



Kane County

KC Agriculture Committee

Agenda

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

JUBY, Roth, Allan, Lenert, Penesis, Sanchez, Williams and ex-officio Pierog (County Chair)

Thursday, November 20, 2025

10:30 AM

County Board Room

2025 Committee Goals

Goals from the July Agriculture Committee meeting

- Revise County Code Definition of the Agriculture Committee
 - Awareness & Support of Agriculture - Raise public awareness and support for agriculture in Kane County as an industry sector and community resource
 - Farmland Protection - Work in concert with the Farmland Protection Commission and County Board to oversee the successful implementation of Kane County's Farmland Protection Ordinance and related conservation efforts, and pursue funding
 - Continue Growing for Kane Program - Direct the implementation of programs and policies that expand the production of locally grown foods and improve community access to fresh and healthy food choices, and pursue funding
 - Continue partnerships with Kane County Farm Bureau and Northern Illinois Food Bank
 - Implement current grant funded projects
 - Continue to apply for additional outside grants
 - Implement economic development projects for Agriculture
 - ARPA Small grants for farmers
 - Other projects identified by the Economic Development Strategic Plan for Kane County
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- 1. Call To Order**
 - 2. Roll Call**
 - 3. Remote Attendance Requests**
 - 4. Approval of Minutes: October 23, 2025**
 - 5. Public Comment**
 - 6. Partners**
 - A.** Kane County Farm Bureau Updates (Steve Arnold, Manager)
 - B.** Kane-DuPage Soil and Water Conservation District Updates (Kat Gerdtz, Administrative Coordinator)
 - C.** Northern Illinois Food Bank Updates
 - 7. Presentations/Announcements**
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- A. Agriculture Committee 2026 Goals Discussion
- B. **Ordinance:** Amending Section 2-48 of the Kane County Code (Standing Committees) to Revise Language Related to the Agriculture Committee

- 8. **New Business**
- 9. **Reports Placed On File**
- 10. **Executive Session (if needed)**
- 11. **Adjournment**

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF KANE) SS.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-1426

KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU UPDATES (STEVE ARNOLD, MANAGER)

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS.

COUNTY OF KANE)

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-1427

KANE-DUPAGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT UPDATES (KAT GERDTS, ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR)



Kane-DuPage
Soil & Water
Conservation
District

Kane County Ag Update

November 2025

- IDOA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) - no till/strip till
3 inquiries referred to portal to apply
- Kane County Farm Weatherization Rebate in progress
- Kane County Sustainability/KDSWCD Celebration of Farms
January 22 Dinner with keynote speaker Jim Stutes
Rural Myth Busters ~
*Conservation Practices **can** have a Positive ROI*
Registration opens soon

**KDSWCD Board of Directors
Election 2026
seeking candidates for 3 seats**



STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS.

COUNTY OF KANE)

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-1428

NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK UPDATES

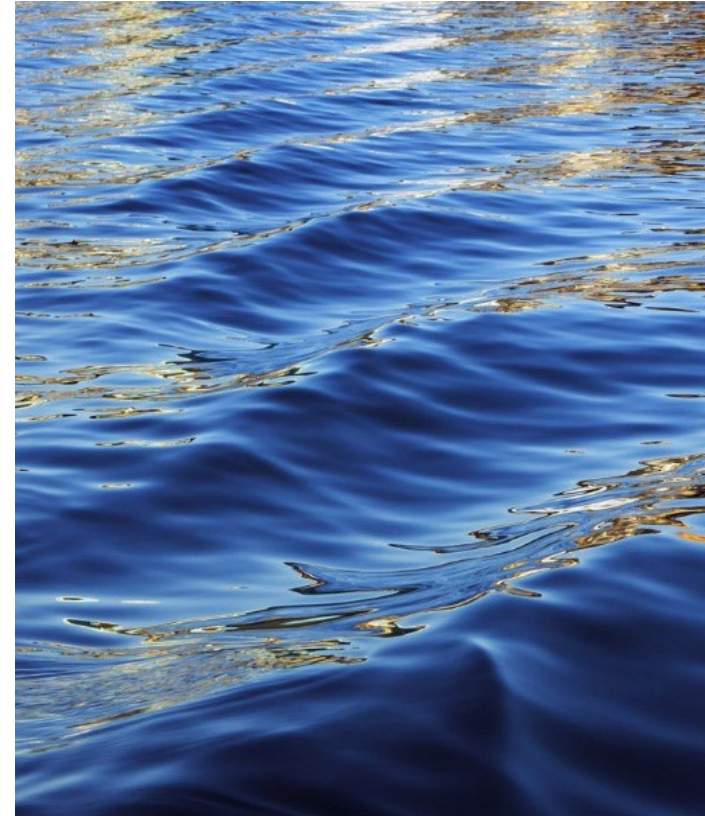
STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF KANE) SS.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION NO. TMP-25-1429
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE 2026 GOALS DISCUSSION



Agriculture Committee Goals for 2026

Kane County Agriculture Committee
November 20, 2025



Overview

Planning Division Staff met with Committee leadership to discuss potential goals for the Kane County Agriculture Committee to pursue for 2026.

The goals are intended to guide the Committee's actions throughout the year, responsive to community needs and consistent with County policies and priorities on agriculture and food access.

The following 5 goals were drafted for further review and discussion by the Committee.



1. Farmland Protection



Oversee the implementation of Kane County's Farmland Protection Program, increasing total acreage preserved for farming, improving access to farmland for future generations, and exploring new conservation strategies.

2. Growing for Kane



Direct activities aligned with the Growing for Kane Program that support Kane County's food growers with funding, technical expertise, and policy improvements to make healthy, locally grown foods more accessible.

3. Funding Advocacy



Advocate for funding to advance initiatives that support thriving farm businesses and strengthen Kane County's agricultural sector.

4. Staff Oversight



Provide oversight of County staff administering projects and programs that address the needs of farmland preservationists, agricultural businesses, food assistance organizations, and residents with limited access to fresh grown foods.

5. Raising Awareness of Agriculture

Raise community awareness of the value of agriculture in Kane County for providing economic benefits, opportunities for land stewardship, a sustainable source of healthy foods, and maintaining a historic rural heritage.



SS.

COUNTY OF KANE)

ORDINANCE NO. TMP-25-1430

AMENDING SECTION 2-48 OF THE KANE COUNTY CODE (STANDING COMMITTEES) TO REVISE LANGUAGE RELATED TO THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, section 2-48 of the Kane County Code governs the standing committees of the Kane County Board; and

WHEREAS, the Kane County Board desires to amend sections 2-48(A)(13) of the Kane County Code to revise language related to the Agriculture Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Agriculture Committee of the Kane County Board has reviewed and recommended changes to section 2-48 of the Kane County Code, which includes affirming the Committee's role in overseeing policies and initiatives that protect farmland and support local food access; and

WHEREAS, section 2-52 of the Kane County Code provides that no amendment shall be made to Division 2, Article II, Chapter 2, of the Kane County Code without the consent of the majority of the total membership of the County Board, nor on the day of introduction of the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Kane County Board that Kane County Code, Chapter 2 (Administration), Article II (County Board), Division 2 (Rules of Order), Section 2-48 (Standing Committees) is hereby amended to read as follows (underline indicates insertion of text; strike-through indicates deletion):

A. Generally: The standing committees of the County Board, each to consist of seven (7) members unless otherwise provided, shall be as follows:

* * *

13. Agriculture: This committee shall provide oversight of the County's efforts to protect farmland and support local food access, and have jurisdiction to offer assistance and technical expertise to other organizations ~~county agencies, municipalities, departments and offices~~ to address concerns unique to agriculture. Recognizing that agriculture is ~~the second~~ a leading industry in Kane County and is a land use in all 15 townships, this committee will meet periodically with organizations and groups representing farming interests to propose policies and programs ~~guidelines~~ to the County Board as needed.

Passed by the Kane County Board on January 13, 2026.

John A. Cunningham, MBA, JD, JD
Clerk, County Board
Kane County, Illinois

Corinne M. Pierog MA, MBA
Chairman, County Board
Kane County, Illinois

Vote:



RESOLUTION / ORDINANCE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ADDENDUM

Title

Amending Section 2-48 of the Kane County Code (Standing Committees) to Revise Language Related to the Agriculture Committee

Committee Flow:

Agriculture Committee, Executive Committee, County Board

Contact:

Matt Tansley, 630-232-3493

Budget Information:

Was this item budgeted? N/A	Appropriation Amount: \$N/A
If not budgeted, explain funding source: N/A	
Was this item passed through the appropriate committee? Yes	

Summary:

This ordinance amends Chapter 2 of the Kane County Code to revise the language describing the role of the Agriculture Committee.