

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**AUGUST 23, 2022, at 9:00 A.M.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

David Fuhrman, President  
Stephanie Campbell, Vice President  
Danny Wallace  
Phillip Gick  
Jay Alcorn  
Keith Berry  
Thomas Helmer  
Kristina Berish  
Evelyn Williams  
Jacque Clements, IAC

**COMMISSIONERS:**

**AUDITOR'S OFFICE:**

The Putnam County Council met for Budget Workshops on August 23, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Jacque presented the Council with the 2022 Adopted Levy worksheet and the Working Levy worksheet. Discussion was made.

Discussion was made on EMS LIT and the guidelines for establishing. Roachdale Ambulance service is not under County services. Council agreed to research further.

## **BINDING AND NONBINDING REVIEWS**

Karen Heavin, Warren Township Trustee

## **SUPERIOR COURT**

Judge Bridges stated he did a 5% increase across the board. Has not used as much of the education line item due to not traveling out of state. Phil asked about the repairs and maintenance increase. Judge Bridges stated they will need to purchase a copier for the Magistrate. Phil asked if the law books line item was necessary due to everything being electronic. Tamila stated that this is a contractual amount and should go down for next budget cycle. Discussion was made on each line item, decreased Pro Tem, Witness Fees.

## **CIRCUIT COURT**

Judge Headley - Phil asked about public defenders. Three for circuit and two for magistrate. He has had to drain the public defender fund in order to pay them. The fund will not fund them in 2023. Discussion was made. Judge wanted to make known he is adamant about raises for employees. He also brought up the insurance premium amounts are astronomical.

Account 30366 will need added back into budget, \$7800.  
Could pay one public defender from fund 7399 in 2023.

## **ADULT PROBATION**

Teresa Parrish – County General – asked for insurance to be paid for Field Officers. Asked for 5% raise. Probation officers are mandated 3% by the state. Fund 2000 increased equipment. SATP – drug screen and insurance increase. Discussion was made. Jacque stated they use the TREX program and have done very well. Teresa stated they have two grants.

## **JUVENILE PROBATION**

Rene Marstellar – asked for slight increase in most line items. Discussion was made.

## **CLERK**

Heather Gilbert – County General - all employees have specialized skills. Takes over a year in order to function without support. They have multiple programs to interact with. Have had to get new printers, microfilm reader and maintenance packages. Stephanie asked about number of employees. Heather stated she is trying to even out salaries before she leaves office at the end of the year.

Perpetuation – stayed the same

Election – Discussion was made on equipment. It was upgraded last year. Heather stated the upgrade made the cost of maintaining increased.

## **ASSESSOR/REAL ESTATE**

Janet Brown, Don Badaloto – General Fund – asked for increase in supplies, printing due to cost increasing. Real Estate – large increase due to server needing replaced.

## **RECORDER**

Tracy Bridges – Discussion was made on salaries.

Rebinding of books 30306 needs added back in \$2,000

Tracy said to take more salaries out of Perpetuation Fund. It has a large balance and continues to grow.

### **SURVEYOR**

David Penturf – County General – stayed the same. Perpetuation – increased part timeline item. Discussion was made.

### **SHERIFF/JAIL/ANIMAL SHELTER**

Sheriff Stockton, Deputy Matt Demmings, Matron Tricia Clearwaters – County General - Office supplies increased due to new Sheriff coming into office. Several things will have to be changed including letterhead, signs, etc. Phil questioned the fuel line item not increasing. Discussion was made.

LIT – add \$37,485 account 30366. Animal Shelter Vet Tech

Budget is in County General and LIT – Tricia wants to change uniform allowance to \$48,000 account 10170.

Jail – General Fund – Tricia would like to add \$45,500 (total of \$75,000) to the part-time line item. The work release program is no longer in use. In order to not lose employees, they will need to increase request. Dave asked about building repairs. Sheriff Stockton stated the building is in good shape but would like to pave or chip n seal the driveway.

Cumulative Jail – Discussion was made on increasing line items due to the fund going away.

Animal Shelter – Discussion was made.

### **SOIL & WATER**

Sara Campfield – Presented spreadsheet with previous year statistics. Discussion was made.

### **EXTENSION**

Mark Evans – asked for 5% increase for salaries, bumped Per Diem due to increase in costs to conduct programs. Discussion was made.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Joni Young, Brian Williams – Joni presented a spreadsheet of the grants she receives with explanations on their purpose and what they have paid for. She also went into detail how the grants paid for the security upgrade that was desperately needed. Joni stated that the COVID 19 Public Health Crisis grant will end in 4 years. When the grant is done the nurse will no longer be needed and she will not ask for money to replace her. Discussion was made. Joni explained the department raised their fees and it has made a significant difference.

Joni stated they need an additional Environmentalist. Brian Williams, current environmentalist, stated that their duties have expanded and will continue to do so. Current job description is 6 pages long. IDOH has assigned responsibilities to local officials. State recommends 1 specialist per 10,000 residents. Joni stated they are unable to keep up with the demands that the law requires of their jobs. Brian went into detail of the type of inspections they are responsible for, food, septic, etc. Discussion was made. The additional person was asked for in the current budget request. Discussion was made on each line-item increase.

**CORONER**

Jon Myers – mileage line increase. Stated deputies use their own vehicles and gas for any travel they endure. Jon said he was informed that Regional Hospital will be increasing their autopsy fees. Equipment line was increased to purchase radios. Phil asked about the large salary increase requests. Jon stated the last convention attended they learned Indiana Coroners are among the lowest paid. He is looking to equalize salaries adequate to population. Danny questioned why they hadn't requested a uniform allowance.

**PLAT/GIS**

Robbie Cudnik – raised supplies due to paper cost increase, she is looking into buying a new printer for her computer. She presented fact book information that shows how underpaid her position is. Discussion was made.

**WEST CENTRAL SOLID WASTE**

Sent letter

**COUNCIL**

Kristina stated she calculated high. Raised Professional Contract in case IAC or others raise their fees.

**AUDITOR**

Kristina – operating went down, increased salaries based on workload and comparable counties. She went into depth with Chief Deputy Stipend of \$1500. She stated that is not enough for someone that has the experience and responsibilities her deputy has.

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**David Fuhrman, President**

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**Stephanie Campbell, V. President**

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**Jay Alcorn**

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**Phillip Gick**

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**Danny Wallace**

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**Keith Berry**

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**Attest: Auditor's Office  
Kristina Berish**

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**AUGUST 24, 2022, at 9:00 A.M.**

**ATTENDANCE**

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- David Fuhrman, President
- Stephanie Campbell, Vice President
- Danny Wallace
- Phillip Gick
- Jay Alcorn
- Keith Berry

COMMISSIONERS:

Thomas Helmer

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

- Kristina Berish
- Evelyn Williams
- Jacque Clements, IAC

The Putnam County Council met for Budget Workshops on August 24, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Council discussed hiring an outside vendor to do a salary study for the County employees. Jacque stated they should update job descriptions to coincide with the salaries. Kristina stated they would also look at cost of living.

## **GREENCASTLE SCHOOLS**

Superintendent presented the Council with a handout showing statistics. Discussion was made. He stated that everything was good with his budget. Debt service rate stayed neutral.

## **FIRE DISTRICTS**

Tiffany Deer – Walnut Creek – not a lot of change, increased insurance, gas and utilities. Roachdale – 2022 increased offroad rescue equipment, therefore removed for 2023. Floyd – refinancing debt. Jeff Brooks – described the issue with their 4,000-gallon tanker not able to go over most small bridges. The fire engine also needs replaced. Discussion was made.

## **AIRPORT**

Rex Eaton present & Baker Tilly Rep – Handout 2023 tax rate is the same. This year will do a \$500,000 debt paydown. Rex stated the hotel is full most of the time and the restaurant is holding its own. Baker Tilly – Budget Form 1 – over all budget is the same as last year.

## **HIGHWAY**

Jim Peck, Robyn Hughes – Jim stated Covered Bridge did not change. Parks Department is helping with upkeep. Phil stated all the covered bridges are not on the historical list but qualify. Has reached out to the Historical Society to fix this.

Cumulative Bridge – no longer have a Bridge Foreman. Increased inspection line item. Will be working on starting bridge maintenance again. Hasn't been done in years (debris, etc.). Equipment – wheel excavators buy-out. Bridge 276 – complete by April 2023. Future Bridge Projects – county's rating is 50% and under all around. Looking at working with United Consulting and Federal Highway Administration. Jim stated they will need to bank bridge money in order to work on more bridge projects. Discussion was made on Cumulate Bridge rate.

Local Road & Street – Jacque stated the way it was submitted it is fundable. If they have a bad winter, they may need to ask for an additional. Professional lease moved from 30366 to 40402. Four dump trucks will be paid off and have budgeted for a 2019-wheel loader.

MVH – Reduction on Engineer, reduced overtime, removed road foreman, laborers moved some money to Restricted MVH, budgeted \$6/gallon for fuel so may want to reduce, increased insurance and utilities. He stated he will hire a consultant for contractual labor to help with increasing work on roads. Radio equipment was increased to upgrade to current standards.

Vehicles/Equipment – Lowboy trailer replacement. Jim and Jacque stated the MVH funds are short compared to requested budget. Jacque stated the Commissioners have advised they will be using EDIT money to help cover some of the shortage. Discussion was made.

MVH Restricted – labor salaries increased, increased milling/stone, increased chip/seal. Discussion was made.

## **TREASURER**

Kathy Minnick – asked for increase for software and equipment upgrade and increase in salaries. Kathy informed the Council that First National Bank will be refunded the County in back interest owed.

## **PROSECUTOR**

Tim Bookwalter – County General - increased depositions and fuel line items. Pre-Trial – stayed the same.

Title IV-D, Vickie Patterson – County General - asked for salary increases.

## **VETERANS**

David Heavin – Small increase in repairs/maintenance. He gave the Council statistics on Veteran services provided. Discussion was made.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Cemetery – Dave Berry contacted Kristina and stated he would like to leave the Cemetery budget the same as last year instead of reducing.

Hazardous Waste 1221-068 – West Central increased their amount requested.

Cumulative Capital Development 1138 – new fund

LIT PSAP 1235-068 – loan payment

County General – Weights and Measures – decreased equipment, increased salary line item.

County General – Commissioners – Kristina stated that the Commissioners eliminated the 10310 (Atty Hourly) and increased 10117 (Attorney Salary). Rate has not increased in 10 years. PERF 10124 - Discussion was made on retirement options other than PERF.

## **PLANNING**

Lisa Zeiner – General Fund – asked for salary increases. Planning & Zoning 1180 – discussion on demolition/unsafe building. Misc. Services is for the Comp Plan. Inspector went down but part-time went up.

## **CUSTODIAL**

Andy Mitchell – stated he was running through operating supplies because of cost increases.

## **EMA**

David Costin – other than salaries same budget as last year. Discussion was made on software and radio updates in the future.

## **LEPC**

David Costin – same budget as last year

## **E-911**

David Costin – stated there are new mandates for training of dispatchers. If the training is not done, a penalty is imposed. Having trouble finding part time help. David stated he did a study and found that adding one full-time person to his crew would help cover the loss of part time people and lesson overtime. David said Fund 1222 is going to eventually run in the red. Therefore, submitted budget with more coming from Fund 1235. Jacque agreed, spending more than what's coming in. Discussion was made. Remove \$91,500 (3000 series) from Fund 1222.

## **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

Jamie France – General Fund – new request for health insurance. Stated he would like the County to pay for the 5 full time employees' insurance. Stated their services provide a reduction in costs for the county, i.e., if they are on home detention it saves the cost of housing them in jail. Stated the requested amount of \$101,105 is off. Only requesting \$88,000. Currently have 32 clients on home detention. Jamie said the D.O.C. has announced additional funding for their grants. Stephanie asked about not holding GRASP classes any longer. Jamie stated they did not have the space to hold them.

**EMS**

Kelly Russ – presented a report showing revenue brought in. Increased part time to include the part time admin asst approved earlier this year. Increased benefits by more than 20% to cover the salary increase requests. Asked for Per diem/Conferences and mileage line item that has not been requested in the past. Increased uniform allowance by almost 30%.

Payroll – requesting 21.5% salary increase for all EMT’s and Paramedics. She went into detail defending request. See handout. EMS Chief – requesting 8.32% increase. EMS Lieutenant 24.18% increase. EMS Deputy Chief – 23.29% increase.

Increased fuel line item by almost 60%. Operating supplies increased 47%. Requested new line-item Safety and Education. Repairs/Maintenance increased 45%. New appropriation for Training 30308. Reimbursements request was an originally a typo. Only requesting \$39,237. Vehicles 40402 request can be reduced to \$64,200. New appropriation of Hardware & Tools 40406. Requested \$50,000 for radios.

EMS Discussion: Phil feels whatever pay increase is given across the board should apply to EMS. Danny stated he agrees it should be the same for everyone until the County has a salary study done. Dave and Stephanie agree EMS has a basis for their request but is it affordable. Stephanie feels the Deputy and Chief Deputy salaries are good as they are. Danny has an issue with the EMT’s etc. making more in overtime than their salaries.

Stephanie feels the other requests for all other series are outrageous increase requests. Phil stated that they should take the amount of new appropriations (\$17,200) from the repairs/maintenance line item.

Jacque stated that \$1.5 million must be cut from Fund 1151 to be fundable. Discussion was made on financial reports and how to cut.

**David Fuhrman, President**

**Stephanie Campbell, V. President**

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**Jay Alcorn**

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**Phillip Gick**

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**Danny Wallace**

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**Keith Berry**

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**Attest: Auditor’s Office  
Kristina Berish**

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**AUGUST 25, 2022, at 9:00 A.M.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

David Fuhrman, President  
Stephanie Campbell, Vice President  
Danny Wallace

COMMISSIONERS:  
AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Phillip Gick  
Jay Alcorn  
Keith Berry  
Thomas Helmer  
Kristina Berish  
Evelyn Williams  
Jacque Clements, IAC

The Putnam County Council met for Budget Workshops on August 25, 2022, at the Putnam County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m.

**BUDGET DECISIONS/DISCUSSION**

Discussion was made on creating a levy for EMS.

Superior Court – County General – Witness fees and judge pro tem taking down to \$0.

Circuit Court – County General – Professional Contract lease added back \$7800

Adult Probation – County General – No changes

Public Defender Circuit – County General – Discussion on moving one of the public defenders to Fund 7399. Council agreed to do so. \$40,226 plus depending on raises.

Public Defender Superior – County General – No changes

SATP – No changes

Clerk – County General – Proposed doubling first deputy stipend. Discussion was made. Council agreed to leave stipend of \$6,000. Part-time – take increase back down to \$16,850.

Clerk Perpetuation Fund – Discussion on paying Election Clerk \$2,500 more for helping the Clerk's Office in off season. Decided to strike it.

Election – General Fund – Discussion on increase of Election Board line item. Decided to revert all line items (minus salaries) back to 2022 budget.

Assessor – County General – deciding salaries later

Reassessment – Discussion on repairs/maintenance increase. Stayed as requested.

Recorder – County General – allow per diem increase. Decided on moving deputy position to Perpetuation Fund.

Recorder Perpetuation Fund – increase \$2,000 to rebinding of books, move first deputy and stipend to this fund. Keep benefits coming out of Perpetuation.

Surveyor – County General – no changes

Surveyor – Perpetuation – Part -time doubled, approved.

Sheriff – Discussion on rank pay and uniform allowance. Allow increase to \$48,000 for uniform allowance. Personal services out of County General, everything else out of LIT. Per Diem \$6,000 move to LIT. Merit Board should be a 3000 series, not 1000. Discussion on attorney salary. Removed \$15,000 for attorney. Adding back Vet Tech \$37,485.

Jail – County General – Asked for increase in part-time. Discussion was made. Building repairs decreased to \$0 and taken out of Cumulative Jail. Repairs/Maintenance was also taken to \$0 in 1233 and moved to Cumulative Jail.

Animal Control – Discussion was made.

Soil & Water – Discussion on positions. Left as presented.

Extension – Discussion was made. Left as presented.

Health Department – Asked for an additional Health Specialist. Discussion was made. Jacque stated it's fundable. Agreed to accepting as presented.

Local Health Maintenance – Questioned grant administrator position. Kristina explained it is to help pay for the extra work on deputy. Operating supplies increased. Kristina is changing account from 20206 to 30303. Discussion was made. Accepted as presented.

Preparedness Fund – accepted as presented

Coroner – Asked for mileage and increased autopsy fees. Discussion was made.

GIS – Discussion was made on salary. Decided to make Department Head Salary \$45,000 (plus cost of living if decided to do so)

Plat Fund – No change

West Central Solid Waste – Discussion was made.

County Council – Discussion was made on salaries and conferences. Agreed to increase Per Diem/Conferences to \$3,000.

Auditor – Changed First Deputy stipend to \$3,000 instead of \$3,500. Agreed to approve to be consistent with Clerk stipend. Kristina decreased repairs/maintenance because she had a onetime cost last year.

Treasurer – Changed 30303 Repairs/Maintenance to \$51,400.

Prosecutor – County General – Increased depositions. Decreased office supplies.

Title IV-D – County General – Receive 66% back from the state.

Veterans – approved all but salary

Commissioner – Asked for increase in attorney salary and two more part time security deputies. Discussion was made. Agreed attorney is worth the increase. Everyone agreed.

Hazardous Waste – Coroner – Uniforms were discussed. Agreed to remove from Haz Waste and move to Commissioners budget

Hazardous Waste – Location 052 – Left as is

Hazardous Waste – Location 068 - Left as is

Cumulative Courthouse – no change

Cumulative Capital Development – Left as is

Weights & Measures – Decided to eliminate Equipment 40401 (\$15,000)

Cemetery – Changed back to 2022 budget amount per Commissioner request.

Public Safety PSAP 1235 – No changes

Custodial – decreased repairs/maintenance to \$36,000

Plan Commission – County General – no changes

Planning & Zoning – Discussion was made. Jacque stated it does not fund.  
Taking 30360 Misc. Services/Charges back down to \$9,000.

EMA – County General – No changes

LEPC – No changes

Statewide 911 - Fund 1222 – Moved 3000 series to PSAP (\$91,500).  
Discussion was made on request for an additional full-time dispatcher.  
Removed \$20,000 from part-time. Approved full-time. Remove \$1,000 from Per  
Diem. Decided to accept requested Director salary increase.

PSAP 1235 – No changes. Discussion was made on talking to the Treasurer  
about investing money.

Community Corrections – General Fund – Taking out request for health  
insurance.

Discussion was made on what Council members were thinking for a percentage  
salary increase.

Highway – 1173 – Decreased 30315 Equipment Rental from \$15,000 to \$5,000,  
decreased 30414 Road Preservation from \$600,000 to \$300,000, decreased  
30449 Road Reconstruction from \$850,000 to \$700,000, decreased 40412  
Road Resurfacing from \$400,000 to \$325,000. Backed out \$526,000 from  
EDIT. 1176 – decreased 20203 Fuel from \$977,272 to \$825,000, decreased  
30315 Equipment Rental from \$15,000 to \$10,000, decreased 40408  
Radio/Telephone Equipment from \$60,000 to \$0, moved 40410 Other  
Vehicles/Equipment \$100,000 to fund 1169 Roads & Streets. 1169 –  
decreased 20215 Stone, Sand & Gravel from \$300,000 to \$100,000.

EMS – 10112 cut down to \$40,000. Discussion was made on moving the  
remaining amount that needs cut from 1151 EMS to County General (over  
\$500,000).

**David Fuhrman, President**

**Stephanie Campbell, V. President**

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**Jay Alcorn**

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**Phillip Gick**

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**Danny Wallace**

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**Keith Berry**

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**Attest: Auditor's Office**  
**Kristina Berish**