

# Lake County Illinois

*Meeting held by Video Conference*

*Physical Location:*

*18 N County Street (10th Floor), Waukegan, IL 60085*



## Meeting Minutes - Final

Friday, July 9, 2021

8:30 AM

Register for remote / virtual attendance at <https://bit.ly/3ytYsmq>

## Committee of the Whole

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

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:** There are two options for the public to attend the meeting: (1) in-person attendance on the 10th Floor of the County Administrative Tower, 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois, or (2) remote / virtual attendance through registration at the link on the front page of this agenda.

**RECORDING:** Meetings, including Public Comment, will be recorded.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public will be afforded time to comment on matters related to the business of the County Board. A total of 30 minutes will be permitted for Public Comment and no more than three minutes per Comment. In general, Public Comment on items not on the agenda will be presented near the beginning of the meeting. Public Comment on agenda items may be presented during consideration of that item.

Individuals attending in-person or remotely 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](mailto:PublicComment@Lakecountyil.gov) or delivered to the County Board Office 18 N. County Street, Waukegan, Illinois (10th floor)). Public Comment will proceed in the following order: (1) Public Comment by individuals in attendance on the 10th Floor, (2) Public Comment by individuals who registered via the link on the front page of the agenda and are attending remotely , and then (3) written comments.

Individuals providing Public Comment will provide the following information:

- \* Meeting: COW Committee (Subject line for written Public Comment)
- \* Name (REQUIRED)
- \* Topic or Agenda Item # (REQUIRED)
- \* Street Address, City, State (Optional)
- \* Phone Number (Optional)
- \* Organization/Agency/etc. Represented (If representing yourself, put "Self")

\*\*\*To view County Board Rules, click here: <https://bit.ly/3idRdrV> \*\*\*

**0. [21-1037](#)**

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

**1. Call to Order**

*Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.*

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

*Member Pedersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**3. Roll Call of Members**

*(Chair Hart and Member Pedersen attended the meeting in-person. Members Clark, Hewitt, Maine, Parkeh, Simpson, Vealitzek, and Wasik attended the meeting remotely.)*

*Chair Hart noted that Members Altenberg, Casbon, Kyle, Roberts, Sbarra, and Vice-Chair Cunningham are away on County business, attending the National Association of Counties Conference.*

**Present** 9 - Member Clark, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Maine, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Simpson, Member Wasik and Member Vealitzek

**Absent** 5 - Member Barr, Member Danforth, Member Durkin, Member Frank and Member Wilke

**Excused** 6 - Member Altenberg, Member Casbon, Vice-Chairman Cunningham, Member Kyle, Member Roberts and Member Sbarra

**4. Addenda to the Agenda**

*There were no additions or amendments to the agenda.*

**5. Public Comment (Items not on the agenda)**

*Gary Gibson, County Administrator, noted that there is a public comment related to the Strategic Plan Update and will be heard during the discussion of that item.*

**6. Chair's Remarks**

*Chair Hart thanked the committee members for their attendance.*

**7. Unfinished Business**

*There was no unfinished business.*

**8. New Business****CONSENT AGENDA (Item 8.1)****Approval of Minutes****8.1 [21-1033](#)**

Minutes from June 4, 2021.

**Attachments:** [COW 6.4.21 Minutes - Final.pdf](#)

**Due to a lack of a quorum, this item is postponed until the next Committee of the**

**Whole meeting.****REGULAR AGENDA****8.2 21-1034**

Strategic Plan Status Update.

**Attachments:** [2019 Strategic Plan - Approved](#)

*Jim Hawkins, Deputy County Administrator, provided an update regarding the Strategic Plan. The County's strategic plan addresses five values: leadership; fiscal responsibility, exceptional service, operational excellence and environmental stewardship.*

*Deputy Administrator Hawkins reviewed strategic initiatives, strategic goals, and strategic themes that align with the County's Strategic Plan.*

*Under Regional Leadership, the County has collaborated with other local leaders in addressing the mental health crisis and has moved the consolidation of the Regional 911 Project forward.*

*Under Fiscal Responsibility, the County has continued to use data to drive decisions, it has been communicative and has effectively kept residents apprised of the property tax levy freeze, has focused its attention on capital planning, and has leveraged shared services to gain efficiencies.*

*Under operational excellence, the County has committed to the investment of technology upgrades across several departments and offices.*

*Deputy County Administrator Hawkins discussed the goals and strategies for the public safety and advanced integrated, data-driven justice system, the economic climate and business investment readiness of Lake County, the consideration of long-term needs of County facilities and infrastructure, promotion of a sustainable environment and the desire to build healthy, inclusive and resilient communities.*

*Staff sought guidance and direction from the Committee. Member Wasik discussed the need to improve communications on economic and environmental sustainability, increasing joint purchasing of sustainable materials, maximizing grant funding through a dedicated staff person, adding a sustainability director, and looking at transportation through a sustainable perspective. Chair Hart suggested having the County's RTA representative and former County Board Member, Pat Carey, attend and provide an update to the Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee regarding regional transportation.*

*Member Clark discussed the need to be proactive in ensuring that cyber security is a priority. Member Simpson remarked on the need to pursue grant opportunities and educate residents regarding gun safety. Member Parekh indicated that the sustainability*

*coordinator position needs to be filled as this position touches many of the overarching goals of the County. He also suggested that the County devote more attention to economic and racial disparities in Lake County and the need to be proactive in preparing for future pandemics and crises. Member Wasik requested metrics regarding economic development. Member Vealitzek questioned the need to have single use utensils at the County, noting the impact to the environment.*

*Gary Gibson, County Administrator, read public comment from Kristen LaManna, who expressed concern regarding the County's spend on food purchases, bike paths, and Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds.*

*Chair Hart remarked on the efforts of County Administration and Board Members who have worked to achieve the County's strategic goals in spite of challenging conditions. She remarked on the strategic goals to divert juveniles from the juvenile detention center and reduce recidivism. She also thanked the Lake County delegation for their efforts.*

*Member Pedersen thanked the staff for their efforts throughout the pandemic.*

**This matter was discussed**

#### **9. County Administrator's Report**

*Gary Gibson, County Administrator, reported that the success of the Administration is due to the staff across the organization. He remarked on the new parking plan in the underground parking lot for Board Members and the departure of an employee within the County Administrator's Office.*

#### **10. Executive Session**

*Executive Session was entered into at 9:36 a.m.*

**A motion was made by Member Clark, seconded by Member Pedersen, to go into Executive Session. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 9 - Member Clark, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Maine, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen, Member Simpson, Member Wasik and Member Vealitzek

**Absent:** 11 - Member Altenberg, Member Barr, Member Casbon, Vice-Chairman Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Durkin, Member Frank, Member Kyle, Member Roberts, Member Sbarra and Member Wilke

##### **10.1 [21-1036](#)**

*Executive Session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).*

**A personnel matter was discussed in Executive Session.**

##### **10.2 [21-1041](#)**

*Executive Session to discuss pending litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11).*

**Pending litigation was discussed in Executive Session.**

*Executive Session was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.*

**A motion was made by Member Hart, seconded by Member Pedersen, to come out of Executive Session. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Member Clark, Chair Hart, Member Hewitt, Member Maine, Member Parekh, Member Pedersen and Member Simpson

**Absent:** 11 - Member Altenberg, Member Barr, Member Casbon, Vice-Chairman Cunningham, Member Danforth, Member Durkin, Member Frank, Member Kyle, Member Roberts, Member Sbarra and Member Wilke

**Not Present:** 2 - Member Wasik and Member Vealitzek

**11. Members' Remarks**

**There were no remarks from members.**

**12. Adjournment**

**Chair Hart declared the meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.**

**Next Meeting: August 6, 2021**

*Minutes prepared by Blanca Vela-Schneider.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Committee of the Whole, Chair*