

WORKING MEETING

May 21, 2020

Convened: 9:10 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; IT Director Matt Fosdick; 911 Director Kurt Spalding; Drain Commissioner Mike Hard; Don Reid Daily Reporter (via video access).
County Clerk Kubasiak and Administrator Norman (Commissioners Boardroom)

PERSONNEL, PLANS & POLICY

(Commissioner Norris)

Public Closure / Re-Opening

Administrator Norman reviewed the closure plan that is in place and discussed the plan for re-opening the Courthouse to the public. Beginning June 1st, members of the public will be able to enter the building to conduct business, but must abide by the following guidelines: Only one person is allowed in the building to address a single issue; nobody under the age of 18 is allowed in, unless it is cleared by the Court; an appointment must be made with the department they are visiting; they must be escorted to and from the department by an employee; they must wear a mask; they must fill out a survey form; use hand sanitizer and allow to have their temperature to be taken at the entrance. If they are not willing to comply with these guidelines, they will not be allowed in the building. Employees must wear masks in all public areas (hallways, restrooms, etc.) and maintain social distancing. There will be a COVID Coordinator on each floor who will make sure departments have what they need to conduct business safely. Gloves and masks will be available to employees but will not be provided to the public. Sanitizer stations will be available on all floors. Chairs in the hallways will be set up to allow for social distancing. ADA concerns are still being addressed.

SHERIFF & PUBLIC SAFETY

(Commissioner Kolcz)

911 Report

2020 Law Enforcement: 2218

2020 Fire: 208

2020 Emergency Medical: 326

2019 Law Enforcement: 3718

2019 Fire: 399

2019 Emergency Medical: 264

Total Events – April 2020: 2948 April 2019: 4795

CNE Business	215	Texts	2,671
CNE Residential	4,046	Emails	1,817
CNE Phones	4,301	Weather Warnings	3,890

(CNE – Community Network Enrollment)

Undersheriff Report **(April 2020)**

Total Complaints: 368
Total Arrests: 6
Total Citations: 28 of the 28, Secondary Road: 6
Traffic Accidents: 19 1 on the Interstate
Total Car/Deer Accidents : 15
Reserve Deputies: 0 hours
Posse: 0 hours
Marine Patrol: 46.50 hours
Inmate Transport 9 hours (Warrants, Writs, Hospital, etc.)
Overtime: Road patrol – 39.50 hours Corrections – 160.00 hours- Court-4.00 hours- SRP 16 hours

10 pounds of prescription drugs collected. 0 Meth Lab.
Foreclosures – For this year 0 – Sales, 19 – prepared \$533,439.69

Jail Administrator’s Report **(April 2020)**

Average Daily Count for April: 82
Average break down: 69 males/13 females
Currently 5 females housed in Calhoun County
As of **05/04/2020** count is **70 with 10 females**
Jail Incidents for April: 13

Animal Control Report **(April 2020)**

Total Animal Intake: 12 (3 Hillsdale County)
Total Disposition: 12

The Sheriff reported that the Marine Patrol has been out on the lakes. There have been no issues. Social distancing has been observed. He noted that they will be posting high water warnings at the public access sites to make boaters aware that they are liable, if they cause property damage with their wake. Complaints are down 28%, domestic up 12.5% and arrests are down 17%.

HOUSE **(Commissioner Matthew)**

Rising Water Issues

The Administrator spoke about the flooding in Midland County and the flooding of the Kalamazoo river. Drain Commissioner Mike Hard stated that six of the eight major dams were inspected in December and are in good shape. The North and South chain of lakes have peaked. The water should start going down slowly. The Albright road culvert blew out, they are working with the Road Commission on the repair. He noted that the lake levels won’t be down before the holiday. They had made some changes to Blackhawk Dam and are working with the State on repairs. He closely monitors it.

Jail Update

Submittals for site work, steel, foundation and detention equipment have been submitted, some have been approved. Sand fill has been done for the building pad, future evacuation building and North drive. Cast auger piles for the North half of the building and future evacuation will start 6/3/2020. Foundation work for the building only will start 6/5/2020. They are not sure how COVID-19 will affect production of materials and workers. Weather is also a concern. A week was lost due to rain and water level.

Recognition of Service – Two Employees – 35 years & 20 years

Employees will be recognized once the courthouse is open to the public.

FINANCE

Commissioner Hazelbaker)

Bills & Accounts

Administrator Norman presented a summary of the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$1,408,430.24 (Jail Operations-Board & Care-26%, Membership & Dues-24%, Jail Operations Commissary-14%, Supplies-12%, Building Repair and Maintenance-5%) to make up 81% of the invoices. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by seconded by to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$1,408,430.24, as presented.

Hazardous Duty Pay Requests – Sheriff Dept., POAM, POAM 911

The Administrator recapped the requests for hazard pay. There are several programs being reviewed and implemented at the State and Federal level regarding hazard pay. SB 690 has been passed by the Senate and is being reviewed in the House. This Bill is specifically looking at hazard pay for Law Enforcement, Correction Officers, 911 agencies and EMS. Home Health workers are not included in this legislation. The Administrator replied to questions submitted by Board members. He was asked about the option of giving paid time off (PTO) rather than monetary compensation? He stated that the Sheriff was opposed to this option as he feels it would negatively affect staff availability. It was suggested that PTO could be carried over from year to year as a possible way to alleviate the concern. It was also asked if there is additional legal or financial information that can be offered on this issue? The County’s legal counsel advised to allow adequate time Federal and State levels to determine their policies on hazard pay compensation; evaluate alternatives and options and fully evaluate your ability to fund this request.

COVID 19 Financial Situation

The Administrator stated that the UN expects world economy to shrink by 3.2% and states are planning for 15-30% reductions. Michigan is facing a \$3B tax revenue loss and shortfall with some counties and the State implementing layoffs. Other counties are implementing hiring and capital expenditure freezes, which is the direction Branch County chose to go. The County has already committed to the Teen Share project and the Jail project. There was discussion regarding the paving of the parking lots at the buildings south of the jail. The County had planned to pave those lots within the next three years, but there could be a potential for some costs savings, if we complete the project when the paving for the jail is being completed. The Administrator will provide a comparison of what the costs

will be if we wait vs. including the paving with the jail project. The additional paving would be paid for separately by the County and the some of the entities occupying the buildings, not from the jail project funds. The cost could be approximately \$300,000 - \$450,000. The County will be working on the 2021 budget beginning in July. It is already known that the County will be receiving less in revenue sharing and that there will be an increase in the pension plan contributions due to the reduction of our assumption rate.

LEGISLATIVE

(Commissioner Gordon)

None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 am.

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