

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Health & Environment Committee
Monday, April 11, 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	Absent		

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

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Curatti, Miguel Hernandez, Lisa Holch

GUESTS PRESENT: Alyse Olson, KC Soil & Water Conservation District

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Member Flowers made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Rodriguez. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried by a vote of 4-0.**

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTHS MINUTES – Member Flowers made a motion, second by Member Gengler. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried by a vote of 4-0.**

STATUS REPORTS

- **Board of Health** – Steve Curatti shared that the Health Department submitted the Community Health Improvement Plan (IPlan) to the Illinois Department of Public Health and received a Substantial Compliance on all requirements. Curatti stated that the IPlan was a year-long needs assessment process involving the Community MAP partners and Health Department staff.

- **Health Department** – Steve Curatti introduced Miguel Hernandez, Mental Health Department Care Coordinator, to the committee. Mr. Hernandez briefed the committee on his role in the department, and their focus on Substance Use Prevention

Services (SUPS) to the community, which delivers proactive services designed to reduce individual, family, and environmental risk factors, increase protective factors, and achieve over-all wellness.

Hernandez stated that they are targeting 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in local public and private schools, and currently work with students on the different levels: Individual, Community, School, and Family. Mr. Hernandez helps students to identify internal and external pressures in their lives such as school social media, stress, family crisis and how it affects them overall. Hernandez stated they then help the students to see the importance of being involved in school activities, sports, clubs and groups and being engaged with other youth; and in getting involved with community groups, clubs and faith-based organizations.

Mr. Hernandez explained the Prevention and Diversion Services like Project Alert, a Substance Abuse Education and Prevention services for Kendall County Middle School students; Gen RX, and the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) where they collaborate together on things they don't like and want to see changed.

- **Kendall County Soil and Water District** – Ms. Olson reported that Ag n the Classroom has resumed physically in a few classrooms and virtually in others. This year's Agriculture topics included local foods, Grains, Fibers and Fabrics, and is finishing up the year on Poultry. Students started the year by growing their own garden salad by planting lettuce and radish seed. Over 600 students enjoyed planting their seeds and writing in their plant journals. In the winter months, over 650 students learned about different types of grains. First and Third grad students visited Severson Farms in Dwight. Fourth graders and older learned how grains are used as a renewable energy source from Renewable Energy Group in Seneca, and the process of how grains become fuel for trucks.

Ms. Olson said that *Farm Camp* for students aged 8-12 years 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

- *Discussion and Approval of a Proclamation Declaring the First Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day* – Member Vickers briefed the committee on the history of the proposed proclamation and provided Kendall County statistics on gun violence. Discussion on current issues in the community, the connection between mental health and gun violence, and the need for increased awareness of both mental health and gun violence awareness.

Member Flowers made a motion to forward the item to the May 17, 2022 County Board meeting for approval, second by Member Rodriguez. **With four members present voting aye, the motion carried unanimously.**

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – No report

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – None

MAY 17, 2022 COUNTY BOARD MEETING ACTION ITEMS

- *Approval of a Proclamation Declaring the First Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Not Needed

ADJOURNMENT – Member Flowers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Gengler. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried 4-0, and the meeting ended at 9:15a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valarie McClain
Administrative Assistant and Recording Clerk