

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

12:00 PM

Assembly Room, 10th Floor

Ad Hoc Legislative Committee

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Mathias called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Present 3 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Co-Chairman Mathias and Member Rummel

Absent 2 - Member Frank and Member Werfel

Others Present:

Sandy Hart, County Board Member

Mary Ross-Cunningham, County Board Member

Chuck Bartels, County Board Member

Linda Pedersen, County Board Member

Steve Carlson, County Board Member

Amy McEwan, Deputy County Administrator

David Hare, County Sheriff's Office

Shane Schneider, Department of Transportation

Carla Wyckoff, County Clerk

Debra Nieto, County Clerk's Office

Claudia Rodriguez, County Clerk's Office

Al Giertych, Department of Transportation

Rod Worden, Public Works

Erin Cartwright-Weinstein, Circuit Clerk

Derrick Blakley, CBS Chicago

Danya Abusoud, Finance and Administrative Services

Shantel Franklin, Finance and Administrative Services

Conor Schultz, Finance and Administrative Services

Colin Theis, AFSCME Council 31

Anthony Cooling, Finance and Administrative Services

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building, and Development

Matt Meyers, Planning, Building, and Development

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Rummel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes**3.1 [18-0972](#)**

Approval of the June 27, 2018 minutes

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Co-Chair Hewitt that the minutes be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 3 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Co-Chairman Mathias and Member Rummel

Absent: 2 - Member Frank and Member Werfel

4. Addenda to the Agenda

There were no items added to the agenda.

5. Public Comment

There were no comments made by the public.

6. Chairman's Remarks

There were no Chairman's Remarks.

7. Old Business

There was no old business to conduct.

8. New Business**8.1 [18-0965](#)**

Review of fiscal year 2018 Legislative Agenda and priority bills.

Paul Fetherston, Assistant County Administrator updated the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee (committee) on the 2018 Legislative Agenda and priority bills that County staff monitored.

Senate Bill (SB) 2459 and SB2452 - pertaining to the dissolution of Seavey Drainage District and Lakes Region Sanitary District, respectively - have been combined into SB2459 and passed as one bill effective January 1, 2019. SB3009 - regarding shifting the appointment authority for vacancies on cemetery associations located within a township from the County Board Chair to the Township Supervisor - passed both houses. Governor Rauner elected to exercise his amendatory veto power and considered this bill as special legislation. The bill was sent back to the legislature for modification to remove the bill's limited applicability to the counties of DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will thereby making it applicable to all counties. Senator McConchie seeks the committee's feedback on the amendatory veto. Upon review by Mr. Fetherston and McGuire Woods Representatives it is recommended that the Committee recommend that the proposed modification be accepted. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Co-Chair Hewitt to recommend that the Chief Sponsor of SB3009 accept the Governor's Amendatory Veto to remove the limitation of the bill's applicability to the counties of DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will thereby making it applicable to all counties. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 3 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Co-Chairman Mathias and Member Rummel

Absent: 2 - Member Frank and Member Werfel

8.2 [18-0963](#)

Overview of Fiscal Year 2019 Legislative Development Calendar and approval of Ad Hoc Legislative Committee meeting schedule for remainder of 2018.

Assistant County Administrator Paul Fetherston provided an overview of the committee's schedule to develop a Fiscal Year 2019 Legislative Agenda. Discussion ensued on the deadline by which standing committees must submit their initiatives for consideration.

A motion was made by Co-Chair Hewitt, seconded by Member Rummel that the Fiscal Year 2019 schedule be approved. Motion carried by voice vote.

Aye: 3 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Co-Chairman Mathias and Member Rummel

Absent: 2 - Member Frank and Member Werfel

8.3 [18-0967](#)

Overview of department submissions for fiscal year 2019 legislative agenda.

Initiatives noted for the 2019 Ad Hoc Legislative Program include:

1.) Amending the Election Code to require that schools which serve as election day polling sites conduct a student non-attendance day on election day. Co-Chair Hewitt inquired about a financial burden for the participating schools. Carla Wyckoff, County Clerk, noted that participating schools may need maintenance staff during non-attendance days. However, the schools would be reimbursed for those services. Ms. Wyckoff also explained how the current legislation impacts election day polling sites. Board Member Ross-Cunningham inquired about the number of schools that serve as election day polling sites. Ms. Wyckoff explained that several schools have expressed, due to their accommodation limitations, they would decline participation in serving as an election day polling place. Member Rummel expressed his strong support of amending the current legislation. Discussion ensued.

2.) Amending the Illinois Vital Records Act to permit electronic submission of fetal and stillbirth death records, via the electronic Illinois Vital Records system, to ensure registrars have accurate records and are more responsive to requests. Ms. Wyckoff explained that, currently, all death records in the State of Illinois are recorded electronically with the exception of fetal and stillbirth death records. She explained that submission of hard copy records causes inaccurate record keeping and insufficient documentation. Discussion ensued.

3.) Enacting legislation which includes suspected substance abuse as an acceptable condition for a peace officer to transport an individual for emergency admission to a treatment facility. Co-Chair Mathias inquired about how this legislation effects current law. Undersheriff Hare explained the authority gap in current legislation, in which first responders are unable to provide adequate care and assistance to individuals suffering as a result of suspected substance abuse. Discussion ensued.

4.) Amending legislation so that the County can expeditiously remediate hazardous conditions within an abandoned housing unit or other property that may pose a transferable health or safety risk to adjoining units or properties, such as townhomes, condominiums, or other close-set units. Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building, and Development, noted that this legislation would allow a property owner and the County to immediately remediate an abandoned or otherwise uninhabitable dwelling unit to better address imminent hazards or safety concerns. Current law requires a waiting period which

prevents expeditious remediation. Discussion ensued.

5.) Amending state statute so that the County can regulate agricultural activity, specifically regarding for animal husbandry, excluding equine activity, in and adjacent to residential areas. Mr. Waggoner noted that the proposed change would allow the County to regulate agricultural activity on parcels up to 20 acres in size, up from five.

6.) Amending driver's license reinstatement legislation to allow judiciaries the discretion to decide which fees would be waived depending on a person's financial status. This legislation remains in development as a multi-year initiative. A statewide working group will convene to identify legislative and operational changes to simplify the process for driver's license reinstatement.

7.) Amending the Underground Utility Facilities Damage Prevention Act. This bill has not been recommended for inclusion in the legislative agenda due to opposition from the utility and energy industry. Staff has convened a working group to develop potential compromises. Discussion ensued about keeping the item as a multi-year initiative.

8.) Amending the Property Tax code to extend the homestead exemption to deceased veterans' spouses and to clarify the definition of "surviving spouse." Staff reported that this initiative was re-referred to the House Rules Committee and was not taken up again in 2018.

This matter was discussed.

8.4 [18-0969](#)

Preliminary discussion of Lake County Ad Hoc Legislative Committee member initiatives for the fiscal year 2019 legislative agenda.

Board Member Calabrese noted potentially requesting support or sponsor on possible opioid legislation. She will report back to the committee upon further review. Discussion ensued.

This matter was discussed.

9. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

10. County Administrator's Report

Mr. Fetherston noted the timeline for standing committee to submit initiatives.

11. Members' Remarks

There were no Members' remarks.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Co-Chair Hewitt, to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2018.

Meeting minutes prepared by Danya Abusoud.

Respectfully submitted,

Co-Chairman

Co-Chairman

Ad Hoc Legislative Committee