

BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH SESSION (FIRST DAY)
March 22, 2019

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Commissioners meeting room at the Courthouse, on Friday, March 22, 2019.

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Present: Commissioners Ted Gordon, Leonard Kolcz, Don Vrablic, Randall Hazelbaker, and Terri Norris, Chief Deputy Clerk Christine Ransbottom, Administrator Bud Norman.

Commissioner Kolcz led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

3/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris seconded by Commissioner Vrablic that approval is given for Juvenile Court to fill a vacant Youth Specialist position at the SEIU Level 6 starting wage of \$12.92 per hour, 40 hours per week, with the new hire benefit package, effective immediately. MOTION CARRIED

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris seconded by Commissioner Kolcz that approval is given for the Prosecutor to hire an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, at a starting rate of \$65,521 per year, with the new hire benefit package. MOTION CARRIED

6/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that approval is given for 911 to add a full time Dispatcher position, at the POAM Tier 2 rate of \$14.23 per hour, with the new hire benefit package.

After discussion of the above motion, Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic rescinded the original motion and tabled the issue until the next work meeting when further information on 911's budget is provided. MOTION CARRIED

7/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, that approval is given to create and fill a new non-union Senior Account Clerk position, at the Non Union Level 8, starting rate of pay of \$18.61 per hour, for 40 hours per week, with the new hire benefit package.

After discussion of the above motion, Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, moved to rescind the original motion and to table the request until the next work meeting, when further information can be provided. MOTION CARRIED

8/ Motion by Commissioner Norris seconded by Commissioner Kolcz that approval is given to the Sheriff to travel to Columbus, Ohio for an Opioid Workshop, April 1-3, 2019. MOTION CARRIED

9/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that approval is given to submit the COA letter to the Carmi Design Group, as presented. MOTION CARRIED

10/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker seconded by Commissioner Vrablic to accept the bid from SME in the amount of \$8600 for Geotechnical Services. MOTION CARRIED

11/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker seconded by Commissioner Kolcz that approval is given to Mostrom & Associates Inc., in the amount of \$15,000 for the new Jail site survey. MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda:

approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$101,376.70.

approve the 911 Millage Renewal to be included on a ballot for the August election.

approve the preparation and distribution of a RFQ/P for Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) with Design Assist.

approve the Jail Committee Model 2 without the Sheriff Team Member/Consultant with the composition, mission and responsibilities

12/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic seconded by Commissioner Norris that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts; 911 Millage Request, Approval for the Jail Approach and Jail Committee. MOTION CARRIED

13/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to appoint Karl Duda, Jon Houtz, Wendy Salyer and Tracy Richer to fill expiring positions on the Mental Health Board, with the term expiring on 3/31/2022.

14/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to nominate and appoint Robert C. Hawley III to fill a vacant At-Large position on the Branch County Planning Commission, with the term expiring on 12/31/2021 . MOTION CARRIED

15/ Motion nu Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic to accept the resignation of Anthony Headley from the Planning Commission, effective immediately.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Vrablic – Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium met. There will be a recycling conference held in Ann Arbor in May.

Kolcz – Airport Board will be asking for an additional \$20,000 for crack repair on the runways. They will be coming to a Work Meeting for a discussion on this.

Norris - At the 911 meeting, concerns were brought forward with not having competitive wages as other counties due with new hire dispatchers. Commissioner Norris said they are trying to locate a signed service plan. Sheriff Pollack believes he has one

16/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to adjourn at 9:37 am. MOTION CARRIED

Chairman

Clerk