



Kane County

KC Public Service Committee

Meeting Minutes

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

SANCHEZ, Young, Gripe, Gumz, Lewis, Surges, Tepe, ex-officios Roth (County Vice Chair)
and Pierog (County Chair)

Thursday, September 18, 2025

9:00 AM

County Board Room

1. Call To Order

Chairman Sanchez called today's meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT	Board Member Jarett Sanchez Board Member David Young Board Member Jon Gripe Board Member Anita Lewis Board Member Vern Tepe Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Bill Roth Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog
REMOTE	Board Member Michelle Gumz
ABSENT	Board Member Clifford Surges

Also present: Co. Bd. members Bates*, Juby, Kious*, Tarver*; Treasurer Lauzen*; SOA Chief Deputy Winter; ROE Jonak and staff Eggleston; VAC Supt. Zimmerman*; Co. Clk. staff Pollock and staff; Spec. ASA Shepro*; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public including Dir. of Elections Raymond Esquivel.

3. Remote Attendance Requests

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

4. Approval of Minutes: August 21, 2025

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Jon Gripe

5. Public Comment

Kane County resident Jordan Mann spoke on her disapproval for Committee Member David Young's comments on trans-gender gun violence. She believes this is an attack and insult on the LGBTQ community. Mann showed her concerns for Young's actions using the public podium as a platform to promote misinformation, and harmful, personal ideology towards the LGBTQ community. She believes he is unfit to serve as a Board Member, and asked that he be removed.

Kane County resident Tricia Miller addressed Committee Member David Young's public comment on trans-gender gun violence. She believes his comments to be demeaning, hateful, and false. She stated that 99 percent of all gun violence is carried out by heterosexual white men. She added that between May 1, 2024 and May 1, 2025, the Global Land Analysis and Discovery Alert System (GLAAD) tracked 932 anti-LGBTQ incidents in 49 U.S. states. This is the equivalent of 2.5 incidents everyday. These violent attacks resulted in 84 injuries and ten deaths. She stated that 52 percent of those attacks were against trans-gender individuals, and 63 percent of all trans-gender deaths in 2024 were due to gun violence.

Kane County resident Denise Theobald stated her concerns for the Proclamation by the Kane County Board to honor Chris Lauzen for the 2025 Cashvest National Leadership Award for Financial Management. She stated that an award from a paid vendor raises serious questions. Theobald questioned why should the Kane County Treasurer receive an award for performing the duties of his office, when proclamations aren't issued for Sheriff's or States Attorneys. She noted that an Elected Official working in a governmental capacity excepting an award in public, by a hired vendor is inappropriate. This creates a conflict of interest, creating a pay-to-play appearance, and undermines the public trust. Theobald asked the Committee to vote no on the proclamation.

Kane County resident and Committee Member David Young spoke on his right to publicly speak on topics he has issues with. He stated that he brings factual information to shed light on a major problem that is happening way too much in this country. Young fears gun violence is going to get worse, if the problem does not get solved. He also spoke on his concerns for voter registration policy and procedures, and requested more information on how the election polling system works to verify voter signatures.

Kane County resident Cana Clark spoke on Committee Member David Young's statement that LGBTQ individuals are part of a culture of death and are an evil group. Clark stated that 54 percent of mass shootings are committed by non-trans-gender white men. She shared her fears of feeling safe in a community where people in charge spread this kind of hate.

Kane County resident Paula Merrington addressed Committee Member David Young's public comment on trans-gender gun violence from a previous meeting. She believes his comments to be demeaning, hateful, and false. She stated that according to the Williams Institute, trans-gender people are over four times more likely to be the victims of violent crimes, and 73 percent of those are victims of gun violence. Merrington looks

forward to Committee Member David Young's apology for his outrageous statements.

Kane County resident Jaxson Diamond addressed Committee Member David Young's comments on trans-gender gun violence. She stated that Young's actions of using his official position to publicly target and vilify a protected group, and noted that his statements are a violation of the Illinois Human Rights Act 775-IL-CS5 which prohibits discrimination by public officials based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Diamond requested the resignation or removal of David Young from the Kane County Board.

Kane County resident Sue Sokolinski stated that Public Service is a broad term that encompasses a wide range of public issues. She added that public service work is about supporting communities, serving others, and protecting the rights and interests of the public. Sokolinski stated her disapproval of Committee Member David Young's hateful comments towards Democrats and false statements about the LGBTQ community and they make him unworthy of serving as an elected official. She advised him to consider the true meaning of public service, and the commitment to respect, protect, and serve every citizen in Kane County. Sokolinski requested the resignation or removal of David Young from the Kane County Board.

Kane County resident and Board Member Michael Linder stated that it is wrong to use Charlie Kirk's death to magnify hatred.

Kane County resident Ginger Romano spoke on her concerns of county fiscal responsibility, and property tax increases.

Kane County resident and Board Member Mavis Bates stated that she does not condone political violence. She stated that the act of unjustly blaming trans-gender people by Republicans, including one of the members on the Kane County Board, must stop. She stated that lying about trans-gender people committing mass-shootings serves two purposes for the conservative agenda. She noted that data shows that mass shooters are overwhelmingly straight men. According to the violence project, 97 percent of mass shootings are committed by men. The gun violence reports state that out of more than 5K mass shootings, the number of trans-gender or LGBTQ plus suspects is less than one tenth of one percent. The people of Kane County demand justice and respect for all.

Kane County resident Brian Anderson spoke on his approval for the Proclamation to award Chris Lauzen the Cashvest award. He encouraged the Committee to vote yes.

Kane County resident and Board Member Bill Tarver reminded the Kane County Board Members who have been elected and trusted, to represent and serve all residents with fairness, respect, and dignity, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or background. He addressed Committee Member David Young's comments, and stated that they were explicitly trans-phobic, and hateful towards the LGBTQ community. Tarver believes his comments to be offensive, discriminatory, inflammatory, and harmful targeting LGBTQ plus residents of Kane County. He added

that Young's comments were misrepresenting the values of the Democratic Party, and undermining the integrity and credibility of the Kane County Board. He believes these statements contribute to creating an unsafe and hostile environment for LGBTQ plus residents and allies, causing harm to the community for which the Board is sworn to represent.

6. Finance

A. Monthly Report

The monthly reports are on file. No additional report was made.

7. Recorder

A. Monthly Report

The monthly reports are on file. No additional report was made.

8. Treasurer / Collector

A. Monthly Report

Treasurer Lauzen stated that the collection process of \$1.6B is going smoothly. He commended his staff for all their continuous hard work, and excellent service they provide to Kane County citizens. Lauzen introduced the new employees at the Treasurer's Office including Michael Nash who is the new Financial Analyst, and Scott Pitol who is the new Customer Service Analyst. He is delighted to have them on board and looks forward to working with them.

9. Supervisor of Assessments

A. Monthly Report

SOA Chief Deputy Supervisor Holly Winter stated that the monthly report is on file. She stated that both of the last two Board of Review Townships will be published by tomorrow. They will have final filing deadlines for Board of Review complaints on October 20, 2025.

10. Regional Office of Education

ROE Professional Development Coordinator Jordan Eggleston stated that over the past few years, there has been an increase in chronic absenteeism across the State of Illinois. This is a challenge that not only affects student learning but also school culture, and long-term success. In response to this issue, Eggleston stated that schools have been reaching out for support, as they create attendance goals within their school improvement plans. The ROE is working directly with teachers, multi-tiered system of supporters (MTSS), and administrators to implement tiered interventions aligned with student needs and school goals. Eggleston stated that her team is working to increase family engagement and improve communication around attendance. By focusing on prevention, connection, and alignment, this helps schools create an environment for students attend and feel belonged. Eggleston and Jonak addressed comments and questions from the Committee. Discussion ensued.

11. Veteran's Assistance Commission**A. Monthly Report**

VAC Supt. Zimmerman stated that a total of \$7.5M in new benefits were collected for this fiscal year. He announced that on Monday, September 22, in Court Room 201 at the Kane County Judicial Center in St. Charles, there will be a Veteran's Treatment Court Graduation event at 3:00 p.m. Two Marines, will be honored for successfully completing the program.

B. Proclamation Recognizing November 4-11, 2025 as Veterans' Week in Kane County, Illinois

KC Executive Committee

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE
TO:	KC Executive Committee
MOVER:	Jon Gripe
SECONDER:	David Young
AYE:	Jarett Sanchez, David Young, Jon Gripe, Michelle Gumz, Anita Lewis, and Vern Tepe
ABSENT:	Clifford Surges

12. County Clerk**A. Monthly Report**

Co. Clk. staff Pollock stated that the monthly report is on file. He highlighted that the amount of passport applications submitted are currently just under 5K. The County Clerk's Office is serving 10 percent more customers this year than last year. He addressed Committee Member Young's concerns on how the election poll system works to verify voter signatures. The Dir. of Elections Raymond Esquivel explained that the signatures originally come from the online registrations at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The signatures are scanned into the Clerk's Office database to use for voter's registration records. At an election poll, Election Judges verify a voter's identity by comparing their signature to one or more signatures on file. Once the poll worker verifies the signature, the voter can receive a ballot. Esquivel noted that in Illinois, two election judges from different parties compare signatures. If they don't match, the voter must present another form of identification. Further discussion ensued.

13. Other Business

- A.** Proclamation: By the Kane County Board Honoring Chris Lauzen for 2025 Cashvest National Leadership Award for Financial Management

KC Executive Committee

RESULT:	MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE
TO:	KC Executive Committee
MOVER:	Jon Gripe
SECONDER:	David Young
AYE:	David Young, and Jon Gripe
NAY:	Jarett Sanchez, Anita Lewis, and Vern Tepe
ABSENT:	Clifford Surges
AWAY:	Michelle Gumz

14. Executive Session (If Needed)

None.

15. Reports Placed On File

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Vern Tepe

16. Adjournment

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Jon Gripe
SECONDER:	David Young

This meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Rachel Santora
Recording Secretary