



Kane County

KC Jobs Committee

Meeting Minutes

Government Center
719 S. Batavia Ave., Bldg. A
Geneva, IL 60134

LEWIS, ALLAN, Bates, Daugherty, Penesis, Strathmann, Young, ex-officios Roth (County Vice Chair) and Pierog (County Chair)

Friday, May 16, 2025

10:30 AM

County Board Room

2025 Committee Goals

- Goals from the July Jobs Committee meeting
- Revise County Code Definition of the Jobs Committee
- Economic Development Strategic Plan - Begin implementation of the strategies recommenced by the Kane County Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Regional Partnerships - Continue to work with the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership and other regional partners on economic development activities
- Local Economic Development Programs - Continue to meet the objectives of the active ARPA Programs and Grant Programs while actively seeking new opportunities to enhance current programming
- Support for Jobs Committee focusing on the Six Priorities
- Implement the Economic Development Strategic Plan for Kane County
- Implement approved ARPA projects
 - oKane County Economic Development Corporation - Launch
 - oFabulous Fox! Water Trail - Launch sites and marketing
 - oFarmer Grants – staff managed grants to local food farmers
 - oTourism – with CVB's
 - oManufacturing – with IMEC
- Support the Kane County Economic Development Corporation
- Support County's role in the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership
- Continue to strengthened partnerships with economic development efforts by the State of Illinois, municipalities, chambers of commerce and economic development groups
- Continue to network and development partnership for the future Hydrogen economy
- Renew "Made and Kane" series in Kane County Connects featuring companies and products that are made in Kane County
- Continue to apply for additional outside grants

1. Call To Order

Chairman Lewis called today's meeting to order at 10:55 AM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT	Board Member Anita Lewis Board Member Deborah Allan Board Member Mavis Bates Board Member Ted Penesis Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Bill Roth
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REMOTE	Board Member Gary Daugherty
ABSENT	Board Member Cherryl Strathmann Board Member David Young Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. member Juby*; Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff and staff Toth; ITD staff Kash; and members of the press and public.

3. Remote Attendance Requests

Chairman Lewis announced the remote attendance requests for today's meeting. She asked the Committee if there were any objections to Committee Member Daugherty attending remotely. There were no objections.

4. Approval of Minutes: April 11, 2025

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Ted Penesis

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Jobs Committee Priorities

A. Kane County Economic Development Initiatives Staff Updates

Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff announced that the County Board approved the third annual payment to the Regional Economic Development Partnership, also known as the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership. He noted that the U.S. Department of Commerce hosted an event called "Select USA," where business leaders from all over the world attend exclusive receptions, networking events, company visits, and sessions dedicated to incentives, and workforce. The State of Illinois was represented at this event with more than 5,500 attendees from over 100 international markets, and 54 states. In addition to World Business Chicago, the six other county partners hosted a spin off event called "SelectChi" on May 8-9 with a roundtable panel discussion of 50 foreign companies seeking to promote business within the Chicagoland region.

Dev. Planner Toth provided a Packing Empowerment for individuals with disabilities summer camp flyer. He highlighted that this program is in partnership with Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre (IMEC), and is available to individuals with disabilities who are interested in manufacturing. The camp will run from June 9- July 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital in Geneva in the Project SEARCH Classroom on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's. Local manufacturers will participate and offer job shadowing, tours, and other leadership opportunities. Lastly, Toth announced that invites for the 10 year anniversary of the Economic Development Roundtable on June 20, 2025 will be sent out next week. The event will be held in the auditorium of the Kane County Government Center, in building A from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This year's topic of choice will be the Kane County Economic Development Corporation. VanKerkhoff and Toth addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Much discussion ensued.

7. Office of Community Reinvestment - Workforce Development Division

A. Monthly Report

The monthly report is on file. No additional report was made.

8. New Business

None.

9. Reports Placed On File

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Mavis Bates

10. Comments by Co-Chair

None.

11. Executive Session (if needed)

None.

12. Adjournment

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Mavis Bates
SECONDER:	Ted Penesis

This meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Rachel Santora
Recording Secretary