

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, October 3, 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 12:08 p.m.

Present 4 - Co-Chairman Hewitt, Co-Chairman Mathias, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

Absent 1 - Member Frank

Others Present:

Sandy Hart, County Board Member

Mary Ross-Cunningham, County Board Member

Steve Carlson, County Board Member

Judy Martini, County Board Member

Barry Burton, County Administrator

Amy McEwan, Deputy County Administrator

Paul Fetherston, Assistant County Administrator

Dakisha Wesley, Assistant County Administrator

Conor Schultz, County Administrator's Office

Shantel Franklin, Finance and Administrative Services

Rodney Worden, Public Works

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building and Development

Maria Peterson, Lake County Resident

Danya Abusoud, Finance and Administrative Services

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Rummel led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes**3.1 [18-1108](#)**

Approval of the August 29, 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, Co-Chairman Mathias, Member Rummel and Member Werfel

Absent: 1 - Member Frank

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 [18-1107](#)**

Discussion of draft fiscal year 2019 legislative agenda (including introduction, purpose, department submissions, and County Board Member and Standing Committee feedback and submissions.)

Assistant County Administrator Paul Fetherston provided an overview of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee (committee), its schedule, and the initiatives received for consideration.

Initiatives noted for inclusion in the 2019 Ad Hoc Legislative Program include:

1.) Amending legislation so that the County may 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. 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.

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

3. 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. Currently, all death records in the State of Illinois are recorded electronically except for fetal and stillbirth death records, submission of hard copy records causes inaccurate record keeping and insufficient documentation. Discussion ensued.

4.) Amending the Election Code to require that schools which serve as election day polling sites conduct a student non-attendance day on election day.

5.) 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. Discussion ensued.

6.) The County supports the convention of a working group made up of state and local government offices as well as law enforcement and legal professionals to identify

legislative and operational changes to improve the driver's license reinstatement process.

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.

County Board Member Initiatives to be considered for inclusion:

1.) Supporting legislation that bans the use and sale of toxic pavement sealants statewide, or legislation that enables counties and municipalities to regulate at the local level.

2.) Supporting legislation that provides funding and resources for the removal of lead from drinking water supply infrastructure in communities across the state.

3.) Supporting legislation that provides funding and resources for: (a) clean water: lead in drinking water infrastructure, nutrient controls at wastewater facilities, dam removal projects, and green infrastructure to support waterway clean-up efforts. Such investments create job opportunities particularly for disadvantaged communities. Communities of color, low income and rural areas are most likely to suffer the impacts of drinking and surface water quality problems and should be prioritized for training and job opportunities created; (b) land conservation: additional funding for the Open Lands Trust to leverage Lake County Forest Preserve's funding.

4.) Supporting legislation to enable voters to reduce local taxing bodies' property tax levies through voter referendum. The bill would specifically apply to voters residing in counties bound by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, or PTELL, a statute under which growth in property tax extensions, or taxes billed, is limited in dozens of counties. The amendment was referred to the Assignments Committee and remains there.

5.) Supporting potential legislation to restore the percentage of income tax deposited into the Local Government Distribution Fund and oppose legislation that reduces the percentage.

6.) Sponsoring or supporting legislation that either eliminates or reduces the 2% Administrative fee to 1% and return needed revenues back to Lake County communities.

7.) Sponsoring or supporting legislation that requires manufacturers of covered drugs to implement and fund a take back program for collection and disposal of unwanted covered medications. The covered manufacturers would pay all administrative and operational costs. The legislation would reflect the model recently adopted by the State of Washington. In the alternative, support or sponsor legislation that enables local governments to implement such programs.

This matter was discussed.

9. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

10. County Administrator's Report

Mr. Fetherston noted the Multi-Session legislative category and the committee's schedule for remainder of 2018. Board Member Martini inquired on obtaining lobbyist at the Federal Level. Discussion ensued.

11. Members' Remarks

There were no Members' remarks.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

A motion was made by Member Rummel, seconded by Member Werfel, to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Absent: 1 - Member Frank

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Meeting minutes prepared by Danya Abusoud.

Respectfully submitted,

Co-Chairman

Co-Chairman

Ad Hoc Legislative Committee