

PUTNAM COUNTY REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 8, 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, September 8, 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, Floyd Holocker, Marlee Giacometti, and Charles Lenkaitis answering. Luke Holly was absent.

All who were in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: It was moved by board member Rue to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2025, Regular Board Meeting. Board member Holocker seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

Bills: It was moved by board member Holocker to pay the August Bills. Board member Giacometti seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

Public comment: James Mayer was present and made a statement about hoping Marquis would donate a piece of the pie. He would like the county board to get more tax money for the county. Diana Hale was present and would like to request a Moratorium on Carbon Sequestration and asked if they had read the unredacted version that came out today. Melanie Johnstone and Linda Reynolds were present, and both requested a Moratorium on Carbon Sequestration. Mary Dappen was present and stated that there are other ways to capture carbon than the ground. She would also like to request a Moratorium on Carbon Sequestration. Mike Black was present and stated he lives here in Hennepin, worked for the steel mill for 40 years, and was on the Hennepin Village Board when Marquis came to town. He does not think carbon capture is a good answer or a good thing for Hennepin or Putnam County or the surrounding area, as it is still unproven technology. He would like the board to put a Moratorium on this until there are more answers. Angela Nicoli was present and is fully supporting a Moratorium. Donna Blomquist is present and has also asked for a 29-mile diameter Moratorium in the past and still would like to see that happen. Donna also suggested setting up an account in case of an emergency, so the county would already have the money from Marquis. Dawn Neubaum was present and is always concerned about the water in our area and fully supports a moratorium. Brittany Blomquist was present and agrees with everyone who has spoken and is also suggesting a moratorium be put in place. County board Chairman Lenkaitis thanked the public for coming to speak and explained that during public comment, it is not the time to answer any questions; however, anyone is welcome to call and talk to any of us board members. Chairman Lenkaitis also had a general statement that they have known about this for quite some time and have been doing their research. Just know that this is not all hitting us all at once; it is something we have been working on for a while.

State Attorney Christina Judd Mennie was present and had no action items for the board. Mennie did say that she has been working on a Moratorium Ordinance for Carbon Capture; however, there is not much out there. Mennie has been working with people in Springfield to put something on record. Whatever the decision is, we need something on file to protect the county. Also, Mennie is concerned about the Wi-Fi in the court room, it has been terrible lately so she wants to look into something to improve it. There were no other questions for the State's Attorney.

County Highway Engineer Catherine Terando was present, and we had her report regarding County Highway Engineering and Maintenance Activities to the board. Terando reported it was a slower month. Chairman Lenkaitis asked about an update on the light on 89 and John Swaney Road. She has not heard anything, she will reach out and get an answer. There were no 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, there was a scenario training on high-risk traffic stops, and it went over well. Cops grant funding is starting to come in a little bit, which is good. Also, still waiting for the furnace/ac unit to come in for the Election Office. 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 some approx. figures for his report. It has been very busy due to a change in my office and the due date for the tax bills. We have not had time to reconcile the general fund or go through the bank statements as of today.

Aug, FY' 2025

Income - \$238,146.96

General Fund Account Balances

General Fund Balance – \$43,550.45

General Fund Savings - \$541,177.02

NCB CD - \$530,365.10

Illinois Funds - \$2,378,939.79

IIIT (PFM) - \$451,373.33

PMA - \$556,326.58

Total – \$4,501,732.27

FY' 2025 Total Revenues - \$2,852,408.54

FY' 2025 Total Expenses – (\$2,987,488.96)

(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. Dolder reported that the income collected for August was \$13,207.18. The Primary Election is 3/17/2025, the first day to file petitions is Oct 27th; the last day is Nov 3rd. On 9/16/2025, we will be sending out new voter cards to every registered voter. By law, we have to conduct a purge every 2 years; it is not something that we do for fun. This process helps clean up the voter registration from people who have moved and have not reported the new address change. As time-consuming and repetitive as residents think it is, it is a very important process in keeping the voter registration up to date as

best as possible. 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 report. Giacometti continued inspections for the various permitted projects and issued 5 new building permits for August. 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 not present and had nothing to report.

County Death Investigator Bob Cofoid was not present; however, he dropped off his report from August. There was a total of 5 deaths.

Putnam County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Chauntelle Biagi was present. She said she would have her written report next month. Biagi reported that she has been to several meetings and has been working on several different grants. There were 2 fires for which Biagi requested the Red Cross for a Canteen for the first responders. The PC EMA Truck was in the 1st ever Putnam County Football Homecoming Parade. Biagi also wanted to point out that there have been several emergency trainings with Marquis on different levels of emergencies with all county agencies. PC EMA, Marquis, and all first responder teams will continue to get together and train for different types of emergencies. 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:

Resolution 2025-11 Authorization by County Board Chairman to Execute Deeds of Conveyance. It was moved by Board member Rue to execute 1 deed of Conveyance. Board member Holocker seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent. *(The Clerk of the County Board was directed to process Resolution 2025-11.)*

Standard Fire Protection District requested the appointment of Jim Reno, of Standard, to serve the remainder of a 3-year term, which began in May 2025. The Term will end April 30, 2028. It was moved by Board member Holocker to appoint Jim Reno, of Standard, to serve the remainder of the term. Board member Rue seconded the motion, which was carried on a roll call board vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent. *(The Clerk of the County Board was directed to process a letter of approval.)*

Hopkins & Associates regarding the audit year ending Nov 30, 2025. It was moved by Board member Rue to approve Hopkins & Associates for the audit year ending Nov 30, 2025. Board

member Giacometti seconded the motion, and the motion was carried on a roll call board vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

The quote for the Electric rate was tabled until the board had more information.

Handbook – Chairman Lenkaitis had a copy of the handbook and asked the clerk to send it to all the office holders. The office holder should go over the handbook and come back with any suggested changes/additions.

Correspondences and Committee Reports: None

ADJOURN:

At 6:18 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 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent. The meeting was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Putnam County Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 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