



Kane County

KC Energy and Environmental Committee

Meeting Minutes

BATES, Tarver, Allan, Kious, Roth, Strathmann, Young, ex-officios Pierog (County Chair), and Tepe (County Vice Chair)

Friday, April 12, 2024

9:00 AM

County Board Room

1. Call To Order

Chairman Bates called today's meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT	Board Member Mavis Bates Board Member Deborah Allan Board Member Chris Kious Board Member Bill Roth Board Member David Young
REMOTE	Board Member Bill Tarver Board Member Cheryl Strathmann
ABSENT	Ex-Officio County Board Chair Corinne M. Pierog Ex-Officio County Board Vice Chair Vern Tepe

Also present: Co. Bd. members Gumz*, Juby*, Lewis; Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff; Recycling Res. Coordinator Ryan; Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw; ITD staff Peters; and members of the press and public.

3. Remote Attendance Requests

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

4. Approval of Minutes: March 15, 2024

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Chris Kious

5. Public Comment (Agenda Items)

None.

6. Public Comment (Non- Agenda Items)

None.

7. Environmental (J.Wollnik)

A. Proposed Hydrogen Storage Facility

Dev. Dir. VanKerkhoff shared several slides with information on Kane County and the Emerging Hydrogen Economy. He highlighted several facts on how Kane County is working to be ahead of the curve in planning for and welcoming appropriate components of the hydrogen economy. Hydrogen will be necessary to support broad de-carbonization scenarios, and can contribute across the economy, from chemical inputs, low carbon fuels, to resilient power. VanKerkhoff explained the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen (MachH2) and that it is a multi-state coalition of public and private entities representing every phase in the hydrogen value chain. To learn more information about the MachH2 you can go to the website MachH2.com. VanKerkhoff indicated that the estimates for the hydrogen market in Illinois could be as large as \$654M by 2030 and upwards of \$4.6B by 2050. He explained that clean hydrogen will create more clean energy jobs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and position America to compete in the clean energy market on a global scale. Nicor Gas can be a strategic partner for customers looking to incorporate hydrogen into its businesses. VanKerkhoff stated that transit agencies across the nation have been investigating, and operating alternatives such as hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (FCEB's). New and innovative technologies may be invented and developed in the coming years which may be of interest to Pace. He stated that both the development staff and lobbyists are researching a variety of Department of Energy programs that will support the Hydrogen future. VanKerkhoff addressed questions and comments from the Committee. Much discussion ensued.

8. Recycling/Solid Waste (C. Ryan)

A. 2023 in Review: Curbside, Centers & Events

Recycling Coordinator Ryan shared the county's total of residential curbside material. The County reported 184K households with curbside hauling services. The total household discards in 2023 was 253,915 tons. (Committee Member Allan arrived at 9:36 a.m.) Ryan recognized Kane County's top curbside recyclers for 2023, which include Pinegree Grove, St. Charles, Algonquin, Gilberts, and North Aurora. She highlighted that the Pop-up Recycling at Geneva Park District Earth Day Celebration will be April 20, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Peck Farm Park. The KCR-hosted spring Shred n' More event will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Circuit Clerk's Building.

9. Sustainability (S.Hinshaw)

A. Judicial Center Solar Project

Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw stated that the initial savings from the Judicial Solar Project was in the amount of \$926 in December 2023. This is half of one percent of the anticipated production over a year period. Hinshaw stated that she will continue to update the Committee on the Kane County Judicial Solar Project data as it becomes available.

B. April 2024 Sustainability Updates

Sustainability Mgr. Hinshaw stated that the Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Program is back. Individuals must pre-order bins before May 5, 2024, and mail orders are due by May 2, 2024. The cost of rain barrels are \$69.50 each and the stationary composters are \$75.50 each. Pick up times will be on Friday, May 10, 2024, at Creek Bend Nature Center at the LeRoy Oaks Forest Preserve in St. Charles from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Hinshaw announced that the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant was submitted April 1, 2024. The total budget for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant was \$114M, and the Greenhouse Gas reduction total was \$81K.

10. New Business

Committee Member Young referenced a hailstorm in Texas a few months ago. He indicated that the glass of a large Cadmium Telluride solar panel farm had shattered. Due to this incident, individuals are now worried about the shattered remains going into the soil and into their drinking water. Young expressed to the Committee that this is something to be aware of for installing solar panels.

11. Chairs Comments

Chairman Bates announced that in Oklahoma a new facility that recycles lithium batteries. She also shared that she attended a successful Tree Ordinance Seminar on April 11, 2024.

12. Reports Placed On File

RESULT:	APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT
MOVER:	Chris Kious

13. Executive Session (if needed)

None.

14. Adjournment

RESULT:	APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Bill Roth
SECONDER:	David Young

This meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Rachel Santora
Recording Secretary