



Kane County

KC Energy and Environmental Committee

Meeting Minutes

BATES, Tarver, Allan, Kious, Penesis, Strathmann, Young, ex-officios Roth (County Vice Chair) and Pierog (County Chair)

Friday, November 14, 2025

9:00 AM

County Board Room

1. Call To Order

Chairman Bates called today's meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT	Board Member Mavis Bates Board Member Chris Kious Board Member Ted Penesis Board Member David Young Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Bill Roth
REMOTE	Board Member Bill Tarver Board Member Deborah Allan Board Member Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT	Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. members Gripe, Juby*, Lewis, Molina*; Environ. & Water Res. Dir. Wollnik; Recycling Coordinator Ryan; Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw and staff Powell; Spec. ASA & Local Historian Shepro; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public including Gud Marketing Account Manager Lauren Abbott*.

3. Remote Attendance Requests

Chairman Bates announced the remote attendance requests for today's meeting. She asked if there were any objections to Committee Members Allan, Strathmann and Tarver attending remotely. There were no objections.

4. Approval of Minutes: October 17, 2025

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Chris Kious

5. Public Comment

Kane County resident and Board Member, David Young, addressed a statement made by Bill Gates about climate change. He noted that Gates' stance on climate change is that it is real, however, humanity will adapt. He continued on to quote Gates' comments on prioritizing health over poverty, and to focus on human welfare. He stated that ending hunger should take precedence over fractional temperature targets, and that innovation and clean energy remain vital.

6. Environmental (J.Wollnik)

A. 2026 Energy and Environmental SMART Goals

Environ. & Water Res. Dir. Wollnik stated that it was mentioned at last month's meeting to remove Tree Preservation from the Committee goals list. She added that a document for Smart Goals was provided by Board Member Roth. After reviewing the document, Wollnik indicated that it would be extensive to create a smart goal, therefore it would not fit under the heading on the agenda. She provided a summary page of the Committee goals to be included under the agenda heading. Further discussion ensued. The Committee provided their consensus to approve the 2026 E&E Committee Goals.

7. Recycling/Solid Waste (C. Ryan)

A. Authorizing Second Extension and Scope of Work Adjustment to Professional Service Agreement for 2026 Recycling Center and Event Staffing and Operations

KC Finance and Budget Committee

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE
TO:	KC Finance and Budget Committee
MOVER:	Chris Kious
SECONDER:	Ted Penesis
AYE:	Mavis Bates, Bill Tarver, Chris Kious, Ted Penesis, Cheryl Strathmann, and David Young
ABSENT:	Corinne M. Pierog
AWAY:	Deborah Allan

B. Feed the Cart Regional Recycling Outreach and Education Campaign & Kane County Deployment

Recycling Coordinator Ryan stated the U.S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) issued its Inaugural Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity three years ago. She stated that a group of Chicago regional counties and waste agencies coalesced around the Metro Mayor's Caucus as the applicant. A proposal was submitted in February 2023. A notification of the award decision was received in late 2023. The award start date was June 14, 2024. The award was for a total \$2M, and each partner will receive a sub award of \$83K in order to amplify the campaign message locally. Ryan stated that a Federal Quality Assurance Plan (QAPP) was developed for the data collection to provide proof that the outreach works, and a Request for Approval (RFP) was submitted for a solid waste consultant to assist with data signs. Interviews for a marketing firm were held from June 2024 to April 2025. A 45 person marketing firm based out of Lansing, Michigan called Gud Marketing was hired as the consultant. The agency specializes in helping governmental and non-profit clients to create a social image.

Gud Marketing Account Manager, Lauren Abbott, shared information about the Feed the Cart Regional Recycling Outreach and Education Campaign and Kane County Development. She stated that Gud Marketing's goals are to get residents excited about recycling. A key part of getting people excited about recycling is to was create a new, instantly recognizable regional recycling brand. The primary audience for the campaign are people in single-family homes in metro Chicago, and local governments as the secondary audience. Abbott explained that the overall campaign approach is to include high-visibility ads that capture attention and interest, drive people to the campaign website to further educate the audience on the do's and don'ts of recycling. She shared a brief video ad introducing the "Loop" character for the Recycling Cart. She reviewed the 2025 Campaign tactics currently running including transit ads, digital video, billboards, social media, and earned media. An official kickoff announcement for the Feed the Cart campaign generated thirty-one stories in the first 48 hours including TV and radio coverage. Abbott addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Further discussion ensued.

C. Authorizing an Agreement with the Village of West Dundee and eWorks Electronics Services, Inc. for Operation of the West Dundee Recycling Center in 2026

KC Finance and Budget Committee

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE
TO:	KC Finance and Budget Committee
MOVER:	Chris Kious
SECONDER:	Ted Penesis

AYE:	Mavis Bates, Bill Tarver, Chris Kious, Ted Penesis, Cheryl Strathmann, and David Young
ABSENT:	Corinne M. Pierog
AWAY:	Deborah Allan

8. Sustainability (S.Hinshaw)

No report was made.

9. New Business

Committee Member Young addressed the conspiracies of harmful chemicals being sprayed into the atmosphere from aircrafts. He recommended this topic be included for further discussion at meetings.

10. Chairs Comments

Chairman Bates reminded everyone that a Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10 at 12:00 p.m. to discuss solar fields.

11. Reports Placed On File

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Ted Penesis

12. Executive Session (if needed)

None.

13. Adjournment

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Chris Kious
SECONDER:	Cherryl Strathmann

This meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Rachel Santora
Recording Secretary