

Minutes for Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Solid Waste District Disposal Fees
From...35 EXP, Other Expenses.....to....35 SA, Salaries.....\$ 1,000.00
From...35 SU, Supplies.....to....35 SA, Salaries.....\$ 2,000.00
From....35 FU, Fuel.....to....35 SA, Salaries.....\$3,000.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 379

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For EMA
From.....W 4, Contracts-Repairs.....to.....W 1, Salaries.....\$ 400.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 380

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017

For Commissioners
From...8 B 5, TB Maintenance...to... 8 C 1,Registration of Vital Statistics\$ 7.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 381

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, County General ..Sheriff
6 A 19, 911 Utility Usage Account.....\$7,500.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 382

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Sheriff/Jail

From...6 A 14 D2, Fuel.....to.....6 A 2C Sheriff Non Union Salary...\$13,144.00
From...4 B11CM, Jail C/T Cash In...to...6 A 2C, Sheriff Non Union Salary...\$ 1,179.00
From...6 A 14B, Hepatitis Acct....to....6 A 2C, Sheriff Non Union Salary...\$ 500.00

From...6 A 2D, P/T Sheriff Salary.....to...6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$7,000.00
From...4 B 11PE, P/T Jail Salary.....to....6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$4,000.00
From...4 B 11HO, Jail Fringe.....to....6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$4,000.00
From...4 B 11FU, F/T Union Salary..to....6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$2,000.00
From...6 A 7, Sheriff Training Acct...to...6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$1,900.00
From...6 A 12, Sheriff's Transport.....to...6 A 2H, Sheriff Fringes.....\$ 290.00

From.6 A 14D3, Sheriff's Uniform Acct..to..6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In Acct...\$3,000.00
From ...4 B 11FLW, Utilities.....to.....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$2,200.00
From... 4 B 11GR, Groceries.....to.....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$1,850.00
From....4 B 11CM, Jail C/T Cash In....to.....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$2,142.00
From....4 B 11TR, Jail Training Acct...to....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$ 965.00
From....6 A 12A, Sheriff Transport.....to....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$ 500.00

From....6 A 12A, Sheriff Transport.....to...6 A 3, Office Supply.....\$500.00

From....4 B 11PE, Jail P/Tto 4 B 11FN, Jail F/T Non Salary ..\$1034.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 383

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 010, Capital Projects – OPWC
N 41, PROJ CM37U\$83,722.96

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 384

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 008, Capital Improvements
N 11, Capital Projects.....\$ 139,045.80

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 385

Mr. Love moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Office of Public Safety
From....120 LIA, Liability Insurance ...to....120 SA5, Full Time Medic
Salary.....\$5,000.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 386

Now and Then Purchase Orders.....

County General.....purchase order 35416, 35417

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the now and then purchase orders

Mr. Love *seconded the motion*

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes
Exceptions: Mr. Lammers none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Love none
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 387

Purchase orders and Travel Requests.....

Mr. moved to approve the purchase orders and travels requests.

Mr. *seconded the motion*

Vote: Mr. Schroeder Mr. Lammers Mr. Love

Exceptions: Mr. Lammers Mr. Love Mr. Schroeder

Mr. Lammers called the meeting to order with Mr. Schroeder at 9:00 a.m. by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Lammers and Schroeder met with Suzy Wischmeyer & Brenda Schimmoeller in regards to sick time payout at retirement. Brenda would like to know if a resolution came about on the matter since she is within 3 years of eligibility for retirement. Brenda has previous service under SERS before coming to Job & Family on Dec 5, 2001. There is a rule for people hired prior to March 15, 2002 made in 2015, Brenda would be affected by the rule since her hire date falls in that time frame. Brenda did talk to the Prosecutor in January of 2017 but she did not get a response back from him yet. The Commissioners will request a response from the Prosecutor on the matter. The administrator joined the meeting and explained that there were some emails exchanged with the then Job & Family Director regarding this matter. The Commissioners have held previous discussions on this matter as well.

Mr. Love arrived at the office at 9:05 a.m.

Brenda asked the definition of service, was it as a paid position or do volunteer service years count? Volunteer years do not count, only paid years are qualified.

Suzy did give an update on the issue that Snyder's were concerned about. The procedures are being changed. Only a seminar is being presented on "safe touch", no individual follow ups will be conducted at the same point. Suzy brought up contracts that are coming due, a cleaning contract. The Commissioners suggested having the Prosecutor and insurance review the contracts prior to signing. John asked if Board of Elections have contacted Suzy and asked about use of conference rooms. She said the Board of Elections told her they have already rented other space. Also if Home Health could use a conference room also, Suzy said if they use the outside entrance to the atrium room they could use it with no problem as long as it is available.

The business agenda was held at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Schroeder, Lammers and Love; Jack Betscher, Administrator, Cindy Landwehr, Clerk, and Martin Verni from the Sentinel.

The Commissioners discussed some details of the ditch maintenance article that was published in this week's Sentinel with Martin Verni.

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioners Schroeder, Lammers and Love. Gary Lammers, Prosecutor held a phone conference with Teresa Grigsby the CORSA attorney in regards to Horstman vs County Commissioners.

Mr. Schroeder moved to go into executive session at 10:35 a.m. to discuss pending litigation in the case of Horstman vs County Commissioners with Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers, Gary Lammers, Jack Betscher and Teresa Grigsby via telephone.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

Vote Schroeder yes Lammers yes Love yes

The Commissioners went back on the record at 11:30 a.m.

No decisions were made. The procedures for the mediation for Thursday Dec 14, 2017 were reviewed.

The minutes from Tuesday, December 5, 2017 were reviewed and approved at 11:45 a.m.

The Commissioners discussed the request from Walter Harper for rezoning an area near Belmore back to agriculture and transferring to the Village.

Mr. Love moved to adjourn for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Schroeder yes Lammers yes Love yes

Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers returned from lunch at 1:15 p.m.

Commissioners Lammers, Schroeder & Love and Ashley Siefker, Grant/Wage Coordinator met with Lee Rausch and Paulette Mills from Poggemeyer at 1:30 p.m. to discuss the contract for Poggemeyer to administer the Continental NRG projects. They were very grateful to the Commissioners for agreeing to apply for the grant on Continental's behalf and presented the numbers for administration. They align with what is outlined in the grant agreements. The Commissioners were satisfied and willing to sign the contracts next week when they can be put on the business agenda. Once the administration agreement is signed and the Environmental Review is completed the release procedure will take place and work can commence. It is estimated that this will happen sometime in January.

At 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers, Alaina Siefker, Recycling Coordinator and Jack Betscher, Administrator went down to the assembly room to attend the Solid Waste District Board Meeting.

Commissioner Schroeder motioned to adjourn for the day at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Schroeder yes Lammers yes Love yes

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, December 7, 2017.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent

Minutes for Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the autopsy agreement between the Putnam County Commissioners and Lucas County Commissioners for autopsies to be performed by Lucas County Coroner for the term of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 and to pay \$1,450.00 per complete autopsy.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 388-389

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Putnam County Commissioners deems it necessary to establish an appropriation line and a revenue line for Fund 106, Tax Equivalent Fund. now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Putnam County Auditor to add the following appropriation line:

106 GROTE2, Grote Farms TIF

and be it further

RESOLVED, The Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Putnam County Auditor to establish the following revenue line:

106 GROTE2, Grote Farms TIF

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 390

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the software support agreement between Putnam County and MFCD, LLC for January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for \$3950 to be paid by the Auditor.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 391-395

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

that to provide for the unanticipated expenditures of said County during fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby transferred, set aside and appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

From.....Fund 006, Public Assistance
H 15, Other Expense.....to.....H 35, Transfer Out.....\$5,200.00

and also

that to provide for the unanticipated expenditures of said County during fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby transferred, set aside and appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

From Fund 006, Public Assistance (H 35, Transfer Out).....to..... Fund 003, Childrens' Services (SS13, Transfer In).....\$ 5,200.00

And also

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 005, Childrens Services
SS 5D, 3rd Party Misc.....\$5,200.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 396

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, County General ..Sheriff
6 A 2C, F/T Non Union Sheriff Salary.....\$12,377.00
6 A 2P, Sheriff PERS.....\$11,000.00
4 B11FN, Jail F/T Non Union Acct.....\$10,000.00
4 B 11, Jail PERS.....\$ 5,750.00
6 A 2, Sheriff F/T Union Acct.....\$ 4,000.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 397

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Dog and Kennel...
From....B 14, Travelto...B 11, Insurance\$ 100.00
Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 398

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board has received requests from the various departments of Job and Family Services for approval of travel expenses for the month of December 2017. now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, OHIO, hereby approve payment of the expenses per the attached list in accordance with Section 325.20 of the Ohio Revised Code and authorizes the Auditor to issue warrants per attached list upon receipt of invoices and be if further

RESOLVED, That the Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to issue any advanced warrants as necessary.
Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 399-400

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

Engineer...
From.....12 A 9C, Tax Map, Supplies.....to....12 A 9, Tax Map Salary.....\$700.00
Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 401

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017,

the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Municipal Court

2 M 8, Appointed Counsel Fees.....\$5,000.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 402

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Sheriff/Jail

From ...4 B 11FLW, Utilities.....to.....6 A 2B, CompTime Cash In.....\$2,000.00

(Correction from Dec 7 to cover Dec 8 payroll)

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 403

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, County General

1 A 42H, Wellness Grant.....\$9,700.00

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 404

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the contract between the Putnam County Commissioners and Poggemeyer Design Group for engineering for CDBG B-F-17-1CL-1 for Continental for \$81,663.00.

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 405-410

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam, Ohio, that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001, Juvenile Court
2 C 36D1, Assigned Counsel.....\$10,000.00
Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 411

Mr. Schroeder moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Engineer...
From...K 2, Compensation of Employees.....to....K 25, Compensation of Employees-
Bridges.....\$10,000.00
Mr. Lammers seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 412

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2017.

For Office of Public Safety
From...120 LIA, Liability Insurance...to....120 SA5, Full Time Medic Salary.....\$700.00
From...120 MIL, Mileage.....to....120 SA5, Full Time Medic Salary.... \$500.00
From...120 SA1, Salaries-Employee.to..120 SA5, Full Time Medic Salary..\$4,000.00
Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent
Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 413

Now and Then Purchase Orders.....

County General.....purchase order 35419, 35420
911.....purchase order 34984
EMS.....purchase order 3004
Veteran Services.....purchase order 35346
Juvenile Court.....purchase order 34678

Youth Subsidy.....purchase order 34665

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the now and then purchase orders

Mr. Lammers seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent

Exceptions: Mr. Lammers none Mr. Schroeder none Mr. Love

Comm. Jrl. 111, Page 414

Purchase orders and Travel Requests.....

County General.....Purchase order to Putnam County Auditor for 2017 county share for GIS for \$6400.00. Purchase order to Ottawa Oil for gas cards for wellness incentive for\$ 7400.00. Purchase order to Brooky's for gas cards for wellness incentive for \$7600.00.

Board of Elections.....Blanket purchase order for Equipment for December for \$3318.68
Travel request for Karen, Becky, Kurt, Carla, Kathy & Tony to attend the 2018 winter conference in Columbus on January 10-12, 2018 with expenses for mileage, lodging, meals registration and parking for \$3046.20.

Commissioners....Travel request for Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers and Prosecutor to attend medication in Toledo on Dec 14, 2018 with expenses for meals and parking for \$65.00.

CDBG.....Purchase order to Ward Construction for FY 16 Dupont project for \$410.00.

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the purchase orders and travels requests.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love absent

Exceptions: Mr. Lammers none Mr. Love Mr. Schroeder none

Mr. Schroeder called the meeting to order with Mr. Lammers at 8:30 a.m. by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Schroeder and Lammers held discussions at 9:00 a.m. regarding the survey of the airport and additional area they are requesting. The Engineer (Bockrath & Assoc) needs to know which of the requested areas are approved by the Commissioners to be included with the airport. There are three areas requested on the east, middle and west.

Mr. Lammers moved to approve section 1 & 2 east and middle not the west parcel at this time.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote Schroeder yes Lammers yes Love absent.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder and Lammers; Cindy Landwehr, Clerk and Martin Verni, Putnam County Sentinel.

The minutes from Thursday December 7, 2017 were reviewed and approved.

Mr. Schroeder moved to adjourn for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lammers returned from lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Schroeder returned from lunch at 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Love arrived at the office 1:30 p.m.

Mike Lenhart and Ryan Moran, Engineer's Office; Jeff Vance, Ken Wright and Skylar Mayberry, Village of Columbus Grove; Bob Benroth and Jeremy Maag Auditor's office; Martin Verni Putnam County Sentinel and Brian Reynolds Lima News met with Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers at 2:00 p.m. to discuss Plum Creek. Mike opened the discussion by explaining the ditch maintenance process. Mr. Lenhart said he went to other Counties to view their ditch maintenance process as well when he started. Mr. Lenhart said they do not have a designated crew to do ditch maintenance work instead they hire local county contractors to do the work needed. Mr. Lenhart also explained the assessment procedure that the County has in place for collection on all the ditches that have been petitioned and are under maintenance. Mr. Lenhart showed a ledger of all the balances of those ditches and explained that each ditch account is monitored independently. Mr. Lenhart explained that the Engineer has a better record than Soil & Water in getting ditches completed. There has been a change in staffing in Soil & Water and now the Engineer has joined with Soil & Water in working on ditches. Right now both offices are working on a combined 7-8 ditch projects. The staffing to work on ditch projects has increased. Mr. Lenhart said they need to know what dollar amount of work they are allowed to do which depends on the Commissioners' office. A portion of Plum Creek in Kalida was dipped out in 2015-2016 which cost approx. \$57,000. Mr. Lenhart said the typical amount spent on ditch maintenance annually is \$100,000. The Commissioner must be willing to advance these funds to the ditch fund until the funds can be repaid from the tax assessment collection. At one point in 2017, \$176,000 was advanced to the ditch maintenance fund to cover the ditch maintenance expenses. \$153,000 was put on to be collected on the tax assessments. The amounts to be collected in 2018 on the 2017 taxes had some issues with surrounding counties not willing to put the ditches on for collection for the 2018 collection. Mr. Vance asked about the amount that is collected for Plum Creek. Mr. Lammers asked about the designation of funds per project. Any parcels that drain into Plum Creek are assessed as needed. Putnam County does not do annual assessments on any ditch, they only collect as needed. And they cannot collect beyond 20% of the project. Since Putnam County hires contractors and does not have full staff designated for ditch maintenance they do not have annual expenses. Mr. Lenhart suggested that maybe Plum Creek should be collected more often. Mr. Schroeder asked about the most expensive way to operate. Mr. Lenhart does not think we need to do annual assessments. Mr. Lenhart showed a schedule of projects for 2018 and how much money would be needed for those projects. He also showed all the new petitioned ditches that have come in in the last 6 months. A list of maintenance requests were also viewed. The work is usually done in the fall when the crops come off. The list of the ditches to recollect (cash ditch) and a list of new ditches to be done showing the amounts that the Commissioners would have to cover until the next collections would come in was reviewed. A guesstimate of \$80,000 was given for Plum Creek for the work that is needed yet, the survey for Plum Creek is not completed yet. Ryan is hoping to complete the survey in the next few weeks for Plum Creek. The guesstimate amount could change depending on what is found with the rest of the survey being completed. The

Commissioners would have to advance \$350,000 to cover all the current outstanding projects. Mr. Vance asked why assessments aren't done annually to make sure the funds are available. The increase in size and amounts of ditch projects are creating this issue with the availability of ditch funds. Majority of Plum Creek through Columbus Grove is on bedrock there is no room for depth. Soil & Water did have grant funding availability but Plum Creek was too big of a watershed to qualify for the grant funding. Mr. Benroth explained the difference of the cash ditch collections versus the tax assessment collections. He also explained that the assessments have been extended to get put on the tax for collection in 2018. The Auditor's office has done this the last few years to help with the advance balance from the General Fund. There may not be an issue with raising the advance amount to \$300,000, but it must be monitored closely to not jeopardize the status of County General Fund. Mr. Wright thanked the Commissioners for sitting down to discuss this matter, he is appreciative of any help the Commissioners can give. Mr. Vance said the benefits will outweigh the costs regarding Plum Creek. The Engineer does not want to hold on to people's money if he does not need it. There is a lot of misconceptions and misunderstandings regarding the ditch petition process. Mr. Mayberry said he will feel better once the survey is complete and there is an assessment amount. Mr. Lenhart said they will have to review once the survey is done to see if it needs to be done in phases to be affordable. Mr. Lenhart would like to see the ditch maintenance funds be self-sustaining. The Commissioners are in favor of Mr. Lenhart and want to see the ditch projects get completed in a timely manner. Mr. Verni had questions regarding the assessment process of the work that was done on Plum Creek. Once the estimate is complete for Plum Creek then the landowners will be assessed for that amount not just the 20%. The possibility of a two stage ditch for Plum Creek would greatly benefit Columbus Grove. There is no precedent over maintenance versus new petition on ditch projects just the process that needs to be followed for each project. New ditches have a viewing then hearing then if approved then a survey is completed then a second hearing. There is a base amount set for collecting a ditch could be \$15.00 per parcel. The Village could pay the village resident's portion depending on the amount per parcel. The grass berm limit has not been enforced on any ditch in the County which does impede the surveys and when they can be done if there is no access to the ditch. Mr. Lammers asked about drone use for the ditch surveys, Mr. Lenhart said you need line of sight, which you are already walking so why need a drone. The assessment could be done by January. Allen County is also assessed for Putnam County. The cooperation of surrounding Counties was also discussed on the joint county assessments.

Alaina Siefker met with Commissioners Schroeder, Love and Lammers at 3:30 p.m. to discuss Nelson's Sewer billing. Nelson wrote a letter to the Commissioners requesting a correction for their water and sewer usage. A correction is needed due to Nelson being billed incorrectly since 2008. The Village of Ottawa is processing the correction for the water bill. The Commissioners want to see correct readings for current months. There is a \$29.00 fee on each bill for I & I. The sewer rate is 26.4% higher than the water rates. There have been other issues with the Village reading other businesses meters also. Vince ran the numbers and does not come up with the same amount being requested by Nelson for a corrected amount. Alaina did random checks of the figures that were presented. The Commissioners will review the figures and make a decision.

Bob Benroth presented the Commissioners with the sales tax figures for September, they are up. Bob also informed the Commissioners that their request for tax exemption on the Glandorf Complex building was accepted and a refund will be given. Bob talked about some other

increases in revenue for 2017, which helps out the budget. Mr. Lammers asked about Mr. Lenhart's request for higher advance amount for the ditch fund, if it is doable to go to \$300,000.

Mr. Schroeder moved to adjourn for the day at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Love seconded to motion.

Vote: Schroeder yes Lammers yes Love yes

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the minutes as read from Tuesday, December 12, 2017.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers yes Mr. Love yes