



# Kane County

## KC Judicial/Public Safety Committee

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

### Meeting Minutes

MOLINA, Lenert, Gumz, Linder, Roth, Tepe, Williams & ex-officio Pierog (County Chair)

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**Thursday, November 14, 2024**

**9:00 AM**

**County Board Room**

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**1. Call To Order**

Chairman Molina called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**2. Roll Call**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Board Member Myrna Molina Board Member Bill Lenert Board Member Michelle Gumz Board Member Michael Linder Board Member Bill Roth Board Member Vern Tepe
<b>REMOTE</b>	Board Member Rick Williams
<b>ABSENT</b>	Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. Members Juby\*, Kenyon; KaneComm Dir. Guthrie; OEM Dir. Buziecki; Chief Judge Villa; Court Admin. O'Brien & staff Mathis; State's Attorney Mosser\*; Public Defender Conant; Court Svcs. Exec. Dir. Aust; Circuit Clk. Barreiro; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public.

**3. Remote Attendance Requests**

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

(Committee Member Williams arrived remotely at 9:01 a.m.)

**4. Approval of Minutes: October 10, 2024**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Vern Tepe

**5. Public Comment**

None.

**6. Monthly Financial Reports****A. Monthly Finance Reports**

Chairman Molina stated the monthly financial reports were on file. No additional report was made.

**7. Merit Commission**

None.

**8. KaneComm (M. Guthrie)****A. Monthly Report**

KaneComm Dir. Guthrie stated the monthly report was on file. She reported that October was a busy month. Calls for services increased by 800 and phone calls increased to 1,350. The majority of the calls for service was for fire agencies. There was a number of field fires that contributed to these increases.

**9. Emergency Management(S. Buziecki)****A. Monthly Report**

OEM Dir. Buziecki stated the monthly report was on file. He reported that in October 2024, volunteer hours have trended up. So far this year, there have been 12,500 volunteer hours, which is approximately 1K over last year. If averages continue, volunteer hours for November will hit 13K, which is an all-time high for the department. In October 2024, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) had a graduation ceremony for 11 new volunteers. This winter, OEM will begin a new member academy. Currently, there are eight people signed up. Buziecki explained that OEM started their Threat and Hazardous Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). This assessment is completed approximately every three years. The results from this assessment will inform OEM's next Emergency Operations Plan, which staff has begun working on. The plan is due March 2026. The plan will identify the top 10 hazards that OEM will need to plan for. Buziecki reported that OEM held a Crisis Team Tabletop in October regarding an active shooter incident at the Kane County Government Center, Building A. An after-action report will be forthcoming at next month's Committee meeting. He stated that on November 15, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center, Building A, OEM will be hosting the Kane County Natural Hazard Mitigation meeting. This meeting will be the first follow-up that OEM is required to do annually after the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved earlier this year. At the meeting, OEM will be meeting with all municipalities to ensure their adoption of the plan and to provide information on how they can apply for hazard mitigation grants. Buziecki addressed questions and comments from the Committee.

**B. Authorizing FY2024 Budget Adjustment for the Office of Emergency Management**

OEM Dir. Buziecki provided additional information on this resolution. He addressed questions and comments from the Committee.

KC Finance and Budget Committee

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>TO:</b>	KC Finance and Budget Committee
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Roth
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Vern Tepe
<b>AYE:</b>	Myrna Molina, Bill Lenert, Michelle Gumz, Michael Linder, Bill Roth, Vern Tepe, and Rick Williams
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Corinne M. Pierog

**10. Sheriff/Adult Corrections (R. Hain)****A. Monthly Report**

Chairman Molina stated the Sheriff's monthly report was on file. No additional report was made.

**11. Coroner (R. Russell)****A. Monthly Report**

Chairman Molina stated the monthly report was on file. No additional report was made.

**12. Judiciary & Courts (Villa/O'Brien)**

Chief Judge Villa stated that with the retirement of Judge Hull, which was effective in August 2024, the judiciary has been down one circuit judge. With the election, Judge Sandra Parga will become the new circuit judge. Villa explained that he had received pleasant comments about the County Board passing a resolution that approved green lights being placed outside of select government buildings commemorating Veterans' Day. He urged the Board to continue this every year. Villa spoke on the specialty court graduation that occurred on November 4, 2024. He invited everyone to attend these graduations, which are motivational and inspiring.

**13. State's Attorney (J. Mosser)****A. Monthly Report**

State's Attorney Mosser stated the monthly report was on file. She explained that she participated in the Attorney General's Office's Statewide Conviction Integrity Unit meeting. She stated that having a Conviction Integrity Unit is crucial for prosecutor offices to ensure convictions are solid. These attorneys would review each case for actual innocence. Mosser stated that this unit is a

proper thing for any State's Attorney's Office (SAO) to have to ensure the integrity of convictions. She explained that the State's Attorney General's Office has been working on this unit for years, and just recently was granted federal funding. As a result, if Kane County has any cases that are requested to be reviewed for actual innocence, the SAO will be able to send these to the Attorney General's Office. Mosser stated she is grateful for this partnership. Mosser addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Discussion ensued.

**14. Public Defender (R. Conant)**

**A. Monthly Report**

Public Defender Conant stated the monthly report was on file. She announced the her office has began the construction of five additional offices and a conference room. The project is anticipated to last about six weeks. She will provide an update and photographs of the new spaces at the January Committee meeting.

**15. Court Services Administration (L. Aust)**

**A. Monthly Report**

Court Srvs. Exec. Dir. Aust stated the following two reports were on file. No additional reports were made.

**B. JJC Housing Report**

**C. Kane County Juvenile Detention Inspection Report**

Court Srvs. Exec. Dir. Aust introduced the 2024 Kane County Juvenile Detention Inspection Report. She explained that there was originally 16 juvenile detention facilities in Illinois, but there are currently only 13 operational facilities. She stated that Kane County continues to be a leader in the juvenile detention area throughout the State. She explained that this report highlights Kane County Juvenile Justice Center's (JJC) programs and staff and that they are continuing to do an excellent job. Aust highlighted the JJC's education program and the accomplishments it has had. She reported that Kane County was chosen to host the Administration of Illinois Court's (AOIC) "Youth are Worth it" event. At this event, multiple judges and former juvenile residents attended. Recent residents were able to tell their story and how the JJC helped them to become successful in life. Aust explained that juvenile brains are elastic and at this age it is the perfect time to do intervention. She commended the JJC on their work and continued good publicity.

Chief Judge Villa added that this was the first time the State of Illinois has ever hosted a collaborative event. He was pleased to know that Kane County was selected. At the event, there was substantial recognition for Kane County. He anticipates that this will become an annual event.

Aust spoke on the County's economic status. She explained that over the next few months, she intends to highlight each department that makes up Court

Services. This month, she highlighted the JJC. Currently, the State of Illinois only has 13 juvenile detention centers left. The Kane County's JJC annual budget is approximately \$5M, with Court Services total budget being about \$13M. The JJC consumes the vast amount of Court Services' budget. Aust explained that she has asked the State of Illinois to provide more staffing in order to house more juveniles from around the state. She explained the financial aspect of housing more juveniles. She shared a graph depicting the Illinois juvenile detention center's average daily population by County as of October 2024. Aust stated that Court Services has continued to work hard on increasing revenue and the per diem charged to other counties to maximize the number of employees that are being paid by the State of Illinois. She noted that out of the \$5M budget, Kane County only pays \$400K per year for the entire JJC operation. However, if Aust needs to hire other counties to house juveniles at \$175 per day, that would be over \$1M Kane County would need to pay. Aust stated that she will go deeper into this subject starting next year. Aust addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Discussion ensued.

**D. Notification of Renewal of Sex Offender Treatment Services**

Court Srvs. Exec. Dir. Aust introduced this resolution. She provided additional information.

KC Executive Committee

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>TO:</b>	KC Executive Committee
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Roth
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Lenert
<b>AYE:</b>	Myrna Molina, Bill Lenert, Michelle Gumz, Michael Linder, Bill Roth, Vern Tepe, and Rick Williams
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Corinne M. Pierog

**16. Circuit Clerk (T. Barreiro)**

**A. Monthly Report**

Circuit Clk. Barreiro stated the monthly report was on file. She reported that the Circuit Clerk's Office has collected \$65K in collections. In October, 701 cases were sent to the County's collection agency, Harris and Harris. These cases totaled approximately \$409K. Barreiro noted that the County will not receive all the collections at once and it will span over a year. She reported that case filings have increased, and are on track from what was anticipated. She stated that the office is down five Deputy Clerks. Applications have been scarce, but they have continued interviewing. Barreiro spoke on the increase to the minimum salary for Deputy Clerks, but this increase has already fallen behind other surrounding circuit clerk offices.

Chief Judge Villa spoke on the data collection dashboard that was created by former Chief Judge Hull. This dashboard was one of the first in the state and has been adopted by a number of different counties. Villa explained that five of these counties will be highlighted at this week's Chief Judges Conference. He noted that all seven of the Supreme Court Justices will be in Chicago attending this conference. He anticipates being told, due to aggressive litigation regarding the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and other related issues, that the Supreme Court will use Kane County's model of the data collection dashboard. He noted that this data collection is mandated by the Illinois SAFE-T Act. To the point, whether Kane County likes it or not, the Circuit Clerk's Office will need the support in hiring adequate staff to collect the necessary data. At next month's Committee meeting, Villa will report the Supreme Courts seriousness on this data collection and the hiring of adequate staff. Villa and Barreiro addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Discussion ensued.

**17. Old Business**

None.

**18. New Business**

None.

**19. Place Written Reports on File**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Vern Tepe

**20. Executive Session (If Needed)**

None.

**21 Adjournment**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Roth
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Michael Linder

This meeting was adjourned at 9:36 AM.

Savannah Valdez  
Sr. Recording Secretary