

# **Lake County Illinois**

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



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Wednesday, June 27, 2018**

**12:00 PM**

**Assembly Room, 10th Floor**

**Ad Hoc Legislative Committee**

**1. Call to Order**

*Co-Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 12:01p.m.*

**Present** 4 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Member Frank, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

**Absent** 1 - Co-Chairman Mathias

*Others Present:*

*Judy Martini, County Board Member*

*Sandy Hart, County Board Member*

*Tom Weber, County Board Member*

*Ann Maine, County Board Member*

*Steve Carlson, County Board Member*

*Linda Pedersen, County Board Member*

*Aaron Lawlor, County Board Chairman*

*Barry Burton, County Administrator*

*Paul Fetherston, Assistant County Administrator*

*Conor Schultz, County Administrator's Office*

*Carla Wyckoff, Lake County Clerk*

*Jasmine Rottman, County Clerk's Office*

*Jennie Vana, Communications*

*Danya Abusoud, Finance and Administrative Services*

*Michael Schieve, Finance and Administrative Services*

*Adam Broad, Lake County Resident*

*Amy Orlov, Lake County Resident*

*Angela Bank, Lake County Resident*

*Barbara Adams, Avon Township*

*Bill Morris, Lake County Resident*

*Bub Kirby, Lake County Resident*

*Charlie Mullin, Lake County Resident*

*Chris Feeney, Lake County Resident*

*Daniel Didech, Vernon Township*

*Denise Neufeldt, Lake County Resident*

*Dorothy Skowron, Lake County Resident*

*Evelyn Bach, Lake County Resident*

*Gary Rampp, Vernon Township*

*Helen Hultelin, Lake County Resident*

*Jennifer Litewski, Lake County Resident*

*Jeri Barr, Lake County Resident*

*Jim Mathie, Lake County Resident*

*Joe Herchenbach, Lake County Resident*

*John Barrington, Ela Township Assessor*

*Jon Altenberg, Lake County Resident*

*Joyce Ormond, Lake County Resident*

*Judith Paulsen, Lake County Resident*

*Maria Peterson, Lake County Resident*  
*Mary Louie, Lake County Resident*  
*Mike Louie, Lake County Resident*  
*Paul Fetherston, Assistant County Administrator*  
*Peggy Freese, Lake County Resident*  
*Rebecca Tonigan, Cuba Township Assessor*  
*Richard Woodruff, Lake County Resident*  
*Robert Paulsen, Lake County Resident*  
*Ronald Burns, Lake County Resident*  
*Sharon Basovsty, Lake County Resident*  
*Shirley Luebbers, Lake County Resident*  
*Susan Malter, Lake County Resident*  
*Theresa Bobko, Lake County Resident*  
*Tim Kobler, Lake County Resident*  
*Tom Healy, Deerfield Township Assessor*  
*Tracey Ripa, Lake County Resident*  
*William Bach, Lake County Resident*  
*Yvonne Smith Canegan, Lake County Resident*

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

*Member Werfel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**3.1 [18-0766](#)**

Approval of the May 23, 2018 minutes.

**A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Werfel, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Aye:** 4 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Member Frank, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

**Absent:** 1 - Co-Chairman Mathias

**4. Addenda to the Agenda**

*There were no items added to the agenda.*

**5. Public Comment**

*Public comments were declined by Dorothy Skowron, Jim Mathie, Angela Bank, Judy Paulsen, Sharon Basovsty, and Joyce Ormond.*

*Public comments were provided by Lake County Residents Jon Altenberg, Susan Malter, Denise Neufeldt, Bill Morris, Richard Woodruff, Tim Kobler, Yvonne Smith Canegan, and Joyce Ormond, in support of Senate Bill (SB) 2544 to transition the County's Chief Assessment Officer position to an elected official.*

*There was also public comment provided by Ela Township Assessor, John Barrington and Cuba Township Assessor, Rebecca Tonigan, in support of SB2544.*

**6. Chairman's Remarks**

*Co-chair Hewitt thanked all participants for joining the Ad Hoc Committee (committee) meeting. She noted that in the previous years County staff analyzed various means to help alleviate taxes in Lake County. One of those ways was to eliminate the township assessors and have one assessor oversee all. Discussion ensued.*

**7. Old Business**

*There was no old business to conduct.*

**8. New Business**

**8.1 [18-0743](#)**

*Determine the County Board's position on Senate Bill (SB) 2544.*

*County Board Chairman Lawlor provided an overview of the property assessment process and the history of SB2544. Discussion ensued.*

*Member Frank noted his appreciation for all the residents who have spoken on the issues presented at the meeting and elaborated on the importance of considering constituents' opinions. He also noted the importance of County transparency regarding the committee's limited authority. He fully supported the legislation and opposes the board's position to veto. Discussion ensued.*

*Member Rummel expressed disagreement with his colleagues and noted three primary issues with the legislation. He noted, of the 60 similarly situated counties, only Lake County is affected by this legislation. He also expressed issues with the legislative process and how it jeopardizes support of County employees.*

*Member Werfel noted his concern with the legislative process in Springfield and lack of language while the bill was being vetted and developed. Discussion ensued.*

*Co-Chair Hewitt inquired on the process of an amendatory veto. Chairman Lawlor noted the bill is pending review by Governor Rauner, that within 60 days of the bill being sent the Governor has the power to (a) allow the bill to become law, (b) veto the law, or (3) amendatory veto the bill providing a recommendation for a change in the bill for consideration by the legislature during the veto session. Discussion ensued.*

*Member Martini indicated that she was contacted by Senator Yingling, however, she was unable to take a position due to the lack of language. She expressed the necessity for taxpayers to decide on matters that effect their government and requests that the committee support SB2544. Discussion ensued.*

*Member Maine requested clarification on the action item language and to be provided with a copy prior the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting.*

*Member Weber inquired on how changing the Assessor position from appointed to elected will help alleviate taxes in Lake County and whether staff has analyzed the cost of bringing another elected position to Lake County.*

**A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Co-Chair Hewitt, that the Finance and Administrative Committee recommends that the County request an amendatory veto of SB2544 by Governor Rauner. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Aye:** 3 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

**Nay:** 1 - Member Frank

**Absent:** 1 - Co-Chairman Mathias

**9. Executive Session**

*There was no Executive Session.*

**10. County Administrator's Report**

*There was no County Administrator Report.*

**11. Members' Remarks**

*There were no Members' remarks.*

**12. Adjournment**

*Meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.*

**A motion was made by Member Werfel, seconded by Member Frank, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Aye:** 4 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Member Frank, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

**Absent:** 1 - Co-Chairman Mathias

**Next Meeting: To Be Determined**

*Meeting minutes prepared by Danya Abusoud.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Co-Chairman*

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*Co-Chairman*

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*Ad Hoc Legislative Committee*