

WORKING MEETING

April 23, 2020

Convened: 11:00 am

Roll Call was taken

Present: Commissioner Gordon, Commissioner Matthew, Commissioner Norris, Commissioner Kolcz and Commissioner Hazelbaker all via remote video access

Also Present: Sheriff Pollack; Register of Deeds Nancy Hutchins; IT Director Matt Fosdick; COA Director Amy Duff; 911 Director Kurt Spalding; Emergency Management Coordinator Tim Miner; Coldwater Fire Chief Dave Schmaltz; John Axe; Rich Crabtree; Don Reid Daily Reporter; Rebecca Burns and Dr. Vogel-CHA (via video access).
County Clerk Kubasiak; Treasurer Vrablic and Administrator Norman (Commissioners Boardroom)

Items U, W and AA were moved to the beginning of the agenda. The Agenda was approved as amended, via roll call vote.

PERSONNEL, PLANS & POLICY **(Commissioner Norris)**

COVID-19 (CHA)

Rebecca Burns of the Community Health Agency stated that as of today, there were 42 positive COVID-19 cases in Branch County, along with 208 positive cases at the Lakeland Correctional Facility (LCF). The increase at LCF is due to the fact that all inmates are being tested. It was asked how many LCF employees tested positive. Burns said that she would need to gather that information since not all employees reside in Branch County. She also noted that test kits are available. If someone has mild symptoms, they would be able to get tested.

COVID-19 PIO Analytics

This item will be moved to the next work meeting.

COVID-19 PIO Sourcing

The Administrator stated that updated information on COVID-19 is posted on the County website daily.

COVID-19 Operations/Funding-COVID-19

Federal Cares Act applies to those with a population above 500,000. COVID-19 Relief 3.5 would provide \$29.5 billion to be distributed by the U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, but counties were not included in this program. The Administrator stated that another program, that would include counties, was being discussed. Information from MAC, MTA and MML was provided, indicating that some local governments are anticipating immediate budget shortfalls of up to 30%. The Administrator stated that Branch County will probably see a reduction in Revenue Sharing.

Governor Whitmer – Executive Order #2020-48

The Governor has extended the option of holding virtual meetings through May 12th.

SHERIFF & PUBLIC SAFETY

(Commissioner Kolcz)

911 Report

2020 Law Enforcement: 3414 **2020** Fire: 246 **2020** Emergency Medical: 298

2019 Law Enforcement: 3468 **2019** Fire: 286 **2019** Emergency Medical: 321

Total Events – February 2020: 4252 February 2019: 4380

CodeRED Totals:

National Call Business: 1,603	National Call Residential: 11,594
CNE Business: 215	CNE Residential 4,033
Business Total: 1,818	Residential Total: 15,67

National Call Phones: 13,197	Texts: 2,666
CNE Phones: 4,291	Emails: 1,816
Phone Total: 17,681	Weather Warning: 3,880

(CNE – Community Network Enrollment)

Emergency Management Report

Tim Miner reported that they are moving forward in a positive direction. They are looking at plans for what the next wave may look like. Miner stated that call volumes in other counties were reduced, but Branch County calls were normal.

Undersheriff Report

(March 2020)

Total Complaints: 531
Total Arrests: 34
Total Citations: 151 of the 151, Secondary Road: 137
Traffic Accidents: 23 0 on the Interstate
Total Car/Deer Accidents : 17
Reserve Deputies: 43.50 hours
Posse: 0 hours
Inmate Transport 34.50 hours (Warrants, Writs, Hospital, etc.)
Overtime: Road patrol – 48.50 hours Corrections – 310.50 hours- Court-21.50 hours- SRP 24 hours

22 pounds of prescription drugs collected. 0 Meth Lab.

Foreclosures – For this year 7– Sales, 17 – prepared \$533,439.69

Jail Administrator’s Report

(March 2020)

Average Daily Count for March: 117
Average break down: 97 males/20 females

Currently 9 females housed in Calhoun County

As of **04/06/2020** count is **90 with 15 females**

Jail Incidents for March: 41

Animal Control Report

(March 2020)

Total Animal Intake: 20 (11 Hillsdale County)

Total Disposition: 20

HOUSE

(Commissioner Matthew)

Jail Update

Earthwork construction continues at the jail site. It will continue for the next six weeks. Social distancing is being observed. The construction is considered an essential service due to the safety concerns at the current jail.

Recognition of Service – Two Employees – 20 years

Two employees will be recognized in May.

FINANCE

Commissioner Hazelbaker)

Motion by seconded by that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts, Line item transfer-911;

Bills & Accounts

Administrator Norman presented a summary of the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$229,865.29 (Jail Operations-Board & Care-59%, Building Repair and Maintenance-11%, Jail Operations Commissary-9%, Supplies-7%, Equipment Repair & Maintenance 4%) to make up 90% of the invoices. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by seconded by to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$229,865.29, as presented.

Line Item Transfer – 911

911 is requesting to \$55,000 from Capital Outlay, account # 211.346.970 to Radio Repair and Maintenance, account # 211.346.936. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by seconded by to approve the line item transfer for 911 of \$55,000 from Capital Outlay to Radio Repair and Maintenance.

Commission on Aging – Millage Renewal

COA Director Amy Duff submitted a resolution asking for authorization to put a millage renewal proposal on the August Primary ballot. The renewal request is for 0.2424 mills for 10 years (2021-2030). The millage will raise an estimated \$360,176.00 in the first calendar year. The funds would be used for building debt retirement, renovation, equipping, furnishing and operating the senior center. Duff stated that no changes were made to what is in effect now. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by seconded by to approve the resolution from the Commission on Aging authorizing a millage renewal proposal to be put on the August Primary ballot.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MILLAGE ELECTION FOR BRANCH COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL AND CERTIFYING BALLOT LANGUAGE

WHEREAS, Act 39 of the Public Acts of 1976 expressly authorizes the Board of Commissioners for the County of Branch to appropriate funds to organizations for the purpose of providing activities and services to older persons, being individuals fifty (50) years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Branch has appropriated funds for the purposes of funding the building debt retirement, renovation, equipping, furnishing and operating a senior center for the Branch County Commission on Aging, which provides activities and services to older persons; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Branch County supported a 0.25 mill special tax in 2010 to fund the senior center within Branch County, which millage has been reduced to 0.2424 of one (1) mill pursuant to the legally required millage rollbacks, with this 2010 millage approval providing authorization through the 2020 tax levy, and continued levy of this tax after 2020 requires voter re-authorization; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Branch seeks to have the voters of said County determine whether or not they desire to continue to raise funds for the purpose of funding the senior center by an ad valorem property tax levy of up to the same millage approved in 2010, as rolled back, being at the rate 0.2424 of one (1) mill for a period of ten (10) years, 2021 through 2030, inclusive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following proposal be submitted to the qualified voters of the County of Branch at the next State Primary Election to be held in said County on Tuesday, August 4, 2020:

**COMMISSION ON AGING
MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

For the purpose of renewing funding for building debt retirement, renovation, equipping, furnishing and operating a senior center for the Branch County Commission on Aging at the rolled back millage level previously approved by the voters in 2010, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Branch, Michigan, be renewed at the previously voted total limitation of 0.2424 of one (1) mill, (\$0.2424 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of ten (10) years (2021-2030) inclusive.

If approved and levied in full, this millage will raise an estimated \$360,176.00 for the Branch County Commission on Aging senior center in the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this question is hereby certified to the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Public Officials of the County of Branch, State of Michigan, and all Governmental units thereof, within such time as shall be required by law, are directed to perform all acts which shall be necessary to be performed in order to submit the above stated proposition to the duly qualified voters of the County at the State Primary Election to be held in the County on Tuesday, August 4, 2020.

911 Communications System

Chief Schmaltz of the 911 Board spoke about a change to the workorder for the 800mhz radio system. The original amount was for \$157,000 to work through the RFP process with ACD Telecom, who they are considering the Project Manager. The process is taking longer than anticipated. So far \$130,000 has been spent. They are requesting up to an additional \$50,000, bringing the total to \$207,000. Schmaltz stated that they entire amount may not be necessary. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to approve the increase of up to \$50,000 to the ADC Telecom contract for the 800mhz radio system for 911, changing the amount from \$157,000 to not to exceed \$207,000.

Chief Schmaltz stated that the 911 Board has chosen a vendor for the radio system and was submitting the choice to the Board of Commissioners for approval. They had two companies respond to the RFP. Motorola and J & K Communications/Kenwood. After comparing both products, the 911 Board is recommending J & K. The cost for the Kenwood product was \$8.2M and the cost for the Motorola product was \$8.5M. A five tower configuration is part of the radio system. The County would own all five towers with Kenwood and would only own two with Motorola. The other three required towers would have to be shared with other counties. There was a question about who would be responsible for maintenance of the towers. It was stated that maintenance of the towers would be taken care of by J & K. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to accept the recommendation by the 911 Board to use J & K Communications/Kenwood as the vendor for the radio system, depending on funding, with all five towers to be located in Branch County.

Hazardous Duty Pay Requests

It was moved and seconded and a roll call vote taken to table the requests for hazard pay for the Sheriff’s Department, POAM and POAM-911 until more information is provided by the Administrator. It was noted that once a decision is made and if payment will be given, it can be made retroactive.

Jail Bonding Resolution

John Axe of Clark Hill provided a resolution amending the resolution authorizing the Branch County Building Authority to finance a project for a New Branch County Jail. The original resolution was passed in 2016. The Branch County Building Authority met recently and approved a revised Lease Contract which reduced the maximum amount of the project to \$26M. The new resolution reflects this change and revises the date of the lease contract.

It was moved and seconded to suspend Board rules to approve the resolution. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz to approve the resolution amending the Lease Contract for the New Jail Project.

2020-02
RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE BRANCH COUNTY
BUILDING AUTHORITY TO FINANCE A PROJECT FOR A
NEW BRANCH COUNTY JAIL

WHEREAS, On June 7, 2016 the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the County of Branch, Michigan (the "County"), preliminary documents describing the project to finance the construction of a new Branch County Jail (the "Project"), all as more fully described in EXHIBIT A to the Lease Contract (as hereinafter defined), and a proposed Lease Contract between the County and the Branch County Building Authority (the "Authority") dated as of August 1, 2016 (the "Lease Contract"), pursuant to which the Authority will construct, furnish and equip the Project as contemplated by the terms of Act No. 31, Public Acts of Michigan, 1948 (First Extra Session), as amended ("Act 31"), and lease the Project to the County for a term not to exceed 50 years as permitted by Act 31; and

WHEREAS, The Branch County Building Authority approved a revised Lease Contract on June 11, 2019 which reduced the maximum amount of the Project to \$26,000,000 and approved a revised form of Lease Contract pursuant to Act 31; and

WHEREAS, there has been prepared and attached hereto as APPENDIX I a revised form of Lease Contract with the Branch County Building Authority " (the "Lease Contract").

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BRANCH, MICHIGAN, as follows.

1. The Lease Contract in the form of APPENDIX A attached hereto is hereby approved and the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners and the County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the same for and on behalf of the County.

2. This Board of Commissioners, for and on behalf of the County of Branch, hereby covenants and agrees, for the benefit of the beneficial owners of the Bonds to be issued by the Branch County Building Authority, to enter into a written undertaking (the "Undertaking") required by Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Rule") to provide continuing disclosure of certain financial information and operating data and timely notices of the occurrence of certain events in accordance with the Rule. The Undertaking shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix B. The Undertaking shall be enforceable by the beneficial owners of the Bonds or by the Underwriter on behalf of such beneficial owners (provided that the Underwriter's right to enforce the provisions of the Undertaking shall be limited to a right to obtain specific enforcement of the County's obligations hereunder and under the Undertaking), and any failure by the County to comply with the provisions of the Undertaking shall not be deemed a default with respect to the Bonds.

The County Treasurer, or Clerk shall provide a Continuing Disclosure Certificate for inclusion in the transcript of proceedings, setting forth the terms of the County's Undertaking.

3. The Disclosure Certificate attached as Appendix B is hereby approved as is the execution thereof by the designated officials.

4. The Chief Administrative Officer of the County, if necessary, is authorized to apply to the State of Michigan, Department of Treasury ("Treasury") for approval to issue the bonds, to pay the related fee, and to execute and deliver such other documents as may be requested by the Treasury.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with the foregoing are hereby rescinded.

6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and shall be recorded in the minutes of the County as soon as practicable after adoption.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No- 0

MOTION CARRIED

Request for Reimbursement Funding for COVID 19 (State of Michigan)

Administrator Norman stated that the County will submitting expenses that have been incurred due to the CORVID-19 for reimbursement. The minimum required is \$3,300, which the County has already met. The deadline to submit the reimbursement is April 30, 2020.

LEGISLATIVE

(Commissioner Norris)

None

Public Comment:

Don Reid asked when the bonding for the jail would take place? The Administrator responded the first week in May.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48pm.

Submitted by: Commissioner Gordon Commissioner Matthew Commissioner Kolcz
 Commissioner Hazelbaker Commission Norris