

**BRANCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SEPTEMBER SESSION (SECOND DAY)  
September 26, 2018**

1/ The Board of Commissioners of the County of Branch met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Commissioners meeting room at the Courthouse, on Wednesday, September 26, 2018.

Commissioner Gordon called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

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

Bev Gearhart led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

3/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to approve the minutes of September 11, 2018 Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED

4/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, that approval is given to take the Reclassification request by the Information Technology Department to the P3 Committee for consideration. , MOTION CARRIED

5/ Motion by Commissioner Norris seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, that approval is given for the Prosecutor to hire a full time Contract employee for a minimum of 60 days, no more than 6 months. The rate of pay will be coordinated once an individual has been found through a Temp Agency. MOTION CARRIED

6/ Motion by Commissioner Norris seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, that approval is given for the Prosecutor to hire a part time Secretary/Clerk, at the Tier II rate of pay of \$12.35 per hour, at 28 hours per week with no benefits/insurance, effective immediately. MOTION CARRIED

7/ Motion by Commissioner Norris, seconded by Commissioner Hazelbaker, to approve the hiring of a full time (40 hours per week) Misdemeanor Secretary/Clerk in the Prosecutor's Office at the GELC Level 6, new hire wage of \$12.35 with the new hire benefit package, effective immediately. MOTION CARRIED

8/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, that approval is given for the Administrator to move forward with the proposal process to find a firm to review and estimate the costs for the requested jail repairs. MOTION CARRIED Norris – NO

9/ Motion by Commissioner Vrablic, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$34,117.18. MOTION CARRIED

10/ Motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Vrablic, to approve the resolution opposing the legalization of marijuana for general use.

## RESOLUTION 2018-13

### Opposing the Legalization of Marijuana for General Use

**WHEREAS**, proposals to legalize the general use of marijuana are being placed on the ballot across Michigan; and

**WHEREAS**, general marijuana use and possession is not permitted by federal and state law; and

**WHEREAS**, *The National Institute on Drug Abuse* reports that 1 in 6 teens that use marijuana become addicted to its use; and Marijuana is not the number one reason kids enter treatment for substance abuse – more than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, meth, ecstasy, and other drugs combined; and

**WHEREAS**, *Monitoring the Future, 2017* reports that marijuana use increased to 24% among adolescents in 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades combined and one in ten 12<sup>th</sup> grade students vaped marijuana in the past year; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of Colorado, Denver reports that marijuana-impaired driver related fatalities have risen 114% in Colorado since that state legalized the use of marijuana; and

**WHEREAS**, increased consumption of Marijuana would likely lead to higher public health and financial costs for society. Addictive substances like alcohol and tobacco already result in much higher social costs than the revenue they generate. The cost to society of alcohol alone is estimated to be more than 15 times the revenue gained by their taxation; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency room admissions for Marijuana use now exceed those for heroin and are continuing to rise; the link between suicide and Marijuana is strong; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not possible to foresee and mitigate all the associated risks and impact to our communities through the legalization of marijuana for general use; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the County of Branch is opposed to the legalization of marijuana for general use; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the County of Branch encourages other communities to oppose the legalization of marijuana for general use including the adoption of similar resolutions in opposition to the legalization of non-medical marijuana.

Upon roll call vote the results were as follows:

Yes: Vrablic, Hazelbaker, Gordon - 3

No: Norris, Kolcz – 2

**MOTION CARRIED**

Committee/Liaison Reports:

Commissioner Norris – DTE will be holding a meeting at the Union City Middle School tonight.

Commissioner Kolcz –Pines held their financial annual meeting; finances are tight but they are okay.

Commissioner Hazelbaker – Chamber met. It was stated that Applefest was a huge success; they are working on Icefest, the Christmas Parade and the awards dinner for next year.

Commissioner Vrablic – the next SMART meeting will be held Wednesday, October 3, 2018 in Three Rivers; attended the MAC Health & Human Services meeting where a legislative update was given in which they discussed the indigent defense funding.

Chairman’s Remarks:

Commissioner Gordon - attended a special 911 meeting where a consultant provided a presentation on the pros & cons of 800 MHz vs VHF for the radio equipment.

11/ Motion by Commissioner Hazelbaker, seconded by Commissioner Kolcz, to adjourn at 11:14 am. MOTION CARRIED

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Chairman

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Clerk