

# Lake County Illinois

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



## Meeting Minutes - Final

Friday, March 8, 2024

8:30 AM

Board Room, 10th Floor or register for remote attendance at:  
<https://bit.ly/49Lj6RO>

**Committee of the Whole**

**1. Call to Order**

*Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.*

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

*Member Kyle led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**3. Roll Call of Members**

**Present** 13 - Member Altenberg, Member Casbon, Member Clark, Member Frank, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Maine, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Vealitzek and Member Wasik

**Absent** 6 - Member Campos, Vice Chair Ross Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Hunter, Member Roberts and Member Schlick

*\* Electronic Attendance: Member Altenberg, Member Maine, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Vealitzek, and Member Wasik.*

*Member Casbon joined the meeting at 8:33 a.m.*

*Member Altenberg joined the meeting at 9:16 a.m.*

*\*No physical quorum. Committee will not take action on any agenda items.*

**Other Attendees*****In Person:***

*Eric Rinehart, State's Attorney  
Jolanda Dinkins, County Board Office  
Kristy Cechini, County Board Office  
Markus McCalister, Gun Violence Prevention Initiative  
Matt Meyers, County Administrator's Office  
Melissa Gallagher, Finance  
Melissa Cisneros, State's Attorney's Office  
Patrice Sutton, County Administrator's Office  
Rachel Jacoby, State's Attorney's Office  
Sandra Bankston, State's Attorney's Office  
Sara Avalos, State's Attorney's Office  
Steve Spagnolo, State's Attorney's Office  
Tammy Chatman, Communications  
Tierra Lemon, State's Attorney's Office*

***Electronically:***

*Abby Krakow, Communications  
Ashley Rack, Sheriff's Office  
Brea Barnes, Finance  
Carl Kirar, Facilities and Construction Services  
Demar Harris, Workforce Development  
Janna Philipp, County Administrator's Office  
Jim Hawkins, County Administrator's Office*

*Kasia Kondracki, Treasurer's Office  
Katie Ladis, Sheriff's Office  
Kevin Quinn, Communications  
Krista Braun, Planning, Building, and Development  
Lisa Kritz, Health Department  
Mark Pfister, Health Department  
Mick Zawislak, Daily Herald  
Patrice Sutton, County Administrator's Office  
Sonia Hernandez, County Administrator's Office  
ShaTin Gibbs, Finance*

**4. Addenda to the Agenda**

*There were no additions or amendments to the agenda.*

**5. Public Comment**

*There were no comments from the public.*

**6. Chair's Remarks**

*Chair Hart thanked Member Knizhnik for her help with getting the Gun Violence Prevention Initiative started in Lake County.*

**7. Unfinished Business**

*There was no unfinished business to discuss.*

**8. New Business**

**CONSENT AGENDA (Items 8.1 - 8.2)**

**\*MINUTES\***

**8.1 [24-0058](#)**

Committee action approving the Committee of the Whole minutes from September 8, 2023.

**Attachments:** [COW 9.8.23 Final Minutes](#)

*\* No physical quorum. Committee did not take action.*

**8.2 [24-0283](#)**

Committee action approving the Committee of the Whole minutes from February 9, 2024.

**Attachments:** [COW 2.09.24 Final Minutes](#)

*\* No physical quorum. Committee did not take action.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**8.3 [24-0316](#)**

Update on Lake County's Gun Violence Prevention Initiative.

*Eric Rinehart, State's Attorney, provided an overview of the Gun Violence Prevention Initiative (GVPI) and introduced Tierra Lemon, GVPI Director, State's Attorney's Office (SAO). Director Lemon presented on the mission and vision of the initiative, the root*

causes of gun violence, the public health approach, and future priorities. Rachel Jacoby, Gun Violence Specialist, SAO, presented on the mapping and data of gun violence in Lake County, the resource ecosystem, and the extreme risk group in the community. State's Attorney Rinehart presented on the Restorative Justice initiative and introduced Sandra Bankston, Chief of Victim Services, SAO. Chief Bankston presented on victim services for victims and survivors of gun violence in Lake County.

Member Altenberg joined the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

State's Attorney Rinehart also provided an overview of the diversified funding opportunities and introduced Steve Spagnolo, Chief Government Relations, SAO, who has helped receive the funding through grants. Discussion ensued.

Marcus McCalister, Gun Violence Prevention Initiative (GVPI), provided the history of the GVPI and his involvement with the program. Discussion ensued.

**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**

*Member Knizhnik commented on the professionalism and expertise of the team and stated that the Lake County Peace Makers are a new organization, but their members have been addressing gun violence for years. Member Knizhnik also stated how proud she is of the Board for being forward thinking and thanked all of the Members.*

**12. Adjournment**

*Chair Hart declared the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.*

**Next Meeting: April 5, 2024**

*Meeting minutes prepared by Kristy Cechini.*

*Minutes were approved on May 13, 2025, by the Lake County Board.*