



# Kane County

## KC Agriculture Committee

### Meeting Minutes

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

KENYON, Roth, Allan, Juby, Lenert, Sanchez, Williams, ex-officios Pierog (County Chair) and Tepe (County Vice Chair)

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**Thursday, October 17, 2024**

**10:30 AM**

**County Board Room**

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**1. Call To Order**

Chairman Kenyon called today's meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

**2. Roll Call**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Board Member Michael Kenyon Board Member Bill Roth Board Member Deborah Allan Board Member Leslie Juby Board Member Bill Lenert Board Member Rick Williams
<b>ABSENT</b>	Board Member Jarett Sanchez Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Vern Tepe

Also present: Co. Bd. members Molina\*; Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff and staff Tansley and Thavong; ASA Spec. Shepro\*; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public.

**3. Remote Attendance Requests**

There were no remote attendance requests for today's meeting.

**4. Approval of Minutes: September 19, 2024**

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

**5. Public Comment**

None.

**6. Partners**

No report was made.

**7. Presentations/Announcements****A. Food and Farm Resiliency Grant Program Updates (Matt Tansley, Planner)**

Dev. Planner, Tansley, provided an update on the Food and Farm Resiliency Grant Program. He stated that the application period opened on Friday October 20. The application period will remain open for 18 days. Staff has conducted a review of applicants to determine their eligibility for funding and individual award amounts. The marketing promotion included the Growing for Kane E-newsletter, Kane County Connects, Kane County Farmer Bureau publication, Kane-Dupage Soil and Water Conservation District E-newsletter, and hand-delivered program flyers. Tansley also indicated that direct e-mail and phone calls were made to 70+ Kane County food growers. He reviewed the criteria used to determine applicant eligibility and the requirements. (Committee Member Allan arrived at 10:47 a.m.) Tansley reviewed the core elements of the grant application, including a series of questions. The last section of the application asks applicants to itemize their expenses. Applicants have the opportunity to request reimbursements for expenses acquired dating back to March of 2021. Applicants can also request future reimbursements for expenses expected to incur up to September of 2025. There were 29 total applications received, and a total of \$1,093,783 in funding requests. The amount of requests received ranged from \$10K to \$50K. After all applications were reviewed, it was determined that nineteen applicants met the eligibility requirements. The next steps will be for the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Committee to submit a resolution to approve the program recipients and their award amount at the October 30 meeting. The County Board will consider the resolution in November. Individual grant agreements will be executed between the county, and each recipient no later than December 31, 2024 to obligate the program funds. Lastly, the approved grant recipients may submit eligible claims for reimbursement after January 1, 2025.

**B. Historic Preservation - Announcement of \$750,000 National Park Service Paul Bruhn Rural Revitalization Grant (Julia Thavong, Preservation Planner)**

Preservation Planner, Thavong, stated that Kane County received \$750K from the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant from the National Park Service. The purpose of the grant is to support economic development through the preservation of historic buildings in rural communities across the country. This grant supports improvements to historic buildings to preserve America's cultural resources while benefiting local economies. This year, \$12.125M was awarded to seventeen sub-grant programs in fifteen states. Thavong stated that the program will provide sub grants to property owners in rural agricultural areas of Kane County. The program will make a visible impact on those buildings that receive funding. Each recipient will be able to better utilize buildings, drawing more visitors, and generate revenue that can be invested for future development and rehabilitation in the future. The eligibility requirements for the program are that the property must be in a rural part of the county, and the property must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places by conclusion of program in 2027. In an effort to have as many structures eligible to apply for the grant program, staff will develop a Kane County multi-property nomination for the National Register. The project requirements will be that the work done must adhere to the Secretary of the Interiors Standard for Rehabilitation of Historic Structures. Upon completion, there will be either a covenant or a preservation easement on the building, which will be based on the amount of the grant received, and a project sign must be installed. Thavong noted that staff will develop sub-grant program guidelines, application materials, an agreement template, and a project sign template. Applicants will create their own scope of work and hire their own architect, if needed, and their own contractor. Discussion ensued.

**8. New Business**

None.

**9. Reports Placed On File**

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

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

None.

**11. Adjournment**

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

This meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Rachel Santora  
Recording Secretary