

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Health & Environment Committee
Monday, July 17, 2017
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Gilmour at 8:34a.m.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Tony Giles - here, Matthew Prochaska – here, Judy Gilmour – here

Members Absent: John Purcell

Member Flowers arrived at 9:02a.m.

Others Present: Megan Andrews KC Soil & Water District, Dr. Amaal Tokars, KC Health Department, Steve Curatti, KC Health Department

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Member Prochaska made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Giles. **With three members present in agreement, the motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Member Prochaska made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 19, 2017, second by Member Giles. **With three members present voting aye, the motion carried.**

STATUS REPORTS

- **Board of Health** – No report
- **Health Department** – Dr. Tokars distributed copies of the NACO Prescription Discount Card, and a flyer regarding the Low-fee Dental Discounts and Low-fee Health Discounts that are now being offered to Kendall County residents. Dr. Tokars also provided an update on NACO, and stated that her staff will contact local medical and dental offices with information about the new programs being offered.

Steve Curatti updated the committee on West Nile Virus, and how the Health Department has continued to educate the community on the disease. Mr. Curatti stated that is eighty degrees and eighty percent humidity are the prime settings for mosquito infestations and breeding increase.

This year there are fourteen traps set throughout the County, and they have detected the disease in the County every year that they have had traps set. The best time for the disease to take affect is in dry, yucky weather where warm water just sits and stagnates. So far this season, Environmental Health has performed 46 individual tests on our traps. From those 46 tests, there have been three positive pools. The Health Department continues its work with

the forest preserve district, park districts, and other local entities, as well as posting information on Facebook and local newspapers about the importance of protecting yourself from mosquito bites, and seeking treatment as needed. Mr. Curatti stated there have been over 3,200 dogs in Illinois that have been infected with West Nile disease this year.

Mr. Curatti also reported that the Health Department has increased Lyme Disease surveillance in the past two years by the use of tick drags in Forest Preserves and on trails, where they collect ticks that have jumped onto a cloth. Ticks are known to be in tall grass and bushes where ticks do “questing”, where they seek carbon dioxide and heat, and become active in temperatures of 43 degrees and above. The tick dragging allowed the Health Department to identify nine deer ticks last year that tested positive with Lyme Disease. This year the Health Department has collected 16 ticks that they will send for testing. The Health Department continues to meet with Rush Copley and other local entities to educate physicians about Lyme Disease and treatment of the disease.

- **Kendall County Soil and Water District** – Megan Andrews reported that Jenny Wold is busy with additional preparations for the Summer Ag Institute that is held for local teachers. Last week the teachers toured a local mint farm, a couple of dairy farms, as well as tours of food processing and food flavoring.

Ms. Andrews and Ms. Wold will participate once again in the annual Kendall County Fair from August 3 – 6, 2017. They are normally stationed in the Family Fun Activity Tent located near the chicken and duck building on the fairgrounds, and Ms. Andrews invited the committee to stop by.

Ms. Andrews stated that the Summer Conference is an annual business meeting where all of the State Soil & Water Districts meet in Springfield. This year they will continue work on strategic planning at meetings next Monday and Tuesday. In addition to the state-wide effort, the KC Soil & Water is having their own strategic planning conducted by someone from Northern Illinois University this fall.

Ms. Andrews also reported that state funds were allocated for soil & water districts, but have not been released as yet. They continue waiting for information on when the funding will be released.

- **Water Related Groups** – No report

OLD BUSINESS – Dr. Tokars reminded the committee about the upcoming Electronic Recycling Day on August 5, 2017 from 8:00a.m. to noon in the Courthouse parking lot.

NEW BUSINESS - None

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – No report

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ITEMS FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – None

COUNTY BOARD ACTION ITEMS - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Not Needed

ADJOURNMENT – Member Prochaska made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Flowers. **The meeting was adjourned at 9:24a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Recording Secretary