

League of Women Voters

**Kane County Government
Monitoring Committee Report**

MEETING: Public Service Committee: DATE: March 19, 2007 REPORTING: Darlene Bakk,
Also attending: Hal Cattron

ATTENDING: Chairman Kenyon (late); VC Allan; de la Isla; Lewis; Kudlicki; Van Cleave;
Collins

WAS PRESS IN ATTENDANCE: YES: Smith, Daily Herald, Lord,
Beacon and Elgin Courier; Kane County Chronicle, Trib

DID PRESS COVER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: Mixed

SUMMARY OF MEETING: **Minutes** from Feb 27 public service and minutes of joint public service & finance Feb. 27--approved. **Public Comment:** Mack Titus of SunCPac, Huntley, regarding SunCPac Organization. Claims being unfairly targeted for assessments. **Recorder:** Wegman. Same as last year—everything is fine. Is putting in new security measures—thumbprint locks: **Collector:** Rickert: Also putting in security measures. Office of County Treasurer 2006 Property Tax Collection Summary: Total 2005 Property Tax Due: \$870,444,258; Total 2005 Property Tax Collected: \$860,080,876; Total Electronic Credit Card Payments: \$2,732,489; Total Discover Card Payments: \$1,104,478; Total Credit Card Fees: \$266,858; total Lockbox Payments: \$252,698,480. Site Summary: Total visits 660,153, average per day 374. Current projects: Preparation of Annual Reports in cooperation with outside auditors; processing mobile home tax payments; providing staff training programs and field trip meetings to enhance knowledge of the tax collection cycle; completing necessary yearly tasks and updating forms in preparation for real estate tax collections. **Supervisor of Assessments:** Armstrong. Publication of the Kane County Supervisor of Assessments: KANE, Kane Assessment News, etc. See www.countyofkane.org/soa. **County Clerk:** (see below). **Regional Office of Education:** Lewis asked what is being done if anything about student test scores reported in newspapers recently. Reply was this is responsibility of individual school boards, however, the regional office does have networking with superintendents, curriculum directors, etc. to share successes and discuss problems. Have a great mentor program which possibly is responsible for helping raise scores for the No Child Left Behind legislation.

MOST CRITICAL ISSUES(S): **County Clerk:** Cunningham. Repeated again the urgency to buy extra voting machines to be ready for upcoming elections sighting problems with last elections and the increase of registered voters participating in Kane County. Amount requested was for 50 e-slates and 22 printers for an unbudgeted amount of \$201,880. Unanimously approved by committee. Will be sent to board's finance committee for review. Mentioned that he has had 190 ballot styles. Problems could be alleviated by supporting early voting and asked media to get the word out to help him. There is also a concern regarding moving the 2008 primary date to early February.

COMMENTS/NOTES: www.lwvgenstc.org –elections has link to early voting dates and locations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):Continue to monitor county election/voting issues.

NEXT MEETING: April 16, 2007