

BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH SESSION (SECOND DAY)
March 27, 2020

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, on Friday, March 27, 2020.

Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm via video conference call.

Present: Commissioners Ted Gordon, Tom Matthew, Randall Hazelbaker, and Terri Norris via video conference call. Commissioner Kolcz joined at 1:18pm

County Clerk Teresa Kubasiak and Administrator Bud Norman were present in the Boardroom at the Courthouse.

Commissioner Matthew led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

3/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020 Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment: None

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Matthew, that approval is given to hire a full-time Youth Specialist at the SEIU union level 8 rate of \$15.68 per hour, with new hire benefits, effective immediately.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, that approval is given to hire a part-time Security Officer at the non-union rate of \$15.00, effective immediately.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

6/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Matthew, to approve Branch County Interim Policies #30 – #34, as presented.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

7/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, that the closure of the Courthouse and other county buildings, to the public, be extended until April 13, 2020 and that all work meetings and Board meetings be held by video access during this time.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

8/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to accept the Sheriff & Public Safety reports as presented.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

9/ Motion by Commissioner Matthew, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that a public hearing be scheduled to allow for comments on the amendments to the Branch County Memorial Airport Zoning Ordinance #14; a date to be determined.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

10/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Matthew, to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$314,425.04 and to allow the Administrator to pay the bills as presented.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Gordon – 4
No – 0
Absent - Kolcz
MOTION CARRIED

11/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to approve the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$16,000 from the Employee Wages line item to the Employee Training line item in the Sheriff's 2020 General Fund budget, to pay for academy training for two new employees.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:
Yes – Norris, Matthew, Hazelbaker, Kolcz, Gordon – 5
No – 0
MOTION CARRIED

12/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that Gina Wright and John Wellet be appointed to fill expiring positions on the Mental Health Board with the term expiring on 03/31/2023.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment: None

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Matthew – attended the Public Health meeting. They have decided to expand the Sturgis office; with the current health situation the department staff is reduced.

Norris – attended the Public Health meeting. She noted that the Health Department will be contacting businesses that are open, recommending to regularly check employees for symptoms of the virus.

Chairman’s Remarks:

Gordon – thanked the board members and the Administrator for their participation in these meetings by video conference call

13/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to adjourn at 1:27 pm. MOTION CARRIED

Chairman

Clerk