



# Kane County

## KC Legislative Committee

### Meeting Minutes

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

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

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**Wednesday, August 21, 2024**

**10:30 AM**

**County Board Room**

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**1. Call To Order**

Chairman Gumz called today's meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**2. Roll Call**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Board Member Michelle Gumz Board Member Mavis Bates Board Member Cherryl Strathmann Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Vern Tepe
<b>REMOTE</b>	Board Member Gary Daugherty Board Member Myrna Molina Board Member Monica Silva
<b>ABSENT</b>	Board Member Michael Linder Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog

Also present: Co. Bd. members Kious\*, Juby\*, Roth; KDOT Dep. Dir. Rickert; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public.

**3. Remote Attendance Requests**

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

**4. Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2024 & April 29, 2024**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Cherryl Strathmann

**5. Public Comment (Agenda Items)**

None.

**6. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)**

None.

**7. Old Business**

**A.** Supporting State Legislation Authorizing Counties to Lease Buildings and Land  
KC Executive Committee

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FORWARD BY ROLL CALL VOTE</b>
<b>TO:</b>	KC Executive Committee
<b>MOVER:</b>	Cherryl Strathmann
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mavis Bates
<b>AYE:</b>	Michelle Gumz, Michael Linder, Mavis Bates, Gary Daugherty, Cherryl Strathmann, and Vern Tepe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Myrna Molina, Monica Silva, and Corinne M. Pierog

B. Legislative Agenda FY2025- discussion only (not attached)

Chairman Gumz handed out a sheet listing Legislative agenda items and potential goals for FY2025. She asked the Committee to review them for discussion. A resolution will then be presented at next month's Legislative meeting for a potential vote. Chairman Gumz stated that the Kane County Legislative Agenda is guided by a set of values that align with our mission statement. She reviewed the Legislative mission statement. She asked the Committee if they had any amendments to the language. Committee Member Bates asked to add the word "sustainability" to the mission statement. The Committee agreed to this change. Gumz stated that the Legislative Committee works with all county offices to identify, review, and affirm support or opposition of legislation both at the State and Federal level. She pointed out that the legislative committee works throughout the county. It is important that the agenda is in writing and approved by the County Board. Committee Member Linder suggested to include "departments and elected offices" to this item. Chairman Gumz indicated that Board Members who have relationships with legislators all need to be maintained, and identified in a written form on a Legislative Committee webpage. She reviewed the goals of the Kane County Legislative Committee and hopes to get consensus of the goals. She asked the Committee if anyone wanted to make any changes or additions to the legislative goals. She noted that the goals need to be put in writing in case there are requests from committees or from the Chairman. This will provide a standard by which the legislative committee will follow. The Committee came to an agreement on these terms. Chairman Gumz reviewed the goal of supporting legislation that maintains local government control. She pointed out the issue of inability to do certain things, as a result of legislation that has changed in Springfield. She believes that Kane County needs to maintain autonomy at the county level.

Committee Member Stathmann agreed with the suggestion, but was concerned about how to phrase the statement for better clarity. Chairman Gumz stated that the intent is to communicate to residents the legislative actions taking place in Springfield and Washington. Discussion ensued. Chairman Gumz reviewed the goal opposing unfunded mandates imposed by state or federal government. She believes that if there is any legislation that imposes unfunded mandates, Kane County should oppose them. She reviewed the goal that states the Kane County Legislative Committee receives potential bills for the legislative agenda from county departments and elected officials' offices. The Legislative Committee reviews these potential legislative items with the elected county officials and the county's lobbyists to identify priorities. These items are then approved by the County Board annually. Chairman Gumz reviewed the goal that states the Kane County Legislative Committee recognizes that the legislative landscape is very fluid. As such, the following process shall be used to amend the legislative agenda. She noted that bills will pop up randomly, therefore the Committee needs a standard by which the Committee addresses those. Chairman Gumz presented the question of how can a member of the Board seek a position on a specific piece of legislation. She suggested a member can attend the legislative committee and ask the committee to take a position on a bill. Another suggestion she made was to meet with the standing committee for which the bill pertains to and makes a request on behalf of the committee. They ask the Legislative Committee to take a position on the bill. She addressed the witness slip submission guidelines on specific bills. She stated

that a County Board member, County Board Chair, or the county's lobbyists may submit a witness slip on the county's behalf for specific legislation when the Legislative Agenda is clear about the position it holds, as it pertains to the specific legislative issue. She presented a second suggestion stating that a witness slip can be submitted on a specific bill on behalf of the county when an action is taken by the County Board or the Legislative Committee.

Lastly, Chairman Gumz suggested that individual Board Members are not restricted in submitting witness slips in their individual capacity. She suggested there be a process and policy that indicates if the committee is going to support something on the behalf of the county. They need to be within the guidelines that were set in the agenda. Committee Member Daugherty indicated that it is inappropriate for any Board Member to represent the Board when it is not of the opinion of full Board. Much discussion ensued.

Gumz concluded the discussion recommending to include a short history of Kane County, and identify who our Kane County Legislators are with an email link on a county webpage. Committee Member Tepe suggested to continue to inform and communicate with Chairman Gumz and Co-Chair Linder in order to achieve legislative tasks efficiently.

**8. New Business**

KDOT Dep. Dir., Rickert, provided an update on the legislative efforts with respect to the Longmeadow project. The funding requests for the project is approximately \$30M. Lawmakers approved \$17.5M, and the \$12.5M is in process. He hopes the funds will be received before the end of the fiscal year. Ricker then addressed the Randall Road and Hopps Road intersection. A total of \$12M of Increased Cost of Compliance Funds (ICC) received for the grade separation project. Rickert indicated that the Illinois Route 31 and Fabyan Parkway project is listed as a high priority, as well as the I-90 at Randall Road Interchange. Congressional Leaders have received the primary documents for all regional projects in the Chicago region that will be utilized to help prioritize projects moving forward. He highlighted that the Randall Road at US-20 project is currently moving forward into Phase I engineering. There have been ongoing discussions regarding the Regional Transportation Transit funding issues. A Senate Public hearing will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. There will be a number of representatives at the municipal county level at this hearing providing their testimonies. Much discussion ensued.

Board Member Roth announced that there will be a 5th Annual Constitution Day celebration held on Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Three Fires Boy Scout Council in St. Charles. He indicated that a request for a proclamation was made by the AMVETS (American Veterans). He discussed the proclamation with the State's Attorney Office, and they suggested that a draft of the proclamation be sent to the Legislative Committee for approval. Roth asked the Committee for approval to forward it to the next County Board meeting scheduled on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. There will also be a fundraiser on Monday, September 9, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Committee Members recommended the proclamation be sent directly to the County Chair's office.

**9. Co-Chair Comments**

Co-Chair Linder stated that today's meeting was very productive, and agrees with the idea that all Legislative Committee policies and agenda items need to be in written form.

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

None.

**11. Reports Placed On File**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mavis Bates

**12. Adjournment**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Cherryl Strathmann
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mavis Bates

This meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Rachel Santora  
Recording Secretary