

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Elizabeth Flowers at 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Attendee	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Elizabeth Flowers	Here		
Scott Gengler	Here		
Dan Koukol	Absent		
Brooke Shanley	Here		
Seth Wormley	Here		

With four (4) members present a quorum was established at 5:31 p.m.

Staff Present: Christina Burns, Latreese Caldwell, Taylor Cosgrove, Brianna Falk, Roger Bonuchi, Matt Asselmeier, Todd Volker, Tracy Page

Approval of Agenda – Member Shanley made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Gengler.
With four (4) members voting aye, the motion was carried by a vote of 4 -0.

Committee Reports and Updates

A. Animal Control Department Update – Director of Animal Control Taylor Cosgrove briefed the committee on the September reports for the Animal Control department. Financial reports start on page 2 of the packet provided to the committee. Tag sales are close to the 2022 numbers, more cats are being registered. They have completed two rabies quarantine this month. The number of quarantines that AC has monthly will affect the revenue numbers in the budget. Ms. Cosgrove informed the committee that AC is hosting a volunteer and staff appreciation party on Friday, October 20, 2023. The AC staff will be at the Indian Valley Vocational Center job fair on October 26, 2023, to bring awareness for Animal Control careers and other opportunities within Kendall County Government.

B. Emergency Management Agency Update – Deputy Director of EOC Tracy page briefed the committee on the September 2023 EMA report included in the packet (page 11). They are continuing to work on their Hazard Mitigation Plan, their fourth and final meeting will be held on October 24, 2023. Next step will be to hold an open forum for public viewing of documents and comment, and after that will be to bring to the County Board. The EMA will host a volunteer appreciation event on December 18, 2023, they will be giving out presidential awards based on volunteer hours. Member Gengler asked how many volunteers they have at this time. Ms. Page indicated that they have thirteen with one more starting soon. These volunteers help in a variety of ways including; watching radar, weather spotters in the community, communications, mobile command unit set-up, the CERT program, and search and rescue. They will be implementing a bike search and rescue patrol soon. Mr. Bonuchi also conducts an advanced amateur (ham) radio class for volunteers to work towards certification. Member Gengler asked if there was any current information on the state funded command trailer? Ms. Page said it is still in the talking stage and no further movement at this point.

C. Revolving Loan Status Update- Deputy County Administrator Latreese Caldwell updated the committee on the revolving loan status and directed them to page 51 of the packet provided.

New Committee Business

A. DISCUSSION: County Employees Volunteering at Animal Control

Director of Animal Control Taylor Cosgrove briefed the committee on the desire for staff from various departments to volunteer their time at Animal Control (AC). HR department first indicated that this may not be legal, so she received an opinion from the State's Attorney Office regarding public sector volunteers. The opinion is staff may volunteer as long as they are working outside of their job descriptions i.e., no administrative work such as data entry of rabies tags for individuals who perform administrative work as part of their employment. She is asking the committee if she has permission to move forward with volunteers currently working for the County to come in and socialize animals, dog walk, perform cleaning and feeding duties. Member Shanley thought it was a wonderful idea and will help build relationships amongst county employees, a win-win situation. Ms. Cosgrove assured the committee that she will not have volunteers perform any secretarial duties. It was the consensus of this committee for Ms. Cosgrove to be able to move forward with county staff as volunteers for Animal Control. Additionally, Member Gengler asked what capital requests Ms. Cosgrove had for Animal Control. She indicated they would like the garage floor redone, and the replacement vehicle for van. She is still working to see if the Sheriff's department vehicle will be available to AC.

B. DISCUSSION: Animal Control Adoption Event

Director of Animal Control Taylor Cosgrove stated the adoption event that will be coordinated with Representative Jed Davis's office has moved back to January or February 2024. Ms. Cosgrove did seek advice from Chair Flowers and the State's Attorney Office, and this will be okay for AC to participate in.

C. DISCUSSION and RECOMMENDATION: TMF Plastic Tax Abatement Agreement

Chairman Elizabeth Flowers took this opportunity to introduce the new County Administrator Christina Burns and the new Economic Development Coordinator Todd Volker to the committee members. Director of PBZ Matt Asselmeier briefed the committee on the status of the TMF Plastic Tax Abatement Agreement. He directed them to the memorandum he prepared on page 12 of the packet. He indicated that the State's Attorneys Office did complete a review of the agreement. Little Rock Township and Little Rock Township Highway Department will be reviewing the proposal at their meeting on October 18, 2023 and the Little Rock-Fox Fire Protection District will be reviewing the proposal at their meeting on October 19, 2023. Staff recommend approval of the amended agreement, pending approvals from the Little Rock Township and the Little Rock-Fox Fire Protection District.

Member Gengler made a motion to forward the TMF Plastic Tax Abatement Agreement to the November 7, 2023 County Board under consent agenda, second by Member Shanley. **With four (4) members voting aye, the motion was carried by a vote of 4 -0.**

D. DISCUSSION: Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act

Deputy County Administrator Latreese Caldwell directed the committee to page 52 of the packet. She explained that 50 ILCS 70/1 Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency ACT was effective as of June 10, 2022. All entities that levy taxes and are also units of local government, as defined in Section 1 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution, except municipalities and counties. By June 10, 2023 (one year after the effective date of this Act) and at least once every 10 years after June 10, 2023, each governmental unit must form a committee to study local efficiencies and report recommendations regarding efficiencies and increased accountability to the county board in which the governmental unit is located. Each committee shall summarize its work and findings within a written report, which shall include recommendations in respect to increased accountability and efficiency and shall provide the report to the administrative office of each county board in which the governmental unit is located no later than 18 months after the formation of the committee. The report shall be made available to the public. For purposes of this Section, if a governmental unit is located in multiple counties, the committee may, if required, provide the same report to the county board of each of those counties. The Sandwich Public Library District was the first to send in their report to the Administration Department. Ms. Caldwell is seeking this committee's approval to set up a webpage to make these reports transparent to the public. The website will include the Decennial Act, summary of the Act and a link to all of the Decennial reports received. If approved she will begin immediately having staff work on getting the webpages on the County's website. The consensus of the committee is to approve the webpages.

Old Committee Business – None

Chairman's Report – None

Public Comment – Mr. Alex Zelensky from Millbrook asked this committee to review and change the fee structure for rabies tags. He stated that currently he has to pay higher fees for an unaltered dog, he indicated that this fee structure does not consider the age of the dog. Some larger breeds as recommended by their veterinarians suggest waiting to spay/neuter these breeds until they are older, this leads to having to pay higher rabies tag fees.

Questions for the Media- None

Executive Session – None

Items for the Committee of the Whole Meeting –none

Action Items for County Board

- TMF Plastic Tax Abatement Agreement under consent agenda

Adjournment – Member Shanley made a motion to adjourn, second by Member Wormley. **With four (4) members present in agreement; the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sally A. Seeger
Administrative Assistant