

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Courthouse and Administrative Complex
18 N. County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085-4351*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

8:30 AM

JOINT BUDGET HEARINGS

Assembly Room, 10th Floor or register for remote attendance at:
<https://bit.ly/47apl1M>

Health and Community Services Committee

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Altenberg called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Altenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call of Members

Present 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

Other Attendees

In Person:

Sandy Hart, County Board Chair

Esiah Campos, Board Member

J. Kevin Hunter, Board Member

Gina Roberts, Board Member

Adam Schlick, Board Member

Erin Cartwright Weinstein, Circuit Court Clerk

Dr. Michael Karner, Regional Office of Education

Eric Rinehart, Lake County State's Attorney

Daniel Shanes, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Sam Johnson, Health Department

Mike Adam, Health Department

Jennifer Serino, Workforce Development

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building and Development

Angela Cooper, Health Department

Michele Esser, Health Department

Lisa Kritz, Health Department

Lauren Callinan, State's Attorney's Office

Lisa Wolf, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Karl Walldorf, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Jennifer Rathunde, Circuit Clerk's Office

Steve Newton, Coroner's Office

RuthAnne Hall, County Administrator's Office

Theresa Glatzhofer, County Board Office

Matt Meyers, County Administrator's Office

Lacey Simpson, County Administrator's Office

Patrice Sutton, County Administrator's Office

Nick Principali, Finance

Vernesha Lawrence, Finance

Chris Anderson-Sell, Communications

Kevin Quinn, Communications

Tammy Chatman, Communications

Ashley Watson, County Administrator's Office
Mike Wheeler, Finance
Gina Tuczak, Finance
Chris Hoff, Health Department
Dominic Strezo, Planning, Building and Development

Electronically:

Anthony Vega, County Clerk
John Wurl, Health Department
Christine Sher, Stormwater Management
Carl Zegan, Public
Claudia Gilhooley, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Carl Kirar, Facilities and Construction Services
Yvette Albarran, Purchasing
Terri Kath, Enterprise Information Technology
Shane Schneider, Division of Transportation
Rob Bryson, Public
Mike Jeschke, Finance
Michelle Burns, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Errol Lagman, Finance
Darcy Adcock, Human Resources
Elizabeth Brandon, County Administrator's Office
Demar Harris, Workforce Development
JazMine' Evans, Finance
Ruby Bahena, Finance
Alex Carr, Communications
Jon Nelson, Division of Transportation
Kevin Cross, Public
Mary Crain, Division of Transportation
Jo Gravitter, State's Attorney's Office
Kasey Morgan, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Michele Slav, Planning, Building and Development
Courtney Curry, Regional Office of Education
Sonia Hernandez, County Administrator's Office
Kathy Gordon, Public Defender's Office
Meg Weekley, Regional Office of Education
Ashley Rack, Sheriff's Office
Janna Philipp, County Administrator's Office
Melanie Nelson, State's Attorney's Office
Abby Krakow, Communications
Bailey Wyatt, Communications
Bryan Nicholson, EMA
Jacquelyn Quinn, State's Attorney's Office

Greg Gajauskas, Enterprise Information Technology
Andrew Tangen, Veteran's Assistance Commission
Karen Fox, State's Attorney's Office
Cynthia Pruim Haran, County Clerk's Office
James Klimt, Finance
Nicole Farrow, State's Attorney's Office
Heidie Hernandez, Enterprise Information Technology
Nancy Rojas, Finance
Steven Spagnolo, State's Attorney's Office
Yvonne Mendoza, Finance
Blanca Garcia, Public
Emily White, Public Works
Kay Johnson, Public
Kevin Carrier, Division of Transportation
Sara Hammock, Children's Advocacy Center
Sara Avalos, State's Attorney's Office
Victoria Mellema, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Krista Kennedy, Finance
Jim Chamernik, Sheriff's Office
Brea Barnes, Finance
Tierra Lemon, State's Attorney's Office
Austin McFarlane, Public Works
Alejandra Gonzalez, Human Resources
Emanuel Zoberman, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Jennifer Brennan, Communications
Adam Krueger, Finance

4. Addenda to the Agenda

There were no additions or amendments to the agenda.

5. Public Comment

Public comment was made by:
Carl Zegan

6. Chair's Remarks

An additional public comment was made by:
Rob Bryson

There were no remarks from the Chair.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

8. New Business

REGULAR AGENDA

FINANCE

8.F1 [25-1214](#)

Presentation and consideration of proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget (see complete recommended budget attached).

Attachments: [FY26 Recommended Budget](#)

Mike Wheeler, Budget Manager, provided a presentation regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Discussion ensued.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

8.H1 [25-1220](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Workforce Development Department.

Nick Principali, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for Workforce Development.

Jennifer Serino, Workforce Development Director, and Patrick Nelson, Business and Finance Manager, Workforce Development, provided an overview of the budget for Workforce Development. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Altenberg, seconded by Member Cunningham, that this committee action item be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

Not Present: 1 - Member Knizhnik

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

8.H2 [25-1221](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for Community Development (HUD Grants).

Nick Principali, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for Community Development.

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building and Development Director, and Dominic Strezo, Community Development Administrator, provided an overview of the budget for Community Development. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Altenberg, seconded by Member Casbon, that this committee action item be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

8.H3 [25-1222](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for Video Gaming.

Nick Principali, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for Video Gaming.

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building and Development Director, and Dominic Strezo, Community Development Administrator, provided an overview of the budget for Video Gaming. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Member Casbon, that this committee action item be amended to add an additional \$25,000 to the Video Gaming Fund. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

A motion was made by Member Casbon, seconded by Member Knizhnik, that this committee action item be approved as amended and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND

8.H4 [25-1223](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Opioid Settlement Fund.

Vernesha Lawrence, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for the Opioid Settlement Fund.

Ashley Watson, Opioid Coordinator, provided an overview of the budget for the Opioid Settlement Fund. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Member Knizhnik, that this committee action item be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION

8.H5 [25-1219](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Regional Office of Education.

Nick Principali, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for the Regional Office of Education.

Dr. Michael Karner, Regional Superintendent of Schools, provided an overview of the

budget for the Regional Office of Education. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Member Knizhnik, that this committee action item be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

8.H6 [25-1215](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Health Department.

Items 8.H6 through 8.H9 were discussed and voted on together.

Nick Principali, Budget Analyst, provided a summary of the budget for the Health Department, Tuberculosis Clinic, Special Service Area Number Eight (SSA #8) – Loon Lake, and the Solid Waste Management Tax.

Chris Hoff, Executive Director, Health Department, and Angela Cooper, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Health Department, provided an overview of the budget for the Health Department, Tuberculosis Clinic, Special Service Area Number Eight (SSA #8) – Loon Lake, and the Solid Waste Management Tax. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Vice Chair Altenberg, that committee action items 8.H6 through 8.H9 be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

8.H7 [25-1216](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic.

Items 8.H6 through 8.H9 were discussed and voted on together. See consolidated notes under item 8.H6.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Vice Chair Altenberg, that committee action items 8.H6 through 8.H9 be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

8.H8 [25-1217](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for Special Service Area Number Eight (SSA # 8) - Loon Lake.

Items 8.H6 through 8.H9 were discussed and voted on together. See consolidated notes under item 8.H6.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Vice Chair Altenberg, that committee action items 8.H6 through 8.H9 be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

8.H9 [25-1218](#)

Joint committee action approving the recommended Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Solid Waste Management Tax.

Items 8.H6 through 8.H9 were discussed and voted on together. See consolidated notes under item 8.H6.

A motion was made by Member Cunningham, seconded by Vice Chair Altenberg, that committee action items 8.H6 through 8.H9 be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 7 - Vice Chair Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Maine and Chair Parekh

9. County Administrator's Report

There was no County Administrator's Report.

10. Executive Session

The Committee did not enter into Executive Session.

11. Member Remarks and Requests

There were no Members remarks or requests.

12. Adjournment

Chair Parekh declared the meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Next Meeting: October 28, 2025

Meeting minutes prepared by Theresa Glatzhofer.