

**BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY SESSION (FIRST DAY)
July 9, 2019**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Commissioners meeting room at the Courthouse, on Tuesday, July 9, 2019.

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Present: Commissioners Ted Gordon, Leonard Kolcz, Don Vrablic, Randall Hazelbaker, and Terri Norris, County Clerk Teresa Kubasiak, Administrator Bud Norman

Commissioner Kolcz led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Norris added two action items and an information item to the Personnel section of the agenda.

2/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz to approve the agenda, as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

3/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2019 Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment:

Susan Smith introduced herself as an applicant for a vacant Library Board position.

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that approval is given to hire Cindy Kochendorfer and Nancy Marson as temporary contract employees, as a 911 Dispatch Operator, at the rate of \$22.53 per hour with no benefits, not to exceed 160 calendar days, effective July 8, 2019. MOTION CARRIED

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, that approval is given to appoint Chantal Paxton, owner, Pax Run Seeds and Maytag Laundry, both small businesses located in Branch County, as a Private Sector representative for the balance of a two-year term that ends September 30, 2019 and for an additional two-year term beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2021. MOTION CARRIED

At 4:05 pm Chairman Gordon opened the public hearing regarding the Annexation of property from Union Township to Union City Village. Administrator Norman read aloud a portion of the resolution to be approved. The hearing was closed at 4:09 pm.

6/ Motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic to approve the resolution granting annexation of property from Union Township to Union City Village, as presented.

**2019-11
RESOLUTION GRANTING THE VILLAGE OF UNION CITY'S
PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF LANDS FROM
UNION TOWNSHIP TO THE VILLAGE OF UNION CITY**

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2019, pursuant to Sec. 6 of Chapter XIV of the General Law Village Act, being MCL 74.6, the Village Council of the Village of Union City adopted Resolution No. 2019-03, by which the Village Council determined to alter the boundaries of the Village of Union City, by annexation of certain described lands from Union Township to the Village of Union City; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2019, the Village Council of the Village of Union City petitioned the Branch County Board of Commissioners to make the requested change in the Village boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Village's petition contained a description by metes and bounds of the lands to be annexed into the Village, and the reasons for the proposed change, and contained a copy of Village Council Resolution 2019-03 signed by the Village President and Village Clerk; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2019, a public hearing was held before the Branch County Board of Commissioners on the Village Council's petition for a change in boundaries; and

WHEREAS, notice of the public hearing containing a description of the lands to be detached from the Village was published for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding the public hearing in a newspaper published in the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to MCL 74.6, the Branch County Board of Commissioners hereby grants the Village of Union City's petition for annexation of the following described lands from Union Township to the Village of Union City:

*UNION TOWNSHIP T5S R7W SECTION 6 COM NE COR SEC 6 TH S 00°36'56" W
1868.57 FT TO POB TH S 00°36'56" W 200 FT TH N 89°22'06" W 396 FT TH N
00°36'56" E 200 FT TH S 89°22'06" E 396 FT TO POB 1.818 AC +/-*

Parcel 020-006-200-080-00, 1268 Arbogast Rd.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Branch County Board of Commissioners orders that the above-described lands shall be annexed into the Village of Union City from Union Township, and the boundaries of the Village of Union City shall be fixed and shall exist as provided herein.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yes – Norris, Kolcz, Vrablic, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 5

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

7/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, that approval is given to the Prosecutor's Office to allow for the Felony Clerk's rate of pay be frozen at \$16.45 per hour, effective July 1, 2019, until raises for that position equaled the frozen wage. **MOTION DEFEATED**

Commissioner Hazelbaker presented a certificate to Sarah Collins of the District Court, for 20 years of service to Branch County.

8/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, to suspend board rules so action can be taken on the following two motions. **MOTION CARRIED**

9/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic to approve for appointed Jail committee members to travel to Indianapolis, IN, July 16 & July 17, to attend a seminar, recommended by the architect. **MOTION CARRIED**

10/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker to move the July 23rd Board meeting to July 22nd at 4pm. **MOTION CARRIED**

Administrator Norman asked the board for dates they would be available to tour the Tipton Jail. It was decided that September 25th would work best.

Administrator Norman stated that BYCE & Assoc. and Clark Construction will be at the work meeting on July 18th to discuss site location and design.

Consent Agenda:

approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$129,757.81.

approve the Budget Amendments as follows:

Increase line #101.201-744.0500 in the amount of \$10,000. A budget amendment to increase line #101.201-683.1403 in the amount of \$10,000.

A budget amendment to increase line #101.850.956.0000 in the amount of \$10,000.

A budget amendment to increase line 101.850-695.0300 in the amount of \$10,000.

11/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts and Budget Amendment Requests-General Fund. MOTION CARRIED

12/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to accept the resignation of Margaret Clemens and Cindy Bland from the District Library Board, effective immediately. MOTION CARRIED

13/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to nominate and appoint Karen Smith and Susan Smith to fill vacant positions on the Branch District Library Board, with the term expiring on 12/31/21. MOTION CARRIED

14/ Commissioner Gordon nominated James Webb and Dr. Dale Williams to fill a vacant position on the Commission on Aging Board. The term will expire on 12/31/2020.

15/ Motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that a roll call vote be taken to appoint one person to fill a vacant position on the Commission on Aging Board. The term will expire 12/31/2020.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Webb – Norris, Kolcz, Gordon - 3

Williams – Vrablic, Hazelbaker – 2

Thereupon, James Webb was appointed to the position

16/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to accept the Road Commission 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

17/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to accept the Pines Behavioral Health 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

18/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to accept the Branch County Airport 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

19/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to accept the Veterans Affairs 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

20/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to accept the 3-A District Court 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

21/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, to accept the Branch County Prosecutor's 2018 annual report and place it on file. MOTION CARRIED

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Norris – 911 meeting on July 10th at 9am.

Kolcz – The 2019 Branch County Fair is scheduled for August 4 – 10.

Hazelbaker – The Farmers Market is doing well; Entertainment Under the Stars is tonight.

Vrablic – announced he will be resigning in the Fall, as he will be moving out of the district. The scrap tire collection will be held on August 17 from 9am – Noon at the DHS parking lot just south of the Sheriff's Department. A pesticide collection will be held on July 24th at the old North Central Co-op Building. You must register by July 17th.

Chairman's Remarks:

Gordon - Attended the 911 meeting at the Coldwater City office; in the end it seemed they were all on the same page.

22/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to go into closed session to discuss the attorney/client privileged letter dated 07/08/2019.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yes – Norris, Kolcz, Vrablic, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 5

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into closed session at 4:39 pm and returned to open session at 4:55 pm.

23/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to go into closed session to discuss the attorney/client privileged letter dated 11/13/2018.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yes – Norris, Kolcz, Vrablic, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 5

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into closed session at 4:55 pm and returned to open session at 5:46 pm.

24/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker to adjourn at 5:46 pm. MOTION CARRIED

Chairman

Clerk