

To: County Board Members

From: SANDY HART, CHAIR

Date: May 14, 2019

Subject: CHAIR’S REMARKS

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Please find my Report for activities since the last County Board meeting on March 12, 2019. Once again, I am honored to serve you as Chairwoman of the Lake County Board and I look forward to working with you and continuing our efforts on bipartisan policies and legislative matters. We have had a busy six months since our new board was seated, focusing on good government, collaboration, and transparency. As your Chairwoman I will continue to listen to understand, debate respectfully, and seek common ground.

**Thank you, Lake County Employees!**

As I’ve been meeting with elected officials, business leaders, and residents across Lake County, I consistently hear about the professionalism and dedication of our Lake County staff. To that end, I have scheduled some early morning meetings with different departments so that I may thank them on behalf of the Board for their hard work and for making our jobs easier! These meetings will continue through 2019.

**Police Memorial Service**

On Friday I was honored to speak at the Annual Police Memorial Service. Vice Chair Cunningham, Member Didech, and Member Wasik also attended. We were fortunate to have Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton join us for this important ceremony, honoring the fallen heroes who gave their lives protecting the residents of Lake County.

**Governor Pritzker**

I had the honor of meeting with Governor Pritzker to discuss Lake County infrastructure needs.

**Mental Health**

Last month we held our Crisis Center Workshop, designed to bring stakeholders together to determine next steps regarding a Crisis Center for the people of Lake County. Over eighty people attended who then committed to joining work groups focused on the various different areas to bring this project to fruition. Many thanks to Donna Jo Maki and communication staff for their hard work on this.

**State Senate Subcommittee on Capitol**

We thank State Senator Melinda Bush for bringing the Senate Subcommittee on Capitol Hearing to the University Center here in Lake County! These hearings usually occur in Springfield or Chicago, and we are very grateful to Senator Bush for making it convenient for Lake County residents and officials to present on our needs. I worked with Shane Schneider and Mike Warner to discuss infrastructure needs (stormwater and roads), affordable housing investment, and behavioral health.

**Large County Caucus**

I am honored to be appointed as the Chairwoman of the Large County Board Caucus (LCBC), which works within the framework of Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACO). The LCBC establishes a venue where counties with larger populations (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Tazewell, Will, Winnebago) can join together to discuss common problems and develop workable solutions in keeping with our best interests. Membership is made up of counties of over 100,000 people or greater, and will meet at least quarterly.

**NACo Peer Review**

Last month I attended the NACO Peer Review conference in Multnoma County, Oregon regarding Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils, law assisted diversion from jails, and data dashboards. All costs are paid for by NACO through foundations that sponsor criminal justice reform.

**OTHER MEETINGS OF NOTE**

* Live 4 Lali panel with SAO Nerheim
* Visit to McHenry County
* A Safe Place
* Veterans Assistance Commission
* Meeting with Waukegan Port Authority
* Township Assessor Annual Luncheon
* Celebration for the Abbvie gift for a new North Chicago middle school with Vice Chair Cunningham and Forest Preserve President Kyle
* Pace meeting
* Catholic Charities meeting
* Liquor Commission Hearing
* Metra More Kickoff with Members Rummel and Maine
* Monthly meetings with countywide elected officials
* Meeting with Metra officials
* LCP Operations Committee
* Dinner at Rosalind Franklin with local funding agencies
* J-Team
* Years of Service Breakfast with Members Barr, Carlson, and Pedersen
* Stop EtO
* Meeting with Board of Health President Sashko, Exec Director Pfister, and HCS Chair Carlson
* Chief County Assessment Officer interviews with Members Danforth and Wasik
* Cleanup at Greenbelt Forest Preserve with Member Vealitzek and Lake County Veteran & Family Services
* Interviews of potential volunteers for different commissions
* Proclamation to Correctional Officers at the Lake County Jail

**Important Upcoming Events:**

Final Strategic Planning session on Wednesday, 5/15 at 8am

Adopt a Highway with Lake County staff on Fairfield Road from 120 to 134 on Thursday, 5/16

Lake County Opioid Initiative meeting on Thursday, 5/16

The Big Event on Friday, May 17

Installation of Judge Haxall on Friday, May 17th