

PUTNAM COUNTY DILAPIDATED & ABANDONED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

# DAEA

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The Putnam County Dilapidated and Abandoned Enforcement Agency met on Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Putnam County Courthouse, Second Floor, Room 221 (formerly room 202).

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by DAEA President Mr. John Smoot.
2. Roll call was taken by County Attorney Mr. Larry Frye and a quorum was present.

Members present: President Mr. John Smoot, Vice President David Coll, Sheriff Bobby Eggleton, Brett Hodgdon, Nick King

Members absent: Charity Fellure

Staff Present: County Attorney Mr. Larry Frye

Others in Attendance: Mr. Richard Reese of 71 Cow Creek Road, Hurricane, WV 25526

3. **MINUTES:** The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.  
The motion was made by Sheriff Eggleton and seconded by Nick King to approve the July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023; minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **CITIZEN CONCERNS:** None

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5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** REVIEW OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS TO RECOMMEND TO COUNTY COMMISSION FOR ACTION:

1. **DAEA CASE 2022-67:**
  - i. 25 Birdie Court:
  - ii. 14 Birdie Court:
  - iii. 36 Birdie Court:
  - iv. 42 Birdie Court:

Sheriff Eggleton made a motion to remove these items from the table, David Coll seconded the motion. Sheriff Eggleton recently spoke to the owner of the mobile home park and #42 Birdie Court is being worked on. Sheriff Eggleton made a motion that these items be tabled until staff has had the opportunity to perform another inspection. Nick King seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. **DAEA CASE 2023-04:** 1201 Hedrick Road, Scott Depot, WV  
Sheriff Eggleton made a motion to let the property owners continue to work on cleaning up the property, at least until our next scheduled DAEA meeting. Brett Hodgdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **DAEA CASE 2023-08:** 3655 Buff Creek, Hurricane

The property owner's son has contracted with an individual to clean up the property. Scrap metal and debris has been removed from the property, but the dilapidated and abandoned mobile home is still on the property. However, Mr. Greg Courtright (the owner's son) has told staff that the mobile home will be removed from the property soon. Based upon this statement, Sheriff Eggleton made a motion to close this case. Nick King seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. DAEA CASE 2023-13: 126 Poplar Drive, Hurricane, WV**

Sheriff Eggleton recently visited this property. All vehicles are registered and licensed. The property owner has made progress with the cleanup of the property. Sheriff Eggleton urged the property owner to continue with the cleanup of the property. Sheriff Eggleton also urged the property owner to mow the back yard and clean up any overgrown vegetation. Based upon this discussion, Sheriff Eggleton made a motion to close this case. Nick King seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. DAEA CASE 2023-19: 80 Cow Creek Road, Hurricane, WV**

Mr. Richard Reese lives across the street from the subject property. Mr. Reese stated the following.

- The property has been vacant since 2016.
- Squatters have been inhabiting the property and drug use has been observed.
- Trash has been dumped in the gravel driveway.

Sheriff Eggleton attempted to speak with the owner of the property but has failed to do so. The Sheriff feels the property may have been purchased as a tax shelter. The Sheriff suggested that Mr. Reese call the Sheriff's Department when he witnesses squatters and/or other illegal activity on the property. Sheriff Eggleton made a motion for staff to present this case to the County Commission for direction. Nick King seconded the motion. Sheriff Eggleton suggested that Mr. Reese attend the said County Commission meeting and speak on his own behalf.

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**6. NEW BUSINESS: REVIEW OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS TO RECOMMEND TO COUNTY COMMISSION FOR ACTION: THE FOLLOWING CASES HAVE YET TO BE MADE OFFICIAL DAEA CASES, BUT WILL BE ASSIGNED DAEA CASE NUMBERS IN ORDER TO BE ELIDGIBLE FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT DAEA MEETING**

**a. DAEA CASE 2023-20: 173 THOMPSON ROAD, CULLODEN, WV**

Sheriff Eggleton stated that this needs to become an official DAEA case. The Sheriff also stated that Micah Casto (litter control officer) cannot help the DAEA board with this case.

**b. DAEA CASE 2023-21: 24 MARINA DRIVE, HURRICANE, WV**

Sheriff Eggleton stated that this needs to become an official DAEA case. The Sheriff also stated that Micah Casto (litter control officer) cannot help the DAEA board with this case. David Coll asked the Sheriff and County Attorney Mr. Larry Frye if it would be feasible for a Day Report crew to clean up the property, cut the high weeds, and mow the grass. Both the Sheriff and Mr. Frye feel this is not a feasible solution as it would be too dangerous for the Day Report workers as well as open up questions of legality relative trespass on personal property.

**c. DAEA CASE 2023-22: 221 CHERRY STREET, HURRICANE, WV**

Sheriff Eggleton stated that this needs to become an official DAEA case. The Sheriff also stated that Micah Casto (litter control officer) cannot help the DAEA board with this case. Brett Hodgdon has inspected this property in the past. Mr. Hodgdon stated that the property is in very poor condition, including an unstable floor. Mr. Hodgdon recommended that a cost / benefit analysis be done by the owners at the time to help determine if renovation of the property was feasible.

**d. DAEA CASE 2023-23: 2361 PEACH RIDGE ROAD, HURRICANE, WV**

Staff stated that they have yet to be able to review the property. Sheriff Eggleton recommended that this potential case be discussed at the next scheduled meeting after staff has had a chance to review the property.

**7. OLD BUSINESS: None**

**8. STAFF REPORT:**

a. The following properties are to be added to the agenda for the upcoming meeting per complaints forwarded to the DAEA board via Commissioner Skidmore.

- i. 112 Rocky Step Road
- ii. 303 Rocky Step Road

b. Sheriff Eggleton made the DAEA board aware that Ranch Lake Estates has several dilapidated and abandoned properties within the subdivision. The Sheriff feels this subdivision needs to be on the DAEA board's radar. President John Smoot stated that fire protection is difficult in this area as the road is in very poor shape and difficult for fire trucks and ambulances to navigate. Sheriff Eggleton stated that the subdivision's HOA is in default and no longer active.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

Sheriff Eggleton motioned to adjourn at 10:26 am. Brett Hodgdon 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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Minutes respectfully submitted for approval:

Date: 09-07-2023

Board President: 

Board Vice President: 