



# Kane County

## KC Public Health Committee

### Meeting Minutes

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

STRATHMANN, Sanchez, Arroyo, Juby, Penesis, Tarver, Young, ex-officios Roth (County Vice Chair) and Pierog (County Chair)

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

9:00 AM

County Board Room

#### 2025 Committee Goals

- Monitor health status and understand health issues facing community
- Protect people from health problems and health hazards
- Enforce public health laws

#### 1. Call To Order

Chairman Strathmann called today's meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

#### 2. Roll Call

<b>PRESENT</b>	Board Member Cheryl Strathmann Board Member Alex Arroyo Board Member Leslie Juby Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Bill Roth
<b>REMOTE</b>	Board Member Jarett Sanchez Board Member Ted Penesis Board Member Bill Tarver Board Member David Young
<b>ABSENT</b>	Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. members Allan\*, Bates; Gripe, Gumz; Kious\*, Linder, Molina\*; Tepe\*; KCAC Admin. Youngsteadt; KCHD Exec. Dir. Isaacson and staff Alleman, Barrett; Koral; Onwuta, Del Toro; Peterson; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public including Clinical Health Assistant Del Toro, Asst. Dir. Environmental Health Wiegel, and Environmental Health Supervisor Johnson.

#### 3. Remote Attendance Requests

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

#### 4. Approval of Minutes: March 19, 2025

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Roth

**5. Public Comment**

Kane County resident and nurse Jean Meyer stated that low iodine and high fluoride leads to hypothyroidism. She explained that low iodine is one of the leading causes of mental retardation, and that hypothyroidism leads to obesity, oppression, and mental diseases. She highlighted that fluoride is not only used to make steel, and aluminum, but it is an ingredient in toothpaste. Meyer strongly encouraged all individuals to be careful when purchasing oral products, and to be mindful of toxic ingredients like fluoride.

**6. Finance/Budget****A. Monthly Report**

The monthly report is on file. No additional report was made.

**7. Animal Control****A. Monthly Report**

Kane County Animal Control (KCAC) Youngsteadt stated that the monthly report is on file. He announced that there were thirteen kittens delivered and two stray cats that were brought in as strays. The first vaccine clinic will be on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lastly, Youngsteadt noted that interviews for a part-time veterinarian will be conducted today at 1:00 p.m.

**8. Executive Director****A. Health Department Updates**

Kane County Health Department (KCHD) Exec. Dir. Isaacson introduced and paid tribute to Clinical Health Assistant Olga Del Toro for her thirty years of service to the Kane County Health Department, and wished her well on her retirement. He also acknowledged Del Toro's team including Asst. Dir. Environmental Health Wiegel, and Environmental Health Supervisor Johnson for all the great work they do.

**B. 988 Awareness Campaign**

Kane County Health Department (KCHD) Health Promotions Manager Tina Koral presented information about the 988 Awareness Campaign. She stated that the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a free, confidential supportive to people in distress and is available 24/7. The lifeline launched nationally in July 2022 to replace 1-800-273-TALK with an easier-to-remember number. The lifeline connects callers with trained crisis counselors to support individuals experiencing mental health crises, suicide thoughts, or emotional distress. Individuals should call 988 if they are feeling overwhelmed, anxious, or in distress, as well as having suicidal thoughts or self-harm. People who are struggling with substance use or addiction should also use this lifeline. Koral noted that 988 is not a substitute for 911. She stated that 988 can be accessed by dialing or texting 988, or visiting [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org) to chat online with a trained counselor. The 988 lifeline offers specialized support for veterans and their families, Spanish-speaking services, and interpretation for over 240 languages. When Kane County residents call 988, they will be connected to a trained crisis counselor from Suicide Prevention Services of America in Batavia. These counselors will listen and provide support, assess the situation and their needs. They will then offer coping strategies and crisis intervention. Local mental health services and resources are offered, if needed. Koral explained that when additional in-person support is needed, a mobile crisis response team may be dispatched to provide assistance. Kane County services are offered by Association for Individual Development in Aurora, Ecker Center for Behavioral Health in Elgin, and Family Services Associates for Greater Elgin. Koral reviewed the 988 data usage for Kane County in 2024. Koral reviewed the campaign background and explained the needs assessment for the 988 Lifeline. In 2024, the KCHD Community Health Assessment identified mental health as a focus area. The Kane County Board approved \$10M in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for mental health support. In December 2024 and January of this year, the Behavioral Health Communications Campaign survey identified the need for awareness of mental health issues, resources, and stigma reduction. In January 2025, the KCHD 988 Lifeline Awareness survey further identified the need for public awareness. The campaign will run from May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month, through September, which is Suicide Awareness Month. There will be a Safe Kane County Drive-Thru Pickup event on Friday, April 25, 2025 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. held at the Kane County Circuit Clerk Parking Lot in St. Charles. 988 Lifeline yard signs, window clings, and bumper stickers will be available for pickup. Residents can also pick up gun trigger locks, biometric gun safes, and naloxone opioid overdoses reversing nasal spray. Koral addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Much discussion ensued.

**C. Authorizing Budget Adjustment for the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Response Grant**

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>	Leslie Juby
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Alex Arroyo
<b>AYE:</b>	Cherryl Strathmann, Jarett Sanchez, Alex Arroyo, Leslie Juby, Ted Penesis, Bill Tarver, David Young, and Bill Roth
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Corinne M. Pierog

**D. Authorizing Adoption of 2024-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan by Kane County Board**

Kane County Health Department (KCHD) Dir. of Planning and Information Management Alleman presented information on the Community Health Improvement Planning, including the significant health needs, poll results, priority areas, primary care access, food access, and housing.

KC Executive Committee

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>TO:</b>	KC Executive Committee
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Tarver
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ted Penesis
<b>AYE:</b>	Cherryl Strathmann, Alex Arroyo, Leslie Juby, Ted Penesis, Bill Tarver, and Bill Roth
<b>NAY:</b>	David Young
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Corinne M. Pierog
<b>AWAY:</b>	Jarett Sanchez

**9. Old Business**

None.

**10. Reports Placed On File**

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

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

None.

**12. New Business**

None.

**13. Adjournment**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Roth
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Alex Arroyo

This meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Rachel Santora

Recording Secretary