

WORKING MEETING

November 9, 2017

Convened: 9:00 AM

Present: Commissioner Vrablic, Commissioner Kolcz, Commissioner Hazelbaker, Commissioner Norris and Commissioner Gordon.

Also Present: Jim Measel-WTVB, Don Reid- Daily Reporter, Undersheriff Eichler, Treasurer Ann Vrablic, Clerk Terry Kubasiak, Chief Deputy Treasurer Kelli Talbot, Charles Scott-Veterans Affairs, Randy DeGroot-CHC, Verna Winger-Payroll, Chris Denney-MIDC and Administrator Norman.

A Veterans Day Presentation was added to the agenda. The Agenda was approved as amended.

Public Comment: Terry LaPratt, a CHC employee had questions regarding the sale of CHC, but asked if he could speak after Randy DeGroot gave his presentation.

Veterans Day Presentation

Commissioner Kolcz listed all of the events happening around the county in honor of Veterans Day. He also thanked Charles Scott and his staff for the wonderful job they do at the Veterans Affairs office. Mr. Scott reported on the informational program that was held at the Masonic Temple. It was well attended. He also thanked the Board for their support of his office.

PERSONNEL, PLANS & POLICY

(Commissioner Norris)

CHC Transition/Resolution

Randy DeGroot provided an update on the transition of CHC to ProMedica. A resolution has been approved by the CHC Board of Trustees, regarding the transition and the Governor has signed legislation, so the sale can proceed. There have been some changes made to the original documents and those changes have been reviewed by the CHC attorney and the County attorney. The committee will review the resolution and it will be brought to a future meeting for approval.

Terry LaPratt then addressed the committee with concerns about the pension plan. He stated that with the sale, 32 employees will not be able to draw early retirement and asked that the committee look into this issue before they move forward.

MIDC Standards Compliance Plan

Administrator Norman presented the Branch County Indigent Defense Compliance Plan for review and approval. The Michigan Indigent Defense Council (MIDC) requires that each county come up with a plan to meet MIDC standards. The plan must be submitted to the State by 11/20/2017. The Administrator gave an overview of the Branch County plan, discussing the required standards, and costs involved. There were questions about how long the State funding would last and if the County would be locked into the location that was laid out in the plan. Chris Denney of the MIDC stated that

due to a law suit the State is required to continually fund the program, but he could not predict what future legislators would do. With regard to location, it isn't locked in, only the funds requested for renovations were. It was moved to bring forward the plan for approval. Vrablic voted No. The Committee Recommends:

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to approve the Branch County Indigent Defense Compliance Plan.

SHERIFF & PUBLIC SAFETY (Commissioner Kolcz)

None

HOUSE (Commissioner Hazelbaker)

Access System

Two quotes were received for a security access system for the Courthouse and Annex. The first quote was from Approved Protection Systems and the second quote was from Safety Systems. The quote from Approved Protection was for security card readers for the courthouse only at a cost of \$6,407.50. Safety Systems provided three options: card readers for the Courthouse only - \$4,237.00; cards readers for the Courthouse and Annex - \$5165.00; and biometric readers for the Courthouse and Annex - \$6965.00. After discussion and review the Committee recommends:

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to accept the quote from Safety Systems for security card readers for the Courthouse and Annex in the amount of \$5,165.00

Energy Service Award Presentation

Branch County officials traveled to Lansing to attend an awards luncheon honoring public agencies for energy upgrades. Branch County received an award for their energy saving efforts. The event was sponsored by the Michigan Energy Services Coalition.

The Committee took a short recess at 10:05am and resumed the meeting at 10:11pm.

FINANCE (Commissioner Vrablic)

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ that authorization is given to approve the following items by Consent Agenda: Bills & Accounts, Line item transfer-Sheriff Department, Scanning project-Building inspection, Non-union employee and Non-union management employee wage increase for 2018.

Bills & Accounts

Administrator Norman presented a summary of the Bills and Accounts (Jail Operations-Board and Care-46%, Jail Operations-Commissary Supplies-14%, Attorney Fees-10%, Vehicle Repair and Maint.-5%, Equipment Repair and Maint.-5%) to make up 80% of the invoices.

Motion by _____ and seconded by _____ to approve the Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$457,726.04.

Budget Amendment & Line Item Transfer

Budget increase line item # 101-301-504.0000 (Medical Marijuana Grant Funds); budget increase line item #101-301-976.0100 (Law Enforcement Equipment); Line item transfer: Decrease Line #101-301-976.0000 (Dive Equipment); Increase Line #101-301-976.0100 (Law Enforcement Equipment)

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to approve the Budget Amendments and Line Item transfers, as presented.

Scanning Project Request – Building Inspection

Digital Science Group provided a quote to complete the scanning project in the Building Inspection Department. The cost to complete the project will be \$9,800 - \$13,000.

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to accept the quote from Digital Science, not to exceed \$13,000, to complete the Building Inspection scanning project.

Non-union Management & Non-union Wage increase – 2018

Administrator Norman is requesting approval of a 2.0% wage increase for the for Non-union and Non-union Management employees for 2018 based on the R2I plan.

Motion by _____ seconded by _____ to approve a 2% wage increase for Non- union and Non-union Management employees for 2018

2018 General Fund Budget – Draft #4

Administrator Norman presented Draft #4 of the 2018 General Fund budget. At this point there is still a \$.8M deficit. He spoke about the additional departmental requests for 2018 and presented five options for consideration to balance the budget. Of the five options, option 3 – 2017 level +Stabilization Fund was preferred by the committee. The Administrator will move forward with this option.

LEGISLATIVE

(Commissioner Gordon)

None

OTHER

Commissioner Vrablic thanked all of the Veterans for their service with Veterans Day coming up on November 11, 2017.

It was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss COAM union negotiations. Upon roll call vote the committee went into closed session at 10:53 am.

The Committee returned to open session at 11:18 am.

It was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation case #17-10567 CD in Branch County Circuit Court. Upon roll call vote the committee went into closed session at 11:19 am.

The Committee returned to open session at 11:30 am.

It was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss attorney/client privileges letter dated 7/19/2017. Upon roll call vote the committee went into closed session at 11:31 am.

The Committee returned to open session at 11:46 am.

It was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation case #16-34433 DE In Branch County Probate Court. Upon roll call vote the committee went into closed session at 11:47 am.

The Committee returned to open session at 12:04 am and the meeting was adjourned.

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