

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

10:30 AM

**or 10 minutes after the conclusion of the Health and Community
Services Committee, whichever is later.**

**Assembly Room, 10th Floor or register for remote attendance at:
<https://bit.ly/4vNuXus>**

Law & Judicial Committee

***Americans with Disabilities Act: Individuals with disabilities who require
accommodations for participation in meetings must request accommodations at least
1 business day ahead of the scheduled meeting. Contact the ADA Coordinator at (847)
377-2250 or email at adacoordinator@lakecountyil.gov***

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call of Members

Present 6 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

**Electronic Attendance: Member Danforth, for employment reasons*

Member Altenberg was unable to attend the committee meeting in person and did not meet the criteria for electronic attendance. Even though she was able to attend via electronic means, she must be marked as absent

The physical presence of the County Board Chair constitutes a physical quorum.

Other Attendees*In Person:*

Sandy Hart, County Board Chair

Paul Frank, Board Member

Eric Rinehart, Lake County State's Attorney

Greg Ticsay, Public Defender

Jo Gravitter, State's Attorney's Office

Kelly Christie, State's Attorney's Office

Steve Spagnolo, State's Attorney's Office

RuthAnne Hall, County Administrator's Office

Lacey Simpson, County Administrator's Office

Patrice Sutton, County Administrator's Office

Karl Walldorf, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Dennis McMahan, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Electronically:

Carissa Casbon, Board Member

Matt Meyers, County Administrator's Office

Jim Chamernik, Sheriff's Office

Michelle Burns, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

James Edwards, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Christine Sher, Stormwater Management

Chris Covelli, Sheriff's Office

Unnikue Edwards, 19th Judicial Circuit Court

Cherae Jackson, 19th Judicial Circuit Court
Tammy Chatman, Communications
Brea Barnes, Finance
Sonia Hernandez, County Administrator's Office

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

There were no remarks from the Chair.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

8. New Business

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 8.1 - 8.8)

MINUTES

8.1 [26-0338](#)

Committee action approving the Law and Judicial Committee minutes from March 3, 2026.

Attachments: [L&J 3.3.26 Final Minutes.pdf](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that these minutes be approved.

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

REPORTS

8.2 [26-0285](#)

Report from Erin Cartwright Weinstein, Clerk of the Circuit Court, January 2026.

Attachments: [County Board Report ADA FY26 2026-01 January.xlsx](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.3 [26-0365](#)

Report from Erin Cartwright Weinstein, Clerk of the Circuit Court, February 2026.

Attachments: [County Board Report ADA FY26 2026-02 February.xlsx](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.4 [26-0454](#)

Report from Erin Cartwright Weinstein, Clerk of the Circuit Court, March 2026.

Attachments: [County Board Report ADA FY26 2026-03 March.xlsx](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.5 [26-0358](#)

Report from Jennifer Banek, Coroner, for the month of January 2026.

Attachments: [January 2026 Coroner Report.pdf](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.6 [26-0513](#)

Report from Jennifer Banek, Coroner, for the month of February 2026.

Attachments: [Coroner's Report for February 2026.pdf](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.7 [26-0500](#)

Report from John D. Idleburg, Sheriff, for the month of February 2026.

Attachments: [Revenue Report FEBRUARY 2026.pdf](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

8.8 [26-0504](#)

Report from John D. Idleburg, Sheriff, for the month of March 2026.

Attachments: [Revenue Report MARCH 2026.pdf](#)

As part of a single motion for the entire Consent Agenda, a motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this report be approved and recommended to the County Board agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Pedersen, Vice Chair Roberts and Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Kyle

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC DEFENDER

8.9 [26-0495](#)

Public Defender Annual Update.

Greg Ticsay, Public Defender, presented the Public Defender annual update. Discussion ensued.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

8.10 [26-0332](#)

Joint resolution authorizing the acceptance and execution of an Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Deferred Prosecution grant assisting the Lake County State's Attorney's Office with enhancing the deferred prosecution program and approving an emergency appropriation of \$72,738 in grant funds.

Attachments: [Deferred Pros Grant-Budget Summary ADA Accessible.xlsx](#)

Jo Gravitter, Chief Deputy, Administrative Services, State's Attorney's Office (SAO), and Eric Rinehart, State's Attorney, explained that this item is to accept and execute an Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Deferred Prosecution Grant that will assist the SAO with enhancing the deferred prosecution program. This item also includes an emergency appropriation. Discussion ensued.

Member Kyle entered the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

A motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Ex-Officio Member Hart, that this resolution be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT

8.11 [26-0511](#)

Joint resolution increasing the headcount for the 19th Judicial Circuit Court and authorizing four new Juvenile Detention Officer positions for the Hulse Detention Center, at an estimated cost of approximately \$44,692 for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026.

Attachments: [AOIC Letter Lake County JDC Additional Position Approval February 2026](#)
[HR Analysis-AOIC 4 add positions \(002\).pdf](#)

Karl Walldorf, Executive Director, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, and Dennis McMahan, Superintendent of Juvenile, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, explained that this item is to increase the headcount for the 19th Judicial Circuit Court and authorize four new Juvenile Detention Officer positions for the Hulse Detention Center. Discussion ensued.

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

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

8.12 [26-0512](#)

Joint resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 in funding from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the approval of the renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement for the 19th Judicial Circuit's Access and Visitation for state fiscal year (FY) 2027.

Attachments: [2027 AV Lake IGA for Signatures.pdf](#)
[Courts_AV Grant_50000_EA.xlsx](#)

Lisa Wolf, Finance Director, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, explained that this item is to authorize an emergency appropriation for funding from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services and to approve the renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the 19th Judicial Circuit's Access and Visitation for state fiscal year 2027.

A motion was made by Member Kyle, seconded by Member Pedersen, that this resolution be approved and referred on to the Financial and Administrative Committee. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

9. County Administrator's Report

There was no County Administrator's Report.

10. Executive Session

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Kyle, that the Committee go into Executive Session. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 5 - Member Danforth, Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Member Danforth left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

The Committee entered into Executive Session at 11:21 a.m.

10.1 [26-0468](#)

Executive Session to review closed session minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21).

The Committee returned to Regular Session at 11:25 a.m.

11. Regular Session (for action on Executive Session items)

11.1 [26-0476](#)

Committee action approving the Law and Judicial Committee Executive Session minutes from October 7, 2025.

A motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Kyle, that these minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 4 - Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Danforth

11.2 [26-0460](#)

Committee action regarding periodic review of closed session minutes.

A motion was made by Member Knizhnik, seconded by Member Pedersen, to accept and follow the State's Attorney's recommended guidelines pertaining to the periodic review of Executive Session minutes. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Aye: 4 - Member Knizhnik, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen and Vice Chair Roberts

Present: 1 - Ex-Officio Member Hart

Absent: 2 - Member Altenberg and Chair Ross Cunningham

Not Present: 1 - Member Danforth

12. Member Remarks and Requests

There were no Member remarks or requests.

13. Adjournment

Vice Chair Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Next Meeting: May 26, 2026

Meeting minutes prepared by Theresa Glatzhofer.

Minutes were approved on June 2, 2026, by the Law and Judicial Committee.