

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Held In Room 318**  
**PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING**  
**CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**Members: Chairman Othmer, Legislators Albano & Gross**

**Wednesday** **December 12, 2012**  
**(Protective Services Meeting Immediately Followed)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 P.M. by Chairman Othmer who requested that Legislator Albano lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Albano, Gross, and Chairman Othmer were present.

**Item #3) Approval of Minutes – October 11, 2012**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Item #4) Approval/Local Law to Amend the Code of Putnam County by Adding a New Chapter Entitled “Cell Phone and Electronic Device Usage and Safety Policy”**

Chairman Othmer invited Deputy County Attorney Jonathan Engel forward to discuss this item.

Deputy County Attorney Engel stated that it was brought to the Law Department’s attention that there is currently not a cell phone policy for the County. It is a Personnel policy. He stated that essentially what it does is it gives a set of guidelines and rules for use of cell phones, as well as the purchasing of them and paying for them. It is in-line with the Vehicle and Traffic Law, cell phone use is prohibited when driving a vehicle. This has been reviewed by the Law Department and Outside Labor Counsel.

Chairman Othmer asked if this was for County cell phones only.

Deputy County Attorney Engel stated that is correct. For County employees who have County cell phones and use them while they are on duty.

Chairman Othmer stated that he is in support of this and it will protect us from a potential lawsuit.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

**Item #5) Approval/Worker’s Compensation Settlement**

Chairman Othmer stated that the Law Department is moving on Worker's Compensation cases and offering one-time buyouts to appropriate cases. By doing so, this saves the County thousands of dollars in the long run.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

**Item#6) Other Business**

**Item#6a) Approval/Fund Transfer (12T390)/County Clerk/Cover Cost of Cabinets, Map Copier & Scanner, Contract for Map Copier & Scanner**

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

**Item#6b) Approval/Re-Appointments/Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park Advisory Board/Ruthven, Rohde, Tarbox, Fleischer, Hoffman, & Sullivan**

Director of Veterans Affairs Karl Rohde stated that the law for this board was changed earlier in 2012 and this item and the following item are re-appointments and appointments that reflect those law changes.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

**Item#6c) Approval/Appointments/Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park Advisory Board/Cooke, Pennelle, & Favale**

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

**Item#6d) Approval/Re-Appointments/Putnam County Ethics Board/Eldridge & Bickford**

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

**Item#6e) Approval/Re-Appointments/Putnam County Board of Electrical Examiners/Counihan, Butler, & Pidala**

Director of Consumer Affairs Jean Marie Noel stated that all three of these re-appointments attend the meetings and are excellent members.

Chairman Othmer made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution, seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

**Item#6f) FYI/Correspondence Dated: Dec. 5, 2012 To: Chairwoman Mary Conklin Fr: Mr. Paul K. Scheidecker Subject: Resignation from Putnam County Board of Electrical Examiners**

Item #6f was duly noted.

**Item#6g) FYI/Precious Metals Law**

Director of Consumer Affairs Noel and Investigator Henry Lopez, from the District Attorney's office, came forward to inform the Committee that in 2013 they will be presenting proposed changes to the current Precious Metals Law. They feel that the law is outdated and insufficient and under its current form poses significant impediments to law enforcement to be able to gather information. They feel that it should be revised and are currently working on the changes with the Law Department and will present them to the Committee in 2013 with greater detail.

There being no further business, at 6:51 P.M., Legislator Gross made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Krista M. Butler, Administrative Assistant.