & Recorder Tina Dolder was present with her report for June. Dolder reported that the income collected for June was \$33,171.59. Dolder also reported that the Handicap Automatic Door has been installed and paid for by the IVRS grant. Even though the Primary Election is not until 3/17/2025, petition circulation begins August 5th for established parties. The first day to file petitions is Oct 27th; the last day is Nov 3rd. Signature requirements for established parties are Dem -13, Rep 15, and Independent 170 signatures needed. There was nothing else to report, and there were no other questions. (The County Clerk & Recorder's report is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

County Circuit Clerk Carly Neubaum was not present and had nothing to report.

County Probation Officer Sam Wier was not present and had nothing to report.

Zoning Administrator Ryan Giacometti was present with his June report. Giacometti continued inspections for the various permitted projects and issued 9 new building permits for June. The board had no other questions. (The Zoning Administrator's report is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

County Supervisor of Assessments Tammy Mehalic was present and had a PowerPoint titled Cause and Affect – How Industry in our county positively affects your tax bill. The board had no questions. (The PowerPoint is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

County Death Investigator Bob Cofoid was not present and had nothing to report.

Putnam County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Chauntelle Biagi was present with her report for April, May, and June 2025. So much has been happening in the last 3 months. Some key points are the Full Scale Exercise for the Bureau-Putnam LEPC on April 5, 2025. There were over 100 participants between the Scene in Zearing, the Staging Area in Malden, and the Emergency Operations Center in Hennepin. The After-Action Report and Improvement Plan based on feedback from the participants and Evaluators were submitted to IEMA for approval, and we received approval from IEMA on June 3, 2025. Biagi also gave an Emergency Preparedness Presentation with Lori Sondgeroth, Emergency Response Coordinator, with the Bureau, Putnam, Marshall Health Department, at the Putnam County Community Center in Standard on April 8, 2025. There were 40 people in attendance, and they gave away 2 first Aid Kits and 2 NOAA Weather Radios. Biagi reported, during the last 3 months, we had several severe weather events that reached a level 3 (Enhanced Risk/Orange), or had a Severe Thunderstorm Warning, or Tornado Watch, or Warning. Any of these reasons is a reason for us to activate the Putnam County Emergency Operation Center in conjunction with Bureau and Henry Counties. Putnam, Bureau, and Henry Counties have been working together on a regional Emergency Operation Center Activation protocol and have designated that when the National Weather Service issues a Level 3 or higher rating risk for Putnam, Bureau, Henry, Stark, and/or Mercer Counties we will activate our EOC and be connected to the Henry County Emergency Operations Center in Kewanee Via Zoom. Bureau County EMA has been coming to the Putnam County EOC and staffing our EOC with me during these events, along with members from the Granville/Hennepin Fire Protection District. During these events we utilize NWS chat with the National Weather Service (SLACK), social media, GRLevel Radar, Team Reach with our Fire Chiefs and 911 Dispatch, Amateur Radio, zoom with our Partners, local TV, and the State Emergency Operations Center Public Safety Room Chat to ensure that our area is being monitored and that all warnings are issued promptly on multiple platforms. During the Severe weather on March 14th, one of the animal control kennels blew up and over the OEM Building and landed in the front parking lot. On its way over the building, it hit the roof in a few places and put a couple of holes in the roof. The repairs have been made and the insurance claim has been submitted to insurance for payment. The board had no questions. (The County Emergency Management Coordinator's report is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Fish N' Fun requested a Liquor License for the Annual Pancake Breakfast in August. Dolder reported the application was all filled out, and liability insurance is on file. The State's Attorney recommended approval. Board member Holly moved to approve the request for the approval of Liquor License for Fish N' Fun pancake breakfast on August 3, 2025. Board member Holocker seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent. *(The Clerk of the County Board was directed to process a letter of approval and prepare the license.)*

Chris Smith, PMP, CPP, Director of Operations, Robert (Bob) Sinkler, Executive Director, and Dr. Anshu Singh, Sustainability & Conservation Director – Corn Belt Ports, were present and provided a PowerPoint update on the Illinois Waterway Ports Commission. The Corn Belt Ports vision is to provide regional, national, and global leadership in sustainability and resiliency through Green Marine Highway initiatives. Sustainability mission is to promote a low-carbon,

sustainable, resilient, multi-modal transportation and natural infrastructure supply chain system for the Corn Belt's riverfront countries that supports both people and nature. This port is a critical part of the supply chain and is recognized as 1 of the top 25 Ports by Dry Bulk Tonnage. In 2024, the Village of Hennepin, IL, partnered with Marquis and was awarded the Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant, totaling \$38,582,711 for a project along the river. (The Illinois Waterway Ports Commission – Corn Belt Port PowerPoint is on file at the Office of the County Clerk & Recorder for review by any interested parties.)

Handbook – Board member Lenkaitis: no new update – tabled to next month

Correspondences and Committee Reports: None

Executive Session:

Board member Holocker made a motion to go into an Executive session for personnel at 6:37 P.M. Board member Holly seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent. After a brief discussion, Board member Holocker made a motion to come out of the Executive session at 7:02 P.M. Board member Giacometti seconded the motion, and the motion was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent.

ADJOURN:

At 7:03 P.M., Board member Holocker moved to adjourn the meeting. Board member Giacometti seconded the motion; it was carried on a roll call board vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent. The meeting was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Putnam County Board is scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2025, at 5:30 P.M. The meeting will be held in the courtroom at the Putnam County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted,

TINA DOLDER, Clerk of the Putnam County Board