

BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUNE SESSION (FIRST DAY)
June 12, 2018

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Commissioners meeting room at the Courthouse, on Tuesday, June 12, 2018.

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 Norris led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

3/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 Board meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**

Public Comment:

Commissioner Kolcz presented a certificate to Allen Booth for 40 years of service in the maintenance department.

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz for approval for the Sheriff to hire a part time Court house Security Officer with a starting wage of \$15.00 per hour. **MOTION CARRIED**

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic to approve the County holiday schedule for 2019. **MOTION CARRIED**

6/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz that approval is given to adopt the Resolution for the Area Agency on Aging.

2018-07

Area Agency on Aging Resolution

WHEREAS, the Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging (Region IIIC) has been designated as the area agency on aging to serve Branch and St. Joseph Counties since 1996 under the Federal Older Americans Act (Public Law 89-73, and subsequent amendments), and the State Older Michigianians Act (Public Act 180, and subsequent amendments); and

WHEREAS, the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency Board of Health has been designated and approved as the Policy Board for Region IIIC; and

WHEREAS, Region IIIC is required to develop an Annual Implementation Plan for fiscal year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Region IIIC Policy Board has developed, reviewed and accepted the Plan after input sessions and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Region IIC Policy Board has taken into consideration the views expressed at the public hearing for the final draft of the Annual Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Region IIC Policy Board substantiates that this document meets the Michigan Aging and Adult Services Agency Approval Criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Branch County Board of Commissioners endorses the submission of this final planning document to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging for final review and approval.

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 Kolcz, to adopt the Fair Housing Month Proclamation.

PROCLAMATION - FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS, April 11, 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, which enunciates a national policy of fair housing for all who live in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status and national origin; and

WHEREAS, Michigan additionally prohibits discrimination because of age or marital status; and

WHEREAS, fair housing is a positive community good; and

WHEREAS, economic stability, community health, and human relations in all communities are improved by diversity and integration; and

WHEREAS, Fair Housing is integral to the ethical commitment of members of the National Association of REALTORS and the Branch county Association of REALTORS and is critical to the ability of all real estate professionals to serve their clients, customers and communities; and

WHEREAS, acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are repugnant to a common sense of decency and fairness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Board of Commissioners of Branch County, Michigan do hereby proclaim the month of April 2018 as “FAIR HOUSING MONTH” in Branch County and as an inclusive community committed to fair housing and to promote appropriate activities by private and public entities intended to provide or advocate for equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents of Branch County.:

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

8/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, to support the concept of funding additional Road Patrol Deputies with the maintenance cost savings, should the proposed jail millage pass in August. MOTION CARRIED

9/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that approval is given to allow the Marine Patrol to have additional lake hours on Coldwater Lake and Long Lake, with the Coldwater Lake Association paying for those hours. MOTION CARRIED

10/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic that approval is given to the Sheriff to purchase a new radar unit in the amount of \$2,225. MOTION CARRIED

11/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that approval is given to the hire Diamond Complete Janitorial, at a cost of \$3,500 per month, equaling a yearly cost of \$42,000, for cleaning services at the Courthouse and Annex. MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda:

- to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$234,580.84
- to approve the 2018 L-4029 Report, as submitted.

12/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts and Tax Rate Request-Form L-4029-Equalization. MOTION CARRIED

13/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Norris, that approval is given supporting the Resolution for the application to Michigan Department of Treasury for a Competitive Grant Assistance Program.

2018-08
RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING APPLICATION FOR
COMPETITIVE GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDING FOR
BRANCH COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY IT PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Michigan Department of Treasury is offering incentive-based grants under the Competitive Grant Assistance Program (CGAP), FY 2018, issued under authority of 2013 Public Act 59, to stimulate smaller, more efficient government and encourage mergers, consolidations, and co-operations between two or more qualified jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the County of Branch provides software to public safety departments and provides building permitting and inspections for most municipalities in the County; and

WHEREAS, City of Bronson, Village of Quincy, and Village of Union City are not able to fully utilize the public safety software and are not in compliance with LEIN regulations for the State of Michigan due to this issue; and

WHEREAS, City of Bronson, Village of Quincy, and Village of Union City provide their own Zoning permitting and enforcement, but wish to continue a partnership with the County for building inspection and permitting; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to apply to the Michigan Department of Treasury for a Competitive Grant combining for funding to implement a fix for the connection issue for each community and develop a combined building/zoning permitting process, titled “Branch County Public Safety IT Project”; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan requires each municipality’s governing body to indicate its knowledge of the grant request and support for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The County of Branch hereby indicates knowledge of and support for the application to Michigan Department of Treasury for a Competitive Grant Assistance Program (CGAP) grant for the Branch County Public Safety IT Project.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

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

No – 0

MOTION CARRIED

14/ Motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to move forward in joining the Opioid lawsuit. MOTION CARRIED

15/ The annual reports for Soil Conservation District, Probate/Juvenile Court, Commission on Aging will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

16/ Commissioner Kolcz nominated Michael Odren, James Stumpf and Kevin Woodward to fill a vacant position on the Airport Board. The term will expire on 12/31/2020.

17/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris that a roll call vote be taken to appoint 1 person to the Branch County Airport Board. The term will expire 12/31/2020.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Michael J. Odren – Vrablic, Hazelbaker, Kolcz, Norris, Gordon – 5

James H. Stumpf – 0

Kevin Woodward – 0

Michael J. Odren was appointed to the position.

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Hazelbaker – Art Walk was last Friday, Strawberryfest will be held this weekend and the Farmer’s Market has started.

Vrablic – There is a tire collection scheduled for August 18, 2018. There will be a fee for tractor tires depending on size.

Kolcz – the County fair is fast approaching. It will be held August 5th – August 11th.

18/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker to go into closed session to discuss an Attorney-Client privilege letter dated 06/06/2018.

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 4:19 pm.

The Board returned to open session at 4:39 pm

19/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker to approve the Administrator’s contract for the three year period of 2019 – 2021 at the salary of 2018 with the wage increase for 2019, 2020, 2021 as elected officials and non-union. **MOTION CARRIED**

20/ Motion by Commissioner Kolcz, seconded by Commissioner Norris, to adjourn at 4:42 pm. **MOTION CARRIED**

Chairman

Clerk