



**COUNCIL MEETING
BUDGET HEARINGS
AUGUST 19, 2025
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL:

Stephanie Campbell, President
Jay Alcorn, Vice President
Danny Wallace
Wayne Huffman
Kerry Williams
Amanda Brown
Brian Berry

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Kristina Berish
Evelyn Williams

AIC:

Jacque Clements

The Putnam County Board of Council met on August 19, 2025, at 9:00 am. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. Campbell opened the meeting and the pledge to the flag was given.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Jacque Clements with the Association of Indiana Counties went into detail regarding where the county stands with the operating balance and the tax levy.

CLERK

Tracy Bridges was not present due to illness. Campbell asked if the Council had any comments regarding the budget. Discussion was made.

ELECTION

Campbell asked what the discrepancy between the election night workers was. Berish stated she had paid claims out of it instead of the workers. Therefore, it skewed the numbers.

ASSESSOR/REAL ESTATE

Assessor Don Bodaloto was present.

County General - Campbell asked why dues are in both county general and reassessment budgets. He stated he is following what previous administration had always done. Campbell stated they will move dues out of county general and leave \$1,000 in reassessment. Campbell questioned the equipment line-item request. Bodaloto stated he will be purchasing a tablet. Campbell asked why he had not used the equipment appropriation this year. He stated he will be purchasing the item and software at different times. Berish asked about the equipment appropriation in reassessment. Bodaloto stated the last couple of years it had been because of servers needing to be purchased. Campbell stated if the servers were replaced there was no longer a need for the line item. She stated if the tablet is being purchased in 2025 then it is not necessary for 2026. Bodaloto stated he intends to buy two. One in 2025 and the other in 2026. It was decided to take 30303 and 40401 out of county general and leave in reassessment. Discussion was made and it was decided that the 5% increase in line-items was not needed in reassessment. Equipment appropriation should be cut out of the county general. Reassessment equipment line changed to \$10,000.

1131 Sales Disclosure – Bodaloto stated he has not used it and does not know if he will. Zeroing the printing of forms line in the 008 Assessor location.

TREASURER

Treasurer Karrie Minor stated the 30303 repairs/maintenance line went down and was moved to the Auditor's budget. Minor stated she has hired a part-time deputy. Discussion was made if the amount requested is necessary.

SURVEYOR

Surveyor Greg Williams stated that he had no changes in county general. Corner Perpetuation was increased for a stipend he is allowed by IC code.

EXTENSION

Director Jenna Nees presented a handout for the 2024-2025 annual update.

SOIL AND WATER

Director Sara Campfield presented the Council with handouts showing current projects and conservation implementation. Campfield stated she has applied for a grant. It was decided after discussion to cut the 20201 office supplies appropriation to \$500. Brown suggested taking 30360 misc. services down to \$2,500.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Baugh stated he would like to add a new sergeant position. It would allow a supervisor on each shift. He stated he was approached by the Clerk regarding adding a deputy sheriff to the courthouse for security. Campbell asked what the role would be. Baugh stated it would be a supervisory position. It would not be a merit position. Brown asked if this would replace current part-time positions. Baugh stated no, it would be in addition to.

Baugh stated the retirement for merit deputies increased. Requesting a line-item for K-9 services (30360). Increased property and casualty line-item and repairs/maintenance.

Jail – JT Chadd stated they are requesting an additional full time cook to be able to supervise evening/weekend meal prep and service. Requesting to move the uniform allowance from a benefit account (payroll) to an operating supplies account. Increased inmate medical line-item due to contract increase. Increased utilities and postage because of price increases.

Misdemeanant – No change.

Animal Shelter – Animal Control Officer Terry Eastham stated he increased utilities because of price increases. Clements stated that the budget doesn't fund. Berish stated he scrapes by every year.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adm. Assistant Brian Williams stated it is a larger ask than before due to the state legislature slashing their funding.

- Fund 1159 – increased around \$250,000. Moved all staff members to it. Discussion was made on state requirements of HFI funding.

- Utilities – currently do not pay them where they are located. When they move to a new building, they will have that cost.
- Fund 1161 – moved employee salaries except grant manager pay.

Campbell stated that they have always practiced if grant funds go away then so does the position. Williams stated they have requirements they must meet to receive the funding. He stated they are looking at finding new grants. Campbell stated she would not know where to begin to cut if that is what needs to happen because of all the services they provide. Williams stated they can go back and cut but you would be hurting Putnam County residents.

- Fund 4926 – grant runs on fiscal year. All but \$5,000 was approved.

EMS

Director Kelly Russ stated there were several increases due to the rise in costs. Campbell asked why the 30303 repairs and maintenance increased over \$100,000. Commissioner Woodall stated they have projected that increase. Alcorn asked about the overtime line-item. Russ stated employees will always have overtime due to how their shifts are structured.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Asst. Director Robyn Hughes presented:

- 1134 Covered Bridge lowered budget because the revenue is only \$16,000 a year.
- 1135 Cumulative Bridge truck driver and equipment operator pay increased. Bridge maintenance increased because they plan on working on a bridge that was hit by a car. Miscellaneous charges will be used for engineering costs. Equipment increased to pay for excavator.
- 1169 Local Roads and Streets – sandstone and gravel increased.
- 1173 Restricted MVH = fuel, moved from MVH. Clements stated that fuel cannot be used out of fund 1173 must be 1176. Changed road resurfacing to \$350,000.
- 1176 MVH – workers compensation increased because they had a huge claim this year. Property and casualty increased.
- Fund 4951 – wheel/surtax for bridges, they are trying to build the fund up. After lengthy discussion it was decided to change the account from bridge maintenance to Bridge 154.

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Woodall, Helmer, and Beck were present.

County General

- Elected official salary increase – Brown stated they had discussed this during the wage committee meeting and thought \$40,000 each was deserved
- Commissioner secretary – asked for increase. Beck told the Council why he felt this position warranted it.
- Benefits increased to cover salary increases given throughout the year.
- Mental health was changed \$322,673
- Mileage will be changed to \$0

Hazardous Waste

- Met with IDEM and waiting to hear back why the county is not receiving more than 10% of tipping fees.
- Looking at a “stone” tax
- Help pay for the Health Department building

Weights & Measures – no changes
Cemetery – small increases

Courthouse Security – Campbell stated they need someone at the courthouse for evening meetings. Discussion was made.

Woodall asked Clements about Senate Bill 28 and when does the county need to start the process of creating the income taxes. She replied they should start discussions now.

Woodall stated that RDC (Redevelopment Commission) will need a small amount of money for legal advertisements and eventually an attorney. He stated once they get going, they will be generating their own money. Clements stated RDC is its own entity and cannot be funded by the county.

RECESS

Alcorn made the motion to recess. Huffman seconded. The motion passed.

**COUNCIL MEETING
BUDGET HEARINGS
AUGUST 20, 2025
9:00 AM**

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL:

Stephanie Campbell, President
Jay Alcorn, Vice President
Danny Wallace
Wayne Huffman
Kerry Williams
Amanda Brown
Brian Berry

AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Kristina Berish
Evelyn Williams

AIC:

Jacque Clements
Camdon Murrell

The Putnam County Board of Council met on August 20, 2025, at 9:00 am. The meeting was held at the Putnam County Courthouse. The meeting had been recessed the day before. Campbell called their meeting back into session.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Brown stated she would like to go over the Clerk's budget. Campbell stated the discussion was to change amounts in part-time, office supplies and repairs/maintenance.

CORONER

Coroner Todd Zeiner stated he has a lot of experience on his team.

- Reduced autopsy fees
- Increased phone reimbursement

GREENCASTLE SCHOOLS

Mr. Gibboney presented the school's proposed budget.

FIRE DISTRICTS

Tiffany Deer presented the following budgets:

Roachdale Fire Protection
Floyd Fire
Walnut Creek Fire

AIRPORT

Baker Tilly presented the Putnam County Airport's budget.

WEST CENTRAL SOLID WASTE

Jane Collisi presented the proposed budget.

PLAN COMMISSION

Director Lisa Zeiner stated she would be able to cut the 40401 Equipment down to \$5,000 in fund 1180 and cut 20201 Office Supplies to \$0. Zeiner gave the Council members a breakout of her fees collected.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Zeiner stated she would like to use the part-time money to hire a security person to attend their evening meetings.

PLAT

Zeiner stated she would like to cut office supplies to \$3,000

RECORDER

Recorder Heather Gilbert presented:

Co General – no change

ID Security – dropped from \$10,000 to \$8,000

Recorder Perpetuation – reduced salary line item to reflect losing a full-time position

VETERAN'S OFFICE

Vet Officer David Heavin presented:

- Added in maintenance and repairs due to having computer and printer issues
- Put money in the budget for new furniture at the new annex. Campbell stated it is not needed.
- Discussion was made on adding mileage account
- Take equipment line item 40401 down to \$2,000
- Take repairs/maintenance line item 30303 down to \$1,000
- Take miscellaneous services 30360 down to \$0

HOME DETENTION/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Director Jamie France explained what his funds are used for and where they come from. He stated he received notification from the state that they did not get cut on their grant fund.

CUSTODIAL

Supervisor Cliff Ross stated he did not make any changes and feels like they are on target for this year.

EMA

Director Sarah Owen (via phone)

- Increased phone line item
- Increased misc. services
- Increased repairs, parts & services for vehicles
- New line item – Equipment, hoping to supplement with grant funding

E-911

Clements stated that PSAP and 911 are budgeting more than they are bringing in. Director David Clodfelter presented:

Fund 1222 – all salaries except him and deputy director, asked for more overtime pay

Fund 1235 – increased training line item by \$2,000, repairs/maintenance increased for the two new towers, generators, increased utilities. Berish stated benefits were over budgeted. Clements believes they moved the benefits from 1222 to 1235 last year. She suggested leaving it in PSAP (1235). Reduce health/life 10122 by \$25,000.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Austin Malayer presented:

Co General –

- Asking for salaries currently being paid from PreTrial Diversion to come out of County General for the manager and legal secretary

PreTrial Diversion –

- Moved salaries coming out of pretrial diversion to county general

Title IV-D, Vicky Patterson

- Restructured salaries due to staff changes

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Auditor Kristina Berish presented:

- Only change was repairs and maintenance line item. Took over the whole bill for software and time clock.

COUNCIL

Berish stated she put a line item in for potential raises and decreased dues. Council discussed raising the secretary's salary.

SUPERIOR COURT

Office Manager Tamila Shrum presented:

- Increased uniform allowance
- Increased judicial education because they have had to transfer from other accounts and the cost has increased.
- Combined PD budget conflict of interest line item with Superior Court budget

CIRCUIT COURT

Judge Headley and Office Manager Cassie Stacks presented:

- Increased bailiffs clothing allowance
- Public Defender, no change
- Family Court, no change

Juvenile Probation

Chief Probation Officer Renee Marsteller presented:

- Discussed the cost of detention
- Added drug screens
- Increased equipment to purchase a copier

ADULT PROBATION

Chief Probation Officer Teresa Parrish presented:

- User Fee's down because they have new staff
- County General stayed the same.
- Alcohol and Drug decreased because the new employee doesn't take health insurance.

BUDGET DECISIONS

Clerk – County General

- Part time \$0
- Office Supplies \$8,500
- Repairs & Maintenance \$7,500

Assessor – Co General

- Repairs & Maintenance \$0
- Dues \$0
- Equipment \$0

Reassessment

- Move health/life insurance and benefits to Commissioners budget

Sales Disclosure 1131 – Assessor Location

- Printing of Forms \$0

Treasurer

- Part time \$8,000

Surveyor – No changes

Extension – No changes

Soil & Water

- Office Supplies \$500
- Miscellaneous Services \$2,500

Sheriff – County General

- Create new account number for K-9 \$10,000
- Sergeant position approved
- Repairs & Maintenance 30303 reduced to \$100,000
- Reduced property and casualty to \$350,000
- Reduce Extradition 30387 to \$4,000
- Reduce Per Diem 30471 to \$2,500
- Reduce Safety & Education 20230 to \$0.
- Discussion on the sergeant positions and courthouse deputy position. Take out \$61,813 with the hope the Commissioners and Sheriff will approach them with a plan.

Sheriff – LIT

- No changes

Jail – County General

- No changes

Jail – LIT Correctional and Rehab

- Additional cook position stricken
- Request to move uniform allowance from benefit account to an operating supplies account approved

Cumulative Jail

- No changes

Misdemeanant

- No changes

Animal Shelter – Does not fund

- Reduced Building Repairs to \$33,900

Health Department

- Move Health Insurance and benefits to Commissioners budget
- Move Administrative Asst. Salary to Fund 4926 along with benefits
- Overtime reduced to \$0.
- Reduce utilities and trash to \$0.
- Reduced operating balance in Gateway.
- Total levy \$401,924.

Health Preparedness

- Miscellaneous Services \$3,709

EMS - Fund 1151

- No changes

LIT EMS - Fund 1236

- No changes

Highway – Fund 1173 MVH Restricted

- Fuel/Oil moved to 1176
- Road Resurfacing reduced \$350,000

Highway - Fund 1176 MVH

- Added fuel back \$450,000

Highway - Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge

- No changes

Highway - Fund 1169 Local Road and Street

- No changes

Highway - Fund 1134 Covered Bridge

- No Changes

Highway - Fund 4951 Wheel/Surtax Bridge

- Change account name to Bridge 154

Commissioners – County General

- Discussion was made on Commissioner salary and what the wage committee suggested
- Elected Official reduced to \$120,000
- Mental Health reduced to \$322,673

- Mileage reduced to \$0
- Secretary Salary name changed to Secretary Stipend

Hazardous Waste

- No changes

Weights & Measures

- No changes

Cemetery

- No changes

Courthouse Security

- No changes

Coroner

- No changes

Planning Commission

- No changes

Planning and Zoning

- Office supplies reduced to \$0
- Equipment reduced to \$5,000

Plat Book

- No changes

Recorder – County General

- No changes

ID Protection

- No changes

Recorders Perpetuation

- No changes

Veterans

- Reduced Repairs & Maintenance to \$1,000
- Misc. Services reduced to \$0
- Equipment reduced to \$2,000

Community Corrections

- No changes

Community Corrections Grant

- No changes

Custodial

- No changes

EMA

- No changes

E911 Fund 1222

- Benefits moved to County General

PSAP Fund 1235

- Benefits moved to County General

Prosecutor – County General

- Change Manager Salary 10120 moved back to PreTrial \$14,182
- Admin. Asst. Salary 10149 moved back to PreTrial \$12,123

Prosecutor – PreTrial

- Manager and Admin. Asst. salaries moved back

Title IV-D

- No changes

Incentive Fund 8897

- No changes

Superior Court

- Reduce uniforms to \$2,000

Circuit Court

- Reduce uniforms to \$1,000

Pub Defender

- No changes

Family Court Project

- No changes

Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund 2200

- No changes

Juvenile Probation

- No changes

Adult Probation Co General

- No changes

Adult Probation User Fees

- No changes

Alcohol and Drug

- No changes

Auditor

- No changes

Council

- Discussion on secretary stipend. Decided to change to \$5,000.
- Council salary changed to \$17,500.
- Budget advisor changes to \$5,500
- Attorney salary stays the same.

SALARIES

Discussion was made on the COLA as of now and the recommendation of the wage committee. The Council asked the Auditor to run the numbers for a 3% salary increase. The wage committee suggested Tom Sutherlin as Chief Deputy Sheriff get more to bring him to the 85%, he should be at. In general, looking at a 3% raise except for selected positions.

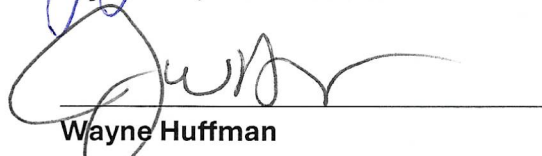
ADJOURNMENT


Brown made the motion to adjourn. Huffman seconded. The motion passed.


Stephanie Campbell, President



Jay Alcorn, Vice President


Danny Wallace


Wayne Huffman


Amanda Brown


Kerry Williams


Brian Berry


Attest: Auditor's Office Kristina Berish