



TO: COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: SANDY HART, CHAIR
DATE: AUGUST 13, 2019
SUBJECT: CHAIR'S REMARKS

Please find my Report for activities since the last County Board meeting on July 9, 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.

Budget Meetings: Board members have already begun sitting in individual department budget meetings with staff. This is a new program I implemented with the help of Amy McEwan and Patrice Sutton to increase board member's understanding of the process and to allow us to hear the concerns of the departments and our Chief Financial Officer prior to our committee meetings in October.

1:1 meetings: I have been meeting with countywide officials on a monthly/bi-monthly basis to discuss their priorities and share some of the things we are working on as a board. These have been extremely helpful and I look forward to continuing this through the year.

Drug Court Graduation: Last week Vice Chair Mary Ross Cunningham and I attended Drug Court Graduation for three individuals who went through intensive treatment and supervision to help them get their lives back on track. Each component of TIM Court has a multidisciplinary team of treatment professionals, probation officials, judges, assistant state's attorneys and assistant public defenders who work with the clients for several months. It is always incredibly inspiring to hear directly from them about their experience and how it has changed their lives.

Triple A Credit Rating and Bond Refunding: Lake County is always looking for cost savings and last week, we took advantage of favorable markets to save a significant amount of interest on bonds. Back in 2010 and 2011, Lake County issued "Challenge Bonds" to fund some very important transportation projects: the Rollins Road Gateway, Illinois Route 21 Improvement, Washington Street Underpass Thoroughfare Improvement, and Fairfield Road at Illinois Route 176 Intersection Improvement projects. Lake County had an opportunity to refund those bonds to take advantage of interest savings. As part of the refunding process, both S&P and Moody's reaffirmed the County's Triple-A credit rating, the highest possible rating. These Triple-A ratings reflect the strong and stable financial condition of Lake County. Those ratings also helped the County have a very successful bond sale last Wednesday.

OTHER MEETINGS OF NOTE

- Meeting with Abbott Governmental Affairs
- LC Transportation Authority meeting
- Crisis Center Steering Team Committee
- Budget meeting w/Patrice and Bill
- Lake County Responding to Hunger event
- Joel Williams at University Center
- J-Team meeting
- Lake Behavioral Hospital meeting and tour
- Liquor Commission Hearing
- Meeting with Abbvie
- ISACO Large County Board meeting

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

August 14: Going Away event for Amy McEwan
August 15: Lake County Opioid Initiative meeting