

**COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS**  
**Health & Environment Committee**  
**Monday, July 12, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robyn Vickers at 8:30a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

| <b>Attendee</b>   | <b>Status</b> | <b>Arrived</b> | <b>Left Meeting</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Robyn Vickers     | Present       |                |                     |
| Ruben Rodriguez   | Here          |                |                     |
| Elizabeth Flowers | ABSENT        |                |                     |
| Scott Gengler     | ABSENT        |                |                     |
| Judy Gilmour      | Here          |                |                     |

**With three members present, a quorum was determined for the conducting of committee business.**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Diane Alford, Health Department, Ariel Beauchamp, KC Soil & Water District, Melissa Creamer, Health Department, Steve Curatti, Health Department, Alyse Olson, KC Soil & Water District, RaeAnn Van Gundy, Health Department

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Member Rodriguez made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Gilmour. **With three members present in agreement by roll call vote, the motion carried 3-0.**

**STATUS REPORTS**

- **Board of Health** – Rae Ann VanGundy reported the Board will meet on July 20, 2021 at 6:00p.m.

Director VanGundy reported the demand for COVID-19 vaccinations slowing down has allowed the vaccination clinics to be held in the Health Department by appointment on Thursdays from 3-6p.m. and Fridays from 9-11a.m. VanGundy stated that they have approximately 200 participants as young as 12 years old. Participants are allowed to choose from the Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer or Moderna vaccines when they come for their appointments.

- **Health Department** – Diane Alford, Director of Community Action introduced Assistant Director Melissa Creamer, who provided a details of the resources being provided by Health Department Community Action personnel beginning with the start of Covid19. Ms. Creamer stated that the Health Department received disaster funds through their Community

Service Block grant, which was originally earmarked for assisting residents of Hide-A-Way Lakes campground in Yorkville to find permanent housing. Unfortunately, those funds had to be used to assist homeless individuals who would normally utilize the services of the PADS program that was shut-down due to the Covid Quarantine lockdown. The Health Department was able to place 16 individuals in a local hotel, and provided gift cards for their basic needs of food, face masks, and personal hygiene items. Thirteen individuals were able to find permanent housing by the end of the lockdown, and a mother and daughter just receiving a housing voucher and are currently searching for a one-bedroom apartment in the County.

Ms. Creamer reported that although the Health Department received additional CSBG funds totally \$64,000 in early April of 2020, those funds were exhausted by March 2021.

Ms. Creamer reported that the Health Department was notified in December 2019 on the status of Hide-A-Way Lakes residents, and a new owner with plans to transform the property into a short-term RV and trailer campground with the new name of Fox River Bluffs.

The new owner was quick to inform residents that they needed to move off site, and the Health Department began receiving calls from residents living on-site and in need of assistance in finding temporary and permanent housing arrangements. Through an Emergency Shelter Grant, the Health Department was able to assist 33 households from the campground: 16 individuals were placed in a local hotel; 6 residents have now moved into permanent housing; 5 campground residents were asked to leave the local hotel for various reasons; 5 residents are currently in the local hotel, awaiting housing vouchers from the Kendall Housing Authority.

The Health Department assisted 9 campground residents with a move into permanent housing, and some residents received volunteer assistance in packing and moving from Cross Lutheran Church and the Knights of Columbus organization.

There are six remaining residents still at the Hide-A-Way Lakes campground that have been evicted, but have not reached out to Health Department personnel for resources or assistance in vacating the campground.

Creamer reported that in addition to Hide-A-Way Lakes residents, Community Action personnel assisted one family of 5 and two individuals from the PADS program. Two individual shave found permanent housing, but he family of five, and two additional individuals remain in the local hotel awaiting a housing voucher.

Creamer said that since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, Community Action has assisted 85 households with Covid care and supplies, homeless prevention and/or emergency shelter funding. Creamer reported there is a shortage of one-bedroom apartments in Kendall County for those with housing vouchers, but Housing Authority personnel are collaborating with Community Action personnel in assisting those who qualify to find housing in Kendall County or a surrounding county if possible.

- **Kendall County Soil and Water District** – Alyse Olson reported the week-long Farm Camp at the Dickson-Murst Farm in Montgomery for third through sixth graders from June 21<sup>st</sup> through June 25 was very well attended. The camp introduced students to the historic and modern methods of farming and farm family life. Activities included crafts, demonstrations, hands-on learning and ways to get dirt on their boots.

The Kendall County Farm and Safety Camp for ages 8-12 years was postponed to Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Topics will include farm machinery and safety, livestock and safety, fire safety/first aid, insect/nature safety, a hay rack ride, as well as great food, fun and Ag Olympics. Contact Ariel Beauchamp at [kendallaitc@gmail.com](mailto:kendallaitc@gmail.com) with questions or to register.

- **Water Related Groups** – No report.
- **708 Mental Health Board** – No report

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** – None

**COUNTY BOARD ACTION ITEMS** – None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Not Needed

**ADJOURNMENT** – Member Gilmour made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Rodriguez. **With three members present in agreement, the motion carried 3-0, and the meeting ended at 8:50a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain  
Administrative Assistant and Recording Clerk