

Lake County Illinois

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Friday, January 8, 2021

8:30 AM

Meeting held by video conference. Register to virtually attend the meeting at <http://bit.ly/39a0IKi>

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

Committee of the Whole

Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the December 11, 2020, 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: 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 will 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 registered link) then (2) written comments in the order they are received. Written Public Comment not read during the meeting will be included in the minutes.

Individuals providing Public Comment will provide the following information:

- * Meeting: Committee of the Whole
(Must be the Subject line for written Public Comment)
- * Name:
- * 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](#)

Determination of need for meetings of the Lake County Board and Committees to be held by audio or video conference.

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

1. Call to Order

Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Wasik led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call of Members

Present 21 - Member Altenberg, Member Barr, Member Casbon, Member Clark, Vice-Chairman Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Durkin, Member Frank, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Kyle, Member Maine, Member Martini, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Roberts, Member Simpson, Member Taylor, Member Vealitzek, Member Wasik and Member Wilke

4. Addenda to the Agenda

There were no additions or amendments to the agenda.

5. Public Comment (Items not on the agenda)

There were no comments from the public.

6. Chair's Remarks

Chair Hart remarked on the Committee of the Whole's new format which provides staff a little more time to organize the County Board agenda and the County Board to focus on strategic items.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

8. New Business**CONSENT AGENDA (Item 8.1)****Approval of Minutes****8.1 [21-0064](#)**

Minutes from November 6, 2020.

Attachments: [COW 11.6.20 Minutes - Final.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Member Durkin, seconded by Member Cunningham, that this minutes be approval of minutes. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 21 - Member Altenberg, Member Barr, Member Casbon, Member Clark, Vice-Chairman Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Durkin, Member Frank, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Kyle, Member Maine, Member Martini, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Roberts, Member Simpson, Member Taylor, Member Vealitzek, Member Wasik and Member Wilke

REGULAR AGENDA**8.2 21-0065**

Staff presentation of recreational cannabis analysis to date and discussion of regulatory options.

Attachments: [Rec Cannabis Info Paper 01-8-21.pdf](#)
[Presentation - Rec Cannabis](#)

Eric Waggoner, Planning, Building and Development Director, provided an overview of state regulations regarding recreational cannabis from licensed dispensaries across the state. These regulations required that dispensaries follow local zoning regulations. In the Summer 2019, Lake County created a task force, comprised of staff and local municipal representatives, to study the collective impact of the legalization of cannabis and to develop best model practices on the regulation of cannabis to aid local municipalities with implementing their own policies .

In November 2019, the County implemented the Cannabis Retailer's Occupation Tax of 3.75 percent for recreational cannabis businesses' future point-of-sales in unincorporated Lake County and a three percent tax on Lake County municipal sales, as permitted by state statute. A one year moratorium was enacted by the County Board in February 2020 to allow staff to study the community, law enforcement, public health, and economic impacts of the use of recreational cannabis.

Director Waggoner introduced Krista Braun, Tom Chefalo, Hannah Mulroy and Bob Springer, Planning Building and Development Department; Lea Bacci and Director Mark Pfister, Health Department; Director and Chief Financial Officer Patrice Sutton, Finance and Administrative Services; Anthony Vega and Keith Kaiser, Sheriff's Office; Dan Brown and Lisle Stalter, State's Attorney's Office, and John Monahan, Police Chief, and Eric Guenther, Village Administrator, Village of Mundelein.

Ms. Braun, reported on the tax revenue generated from the sale of recreational cannabis. Last year, the sale of recreational cannabis yielded \$669,000,000 in sales across the state and 25 percent of those sales were attributed to out of state customers. Detailed information on tax revenue impacts is unavailable due to disclosure and confidentiality rules set by state statute. Sales are expected to reach \$3,000,000,000 over the next few years but it was noted that the impact of the pandemic may have skewed the first year of sales.

Chief Monahan and Sergeant Kaiser reported on the difficulty of identifying the safety effects of legal recreational cannabis. They reviewed the statistics from the past year within Illinois.

Efforts to identify the impact on public health has been unsuccessful due to the pandemic.

Ms. Bacci reported on the youth impact on the use of recreational cannabis and identified how this data was collected.

Director Waggoner requested direction on next steps. Next steps can be to enact regulations to allow the sale of recreational cannabis in unincorporated Lake County, extend the moratorium for a set period of time, or enact a permanent ban.

Discussion ensued regarding the lack of data able to be collected due to pandemic, the data that currently exists, whether the moratorium should be extended or a ban be enacted, and the ability to earmark a portion of the revenue stream for public education on recreational cannabis.

(Ann Maine left the meeting at 10:46 a.m.)

(Member Wilke left the meeting at 10:53 a.m.)

General consensus was to proceed with a zoning process that would allow the legalization of cannabis sales in unincorporated Lake County. Waggoner discussed next steps based on general consensus.

A presentation of recreational cannabis analysis was provided.

9. Directors' Reports

There were no Director's Reports.

10. County Administrator's Report

Gary Gibson, County Administrator, remarked on the new Committee of the Whole format.

11. Executive Session

The Committee did not enter into Executive Session.

12. Members' Remarks

Member Vealitzek, Vice-Chair Cunningham, and Member Kyle remarked on the event that culminated in the deaths of five individuals at the United States Capitol earlier this week.

13. Adjournment

Chair Hart declared the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Next Meeting: February 5, 2021

Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair, Committee of the Whole