

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Health & Environment Committee
Monday, February 14, 2022
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Attendee	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Robyn Vickers	Here		
Ruben Rodriguez	Here		
Elizabeth Flowers	Present		
Scott Gengler	Here		
Judy Gilmour	Here		

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ariel Beauchamp, Steve Curatti, Alyse Olson, RaeAnn VanGundy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Member Gilmour made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Flowers. **With five members in agreement by roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0**

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTHS MINUTES – Member Gilmour made a motion, second by Member Rodriguez. **With five members in agreement by roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.**

STATUS REPORTS

- **Board of Health** – Executive Director VanGundy noted that the Grants Coordinator position has been posted, but they’ve only had one application thus far. Ms. VanGundy asked the committee to share the position with their communities.

- **Health Department** – Assistant Executive Director Steve Curatti provided information on their local Public Health Partnerships comprised of public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within Kendall County. Mr. Curatti briefed the committee on the Kendall County Interagency Council that was established in 2017, and explained the mission, purpose and the thirty plus entities involved. Mr. Curatti also briefed the committee on the Kendall County Development Committee (Est. 2020) and stated that their main focus

is on homelessness within the county. This group was formed when there was an immediate need to find temporary and then permanent homes for residents at Hide-Away Lakes Campground that were being displaced due to the sale and development of the property in 2020.

The Senior Providers Group (Est. 2000) offers resources to senior citizens in the County, and includes sources and resources such as the Senior Services Association, and Prairie State Legal Services, that specifically focus on the needs of seniors.

Mr. Curatti stated that the groups are “Not a Hand-out, but a Hand up.” Curatti stated that having partnerships throughout the County keeps each entity well informed and knowledgeable of all sources and resources available to citizens, and allows collaboration of the entities to find the best resources and assistance for citizens.

Mr. Curatti shared that networking with the various partners:

1. Increases collective awareness of local resources
2. Identifies and address gaps in services
3. Prevents unnecessary service redundancies
4. Allows for input and feedback

- **Kendall County Soil and Water District** – Ms. Olson distributed their Spring newsletter, and reported that there will be a Pond Seminar on March 9th at the Grundy-Kendall Farm Bureau in Morris. The Fish Sale will take place on April 5th and the Tree Sale on April 21st.

Ms. Olson briefed the committee on the “Partners for Conservation Program: Cost-share Assistance”, and said cost-share funds are available through the program which is intended to help landowners who want to incorporate projects that conserve soil and protect water quality on their property, but may need some technical and/or financial assistance to get started. Eligible practices include: Water Well Sealing, Grassed Waterways, Cover Crops, Filter Strips, Pollinator Habitat, Grade Stabilization Controls, Nutrient Management and Rain Gardens. Those interested should contact the Kendall County SWCD office for details.

Ms. Beauchamp briefed the committee on the **AG Career Contest 2022** to promote students to learn more about agriculture careers and research ways in which an agriculture career may fit their interests. There will be a \$100 prize for first place in three categories: Elementary School, Middle School, and High School, and a \$25 prize for second place in each category. All essays and videos should specifically address the topic of Agriculture Careers. The contest ends on March 25, 2022.

Once again, there will be a **Summer AG Institute** from July 6-8, 2022 to learn how to incorporate agriculture-themed lessons and activities in the classroom. Contact Ariel at Kendallaitc@gmail.com for more information or to register for the event.

Farm Camp is back in 2022! Students age 8-12 can attend the 5-day camp to learn about farm life on the Dickson-Murst Farmstead in Montgomery. The camp is from June 27th through July 1st. This year kids will learn how weather affects our planet in agriculture applications, get their hands dirty learning about soil, animals, tools, and weather. Registration is on the Conservation Foundation registration page at: <https://tcf.givecloud.co/camp-registration>.

- **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 Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Gengler. **With five members present in agreement, the motion carried 4-0, and the meeting ended at 9:10a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Administrative Assistant and Recording Clerk