



# Kane County

## KC Legislative Committee

### Meeting Minutes

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

GUMZ, LINDER, Bates, Daugherty, Gripe, Molina, Strathmann, ex-officios Roth (County Vice Chair) and Pierog (County Chair)

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**Wednesday, January 22, 2025**

**10:30 AM**

**County Board Room**

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**1. Call To Order**

Co-Chairman Linder called today's meeting to order at 10:40 AM.

**2. Roll Call**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Board Member Michael Linder Board Member Mavis Bates Board Member Jon Gripe Board Member Cheryl Strathmann Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Bill Roth
<b>REMOTE</b>	Board Member Michelle Gumz Board Member Gary Daugherty Board Member Myrna Molina
<b>ABSENT</b>	Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. members Arroyo, Juby, Kious\*, Penesis; Trans. Deputy. Dir. Rickert; Environ. Water & Res. Dir. Wollnik; ASA Frank; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public, including McGuireWoods consultants Mossos\*, Bales\*, & Sherwood\*.

**3. Remote Attendance Requests**

Co-Chairman Linder announced the remote attendance requests for today's meeting. He asked the Committee if there were any objections to Committee Members Gumz, Daugherty, and Molina attending remotely. There were no objections.

**4. Approval of Minutes: November 20, 2024**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jon Gripe

**5. Public Comment**

None.

## 6. Legislative Update

McGuireWoods consultant Bales stated that President Trump was sworn in as the 47th President on Monday, January 20, 2025. There were numerous executive orders that went into effect immediately that McGuireWoods will be keeping an eye on. He referenced the 90-day pause ordered on funding appropriated under the Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure for Jobs Act. These acts will be monitored, as there is not enough clarity as to what funding is being paused. The March 14 budget deadline set forth in Washington will also be monitored. Bales indicated that Congress is operating under a continuing resolution for fiscal year 2024 funding levels. Congress is currently waiting on spending levels to be established.

McGuireWoods consultant Mossos stated that the new General Assembly was sworn in on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. The House revealed their new committees on January 21, and the Senate has only announced Committee Chairs at this time. The full list will be presented soon. Mossos announced that on February 7 will be the final deadline for new bills to be filed. So far, there have been over 1,800 bills and resolutions filed that are currently under review. February 19 will be the deadline for the Governor's Budget Address. The state is expected to face a \$3B shortfall. Deputy Governor Manar sent a memo to agencies in November 2024 stating this financial shortfall, and instructing them to look for savings as best they can.

McGuireWoods consultant Sherwood highlighted that the budget is going to be the primary objective this spring for both chambers. This budget will be the most difficult they have had since Governor Pritzker came into office, simply because of the massive shortfall. Sherwood believes this will be long and contentious process, and there will be potential spending cuts, and increases in revenue. Much discussion ensued.

Committee Chairman Gumz referenced two proposed bills for the 2025 Legislative session. One bill addressed the outstanding issues with the Kane County Cougars. The second bill addressed the Fabyan Parkway property issue for Historic Land for Public & Private Purposes. Gumz provided her consensus to moving these bills forward. She asked consultants from McGuireWoods to review these bills for the drafting deadline.

McGuireWoods Consultant Sherwood noted that these are not the final versions of the bill. These will need to be submitted in time for the drafting deadline in order to move forward with amendment negotiations and various changes.

McGuireWoods Consultant Mossos stated that these are two different bills. One bill only applies specifically to the Kane County Cougars and allows that transfer to occur. The other bill is of general applicability that will apply to counties across the state. In terms of leasing state property, Mossos believes the Kane County Cougars bill will be less controversial. Much discussion ensued. Committee provided their consensus to move the bills forward.

Transportation Chief Deputy Dir. Rickert stated that the Division of Transportation is currently working with other transportation agencies for the Regional Brochure. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMap) is getting closer to finalizing the

brochure and it will be available for legislators both at the federal and state level soon. The Randall at Hopps Road project as well as other Randall Road enhancements on the north end of the county are mentioned in the brochure. Rickert mentioned that he and his staff continue to have discussions about the Metropolitan Mobility Agency request. He continues to communicate with Jackie Forbes regarding issues, and is looking at all options in order to enhance the ability to make transit better in the region. Lastly, Rickert highlighted the request for "Quick-Take" powers for the acquisition for improvements on Randall and Hopps Road. Quick-Take is a procedure in Illinois that allows the government to quickly acquire property for public use. He stated that Kane County Division of Transportation (KDOT) staff recommends to pursue Quick-Take legislation in order to meet the obligation of starting this project by September 30, 2026. The overall project will cost \$60M. This would repair the skew angle of the intersection at Hopps Road, flatten the super elevation, and widen Randall Road to three lanes for both north and south directions. There will be a public hearing on Wednesday, January 29 to discuss land acquisitions and easements for nine property owners. Much discussion ensued.

## 7. **Old Business**

### A. Kane County Legislative Agenda FY25

Chairman Gumz stated that she will present a draft agenda for the FY25 Legislative Committee at the next meeting.

### B. Solar Task Force Update

Environ. Water & Res. Dir. Wollnik provided updates on the Kane County Solar Task Force. She stated final comments from the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) on the proposed changes were received. They plan to file soon. The most recent changes to the Wind and Solar Law were the Agriculture Impact Mitigation Agreements (AIMA). It is believed that the 60-day review period is not sufficient enough for counties to review the document. An extension on the timeline was requested. Wollnik highlighted the proposed language that will be incorporated into revisions specifically addressing concerns on solar fields, and municipal planning areas. A statement will be incorporated regarding the municipals adopted comprehensive plan, in which this would provide the county the ability to deny a solar permit, as well if substantial infrastructure investments have been made on the property.

**8. Co-chair Comments**

Co-Chairman Linder addressed the issue with the Kane County Cougars property bill. He believes this process is not in proper order, but is optimistic about it passing.

**9. Executive Session (if needed)**

None.

**10. Adjournment**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jon Gripe
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mavis Bates

This meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Rachel Santora  
Recording Secretary