



Kane County

KC Energy and Environmental Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

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

Friday, February 16, 2024

9:00 AM

County Board Room

1. Call To Order

Chairman Bates called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

2. Roll Call

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

Also present: Co. Bd. Members Juby*, Molina*; Environ. & Water Res. Dir. Wollnik & staff Ryan, Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw; Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff; KDOT Deputy Dir. Rickert; Fin. Exec. Dir. Hopkinson; Spec. ASA Shepro*; ASA Vince Coyle; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public including Accelerate Climate Solutions Co-Founder, Kris Murphy.

3. Remote Attendance Requests

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

4. Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2023

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Bill Roth

5. Public Comment (Agenda Items)

Committee Member Young shared several questions and comments on the portions of the resolution for Authorizing Execution of Documents Related to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Award. He asked what specific greenhouse gas pollution, and the levels of Co2 methane and nitric oxide gas in Kane County to warrant this grant. He requested more definitions on other portions of the resolution, regarding the transition to a green economy. Young then indicated that natural events such as the forest fires in Canada, volcanic eruptions, and solar flares all contribute to greenhouse gases.

6. Environmental (J.Wollnik)

A. ARPA Water Projects Update

Environ. & Water Res. Dir. Wollnik provided an update on the ARPA Water Projects. The Illinois State Water Survey conducted an assessment of the Shallow Groundwater Sustainability, and is scheduled to be completed in December 2025. The Illinois State Water Survey has reached out to communities individually, and have held meetings with East Dundee and St. Charles. Wollnik stated that several communities indicated that chlorides, resulting from road salt were a concern. Five communities expressed concerns with Per and Poly-Fluorinated Substances (PFAS). She shared a map of the new proposed monitoring wells for the Real Time Monitoring Network Project in Kane County. Those new monitoring wells will be installed this Spring. Lastly, Wollnik indicated that the Assessment of the Shallow Groundwater quality was completed in the fall of 2023. All of the samples have been taken and analyzed. The bacterial analysis came back, and updates for that will be presented at the next Committee meeting. Discussion ensued.

7. Sustainability (S. Hinshaw)

A. Sustainability Updates

Sustainability Manager Hinshaw shared a graph of the electric vehicle increase use in Kane County over the past three years. The current number of registered electric vehicles in Kane County is 3,851. An Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant of \$286K was awarded to Kane County for helping with local energy efficiency, climate action plans, and reductions. The Illinois Department of Energy applied for a technical assistance and equipment rebate. Hinshaw stated that 40% of the technical assistance rebate needs to focus on Environmental Justice Communities. The other 60% will focus on technical assistance on rural areas and along I-90 and I-88. Hinshaw then provided an introduction to the Draft Climate Action Implementation Plan. She reviewed the different categories such as transportation, health and safety, water, agriculture, and climate economy. She shared several graphs detailing the Sector Strategies, and their goals.

B. Climate Action Implementation Plan Updates

Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw highlighted several key points of the Climate Action Implementation Draft. The plan includes an implementation of framework designed to achieve County-wide goals for greenhouse gas reduction and climate adaptation and resilience.

C. Kane County Coalition Update On the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Accelerate Climate Solutions Co-Founder, Kris Murphy, provided an update on the Kane County Coalition for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. She stated that this is an Environmental Protection Agency Grant (EPA) of \$4.65B, nationwide. Over 400 letters were sent out to local community officials for grant applications and budget proposals. More than 90% of greenhouse gas emissions are coming from electric power, building, and transportation sectors. These sectors were targeted to make the most impact within the region. The County sent a notice of intent to apply for this grant on January 31, 2025.

Committee Chair Bates shared a document to the Committee stating that Kane County is requesting \$50M as part of the grant, and that one of the items is to replace all of the windows at the Kane County Judicial Center with energy efficient windows at a cost of \$10M.

ASA Coyle shared an overview of how this grant would affect Kane County. He stated that the Kane County State's Attorney's Office (SAO) would be the lead applicant of this grant and will be accountable to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Coyle recommended that the County look at as many options to mitigate compliance or administration policies. (Madam Chairman Pierog arrived at 9:21 a.m.) Much discussion ensued.

D. Authorizing Execution of Documents Related to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Award and Agreements for Kane County to Lead a Coalition Including Other Municipal and County Entities

Per ASA Coyle's recommendation, Committee Chairman, Bates, asked for a motion to omit and substitute the pending resolution that was included in the agenda packet with a resolution that was passed out to the Committee. Roth made the motion, Strathmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

KC Finance and Budget Committee

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE
TO:	KC Finance and Budget Committee
MOVER:	Bill Roth
SECONDER:	Cherryl Strathmann
AYE:	Mavis Bates, Bill Tarver, Deborah Allan, Bill Roth, and Cherryl Strathmann

NAY:	David Young
ABSENT:	Chris Kious, and Vern Tepe

E. Fabulous Fox! Water Trail Access Infrastructure Project

Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff provided an update on the Fabulous Fox! Water Trail. He announced that they had their kickoff meeting on January 12, 2024 with Hey and Associates for developing plans and priorities for launch sites.

F. Tree Preservation Ordinance Training Opportunity

Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff announced that the Tree Ordinance Administration Workshop will be Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Morton Arboretum Thornhill Education Center.

G. Kane County Tree Ordinance

Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff announced that the Kane County Tree Ordinance is scheduling a meeting with their partners at the State's Attorney's Office (SAO).

8. Recycling/Solid Waste (C. Ryan)

A. 2024 Kane County Recycles Green Guide

Recycling Coordinator Ryan presented the 2024 Kane County Recycles Green Guide. This guide is a booklet and a website, that aims to help Kane County residents recycle correctly and reduce waste. She shared the recycling center locations, the accepted items, and the recycling costs. Kane County has fully staffed recycling centers in Batavia, West Dundee and Aurora. There is a new self-service kiosk at the Fabyan Parkway location for small items, such as non-liquid art, school supplies, eye glasses, and hearing aids. Ryan announced the upcoming 2024 recycling events located in St. Charles. She pointed out that lithium-based batteries continue to be one of the largest fire and safety concerns in recycling facilities. Ryan provided a list of contacts for residents to drop off any small household batteries, light bulbs and tubes, or hazardous waste.

9. New Business

None.

10. Chairs Comments

Committee Chair Bates thanked everyone for their hard work on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

11. Reports Placed On File

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	David Young

12. Executive Session (if needed)

None.

13. Public Comment (Non- Agenda Items)

None.

14. Adjournment

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Cherryl Strathmann
SECONDER:	David Young

This meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Rachel Santora

Recording Secretary