

**COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS**  
**Health & Environment Committee**  
**Monday, September 12, 2022**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Judy Gilmour called the meeting to order at 8:30a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>	<b>Left Meeting</b>
Robyn Vickers	Absent		
Ruben Rodriguez	Here		
Elizabeth Flowers	Here		
Scott Gengler	Absent	8:33 am	
Judy Gilmour	Here		

**STAFF PRESENT:** Matt Asselmeier, Brian Holdiman, RaeAnn VanGundy, Aaron Rybski, Alyse Olson, Lauren Belville

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 11, 2022** – Member Rodriguez made a motion to approve the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes, second by Member Flowers. **With three members, present in agreement, the motion carried by a vote of 3-0.**

**STATUS REPORTS**

- **Board of Health** – Health Department Executive Director RaeAnn VanGundy stated that the Health Department has a partnership with the Sheriff’s Office and they will be presenting Active Shooter Training at the Health Department for Kendall County employees in October. Three sessions are scheduled on three different days.

Illinois’ Behavioral Health workforce shortage was discussed. Handouts were provided to committee members. Ms. Van Gundy reported that Illinois is particularly hard hit by the shortage because there are not enough qualified experienced professionals available in Illinois and across the country to meet the increase in resident’s needs.

She mentioned Kendall County is competitive with other local agencies with hiring. Currently eight openings are available in the Health Department but after 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews are completed, four or five openings could be available.

- **Health Department** — Aaron Rybski, Director of Environmental Health briefed the committee on how facilities and businesses who have non-community water supplies and are not on a public supply, such as private wells, are struggling to provide water samplings. There are certain complicating procedures that they have to follow. The Board had asked the Health Department if they would be willing to do research and come up with a program to take over some of the challenging sampling situations for these facilities.

Lauren Belville, Well and Septic Program Coordinator explained that during their research they reached out to water labs and met with the Board of Health. This resulted in a town hall meeting and all the facilities (roughly 34) were invited to come. They also met with the Aurora Water Treatment plant, and they would be willing to do most of the sampling at a low cost at their treatment lab in Aurora.

Three sampling program options were presented to the committee:

**Options:**

1. Kendall County establishes a new permit with associated fees for all supplies and the Health Department would handle routine sampling, inspections and paperwork etc. – across the board program required for all NCWS facilities
  - Extra fee associated with a positive detect in the water sample results
2. Kendall County establishes an optional program, by which a supply can “opt in”, pay the permit fee and have the Health Department manage their sampling program. Those who “opt out” will be on their own to handle sampling, etc.
  - If a positive sample result is detected, option to pay fee and have KCHD handle the required samples/paperwork following a positive sample OR can opt-out and handle all required samples paperwork themselves
3. Kendall County does not establish a program and does not provide this proposed sampling program. All facilities are on their own to provide samples.

Mr. Rybski asked the committee for direction on which option they would like to pursue. After reviewing the options, the committee recommended option 1. At the town hall meeting, all were in favor of option 1 as well.

The step-by-step process would involve the Health Department notifying the entity for a sample. The samples would then be driven to the Aurora Treatment plant for sampling. The results would be available the next day.

Chair Gilmore suggested to the committee that once the ordinance is established it be sent to State's Attorney's Office for review and then presented to the Board and Committee of the Whole. All committee members were in favor of this process.

- **Kendall County Soil and Water District** – Alyse Olson, Resource Conservationist distributed the Fall newsletter to the committee. She shared an update on the Partners for Conservation program, which is a cost-share program. The Soil and Water district receives funding from the Illinois Department of Agriculture to put toward conservation projects. Landowners who are interested in implementing a conservation project can contact her department for assistance.

This summer these funds helped with the completion of a ceiling project for an abandoned water well, and recently construction was finished for a grass waterway project. Three more are in the works for the fall. A pollinator habitat project will be seeded this winter for a dormant seeding.

Ms. Olson stated the fall sales are coming up and they are offering cover crop seeds for sale by the pound. The fish and tree sales will be September 21<sup>th</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup> at the Conservation District in the parking lot west side of Route 47. The products are passed on to the customer as close to wholesale value as possible. These sales are a way of promoting conservation in the community and not to raise funds for the district.

***Ag in the Classroom Update*** - Ariel Beauchamp, Education Coordinator developed a volunteer presenter program in which she recruited volunteers to help her present lessons in the classroom to reach more students. This quarter the lesson is on pumpkins.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- *Discussion of 1539 Collins Road Property Inspection* – An inspection and search warrant of the property was conducted on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Code Official Brian Holdiman provided the report and photos of the property to the committee. It was determined that the property meets three conditions of abandonment per the Illinois State statutes. Findings included no working

electricity and heating, the exterior windows are missing, the exterior siding and roof are decapitated, the front door is not accessible and all the railings were removed. It was also determined unsafe to view the second floor or basement. Mr. Holdiman recommended the committee forward this item to the County Board and ask the State's Attorney's Office to go through legal proceedings to declare the property abandoned and seek an abandoned order from the Court. Once this is done, the County would take title/ownership of the property.

Member Genger made a motion to forward the item to the September 15th, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion before sending the request to State's Attorney's Office for approval, second by Member Rodriguez. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – No report

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA** – None

**ACTION ITEMS FOR THE COUNTY BOARD** – None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Not Needed

**ADJOURNMENT** – Member Flowers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member Rodriguez. **With four members present in agreement, the motion carried 4-0, and the meeting ended at 9:16 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Washkowiak  
Administrative Assistant