

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

11:00 AM

Meeting held by video conference. Register to virtually attend the meeting at <http://bit.ly/3jZwj0K>

Watch the meeting at <http://lakecounty.tv/>, Comcast Ch 18 or 30, AT&T Uverse Ch 99, & 18 N County St, Waukegan (10th FL)

Ethics and Oversight Committee

Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and the Written Determination of the Lake County Board Chair, this meeting will be held by audio and video conference.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: The public wishing to attend remotely / virtually may: (1) register at the link on the front page of this agenda to attend by audio or video conference or (2) attend remotely on the 10th Floor of the Administrative Tower, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois (limited to the number of persons in keeping with social distancing requirements, currently 10 people).

PUBLIC VIEWING: This meeting will be live-streamed at <http://lakecounty.tv/> and on Comcast Channel 18 or 30 and AT&T Channel 99.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The public will be afforded time to comment on matters related to the business of the County Board. Individuals attending remotely / virtually may present their Public Comment during the meeting. Individuals not in attendance may provide written Public Comment that must be received by 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting (emailed to PublicComment@Lakecountyil.gov or delivered to the County Board Office 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois (10th floor)). Public Comment on items not on the agenda will be presented at the beginning of the meeting under "Public Comment." Comments on agenda items may be presented during consideration of that item. A total of 30 minutes will be permitted for Public Comment and no more than three minutes per Comment. Public Comment will proceed in the following order: (1) Public Comment by individuals in attendance (on the 10th Floor and then those via the registration link) then (2) written comments in the order they are received. To view County Board Rules, click here: <https://bit.ly/3idRdrV>.

Individuals providing Public Comment will provide the following information:

- * Meeting: Ethics and Oversight Committee
(Must be the Subject line for written Public Comment)
- * Name: (Required)
- * Street Address, City, State (Optional):
- * Phone Number (Optional):
- * Organization/Agency/etc. Represented (If representing yourself, put "Self"):
- * Topic or Agenda Item # (if applicable) - followed by the written

Comment**0.0 [21-0069](#)**

Chair's determination of need to meet by audio or video conference.

Attachments: [Determination - Chair Hart 12.30.20](#)

1. Call to Order

Chair Vealitzek called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Vealitzek dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance, noting its recital at an earlier meeting.

3. Roll Call of Members

All members attended virtually.

Present 7 - Member Danforth, Member Frank, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen, Member Roberts, Vice Chair Taylor and Chair Vealitzek

4. Addenda to the Agenda

There were no additions or amendments to the agenda.

Others present:

Dan Brown, State's Attorney's Office

Carissa Casbon, County Board

Gary Gibson, County Administrator's Office

Sandy Hart, County Board

Jim Hawkins, County Administrator's Office

Matt Meyers, County Administrator's Office

Arin Thrower, Communications

Cassandra Torstenson, County Administrator's Office

Blanca Vela-Schneider, County Administrator's Office

5. Public Comment (Items not on the agenda)

There were no comments from the public.

6. Chair's Remarks

There were no remarks from Chair Vealitzek.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

8. New Business**CONSENT AGENDA (Item 8.1)****Approval of Minutes****8.1 [21-0342](#)**

Minutes from January 27, 2021.

Attachments: [E&O 1.27.21 Minutes - Final.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Member Frank, seconded by Member Kyle, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 7 - Member Danforth, Member Frank, Member Kyle, Member Pedersen, Member Roberts, Vice Chair Taylor and Chair Vealitzek

REGULAR AGENDA**8.2 [21-0341](#)**

Review and discussion of draft amendments to the Lake County Ethics and Conduct Code to establish a Lake County Ethics Commission.

Attachments: [Ethics and Conduct Redraft - DRAFT 021921 Redline.pdf](#)

[Ethics and Conduct Redraft - DRAFT 021921 Clean.pdf](#)

[Operating Procedures Overview - Ethics Commission DRAFT 021921.pdf](#)

Matt Meyers, Assistant County Administrator, reported that at the last Ethics and Oversight Committee meeting, the Committee provided direction to draft language that would create an independent commission to review ethics complaints. He reviewed the proposed edits to the Lake County Ethics and Conduct Ordinance which included amendments to the definitions, the addition of an ethics commission and ethics advisor, and clarification regarding penalties. Assistant Administrator Meyers also discussed the composition of the Ethics Commission and its authorities and duties. Discussion ensued regarding board member oversight.

Assistant Administrator Meyers reviewed the draft operating procedural process. The Committee requested additional information regarding the commission's authority to consider a complaint regarding a board member who left office.

Discussion ensued. The Committee provided direction to include discriminatory harassment as a prohibited behavior. Assistant Administrator Meyers stated he would revise the draft ordinance based on the discussion and return for action at a future meeting.

The Committee reviewed and discussed draft amendments to the Lake County Ethics and Conduct Code.

9. County Administrator's Report

There was no Administrator's report.

10. Executive Session

The Committee did not enter into Executive Session.

11. Members' Remarks

There were no remarks from members.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Chair Vealitzek declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: March 31, 2021

Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethics and Oversight Committee, Chair