

**BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY SESSION (FIRST DAY)
January 14, 2020**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Commissioners meeting room at the Courthouse, on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

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

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

Commissioner Matthew led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Norris added the ratification of tentative agreements for union contracts to the agenda.

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

3/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Matthew, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2019 Board meeting and the January 2, 2020 Organizational meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment:

Jan from the Humane Society stated that there is an event scheduled for this Saturday to bring awareness to pet owners about leaving their animals outside during extreme weather conditions. "Freezin for a Reason" will be held from 6pm to 6am at the First Presbyterian Church.

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that approval is given for the Sheriff to travel to Washington D.C., February 8-12, 2020, to attend the Rural Sheriff's Committee meeting. MOTION CARRIED

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to suspend Board Rules to vote to ratify tentative agreements for the union contracts. MOTION CARRIED

6/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to ratify the tentative agreements for the following union contracts: District Court; COAM; 15th Circuit Court; POAM-911; Probate Court. MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda:

approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$734,912.30

Budget Transfer requests for District Health

7/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts and Budget Amendment Requests-Special und (#221-601) District Health. MOTION CARRIED

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Matthew – visited a few townships, which he found to be a good learning experience.

Chairman's Remarks:

Gordon – thanked the board for appointing him chairman for another year.

8/ Motion by Commissioner Matthew, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker to go into closed session to discuss the attorney/client privileged letter dated 07/19/2017.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into closed session at 4:11 pm.

The Board returned to open session at 4:21 pm.

9/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz to go into closed session to discuss union negotiations.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into closed session at 4:22 pm.

The Board returned to open session at 4:36 pm

10/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to adjourn at 4:36 pm. **MOTION CARRIED**

Chairman

Clerk