Kane County Board 15

A Kane County Board member **serves as an elected representative for one of 24 geographic districts, governing the county by setting policies, adopting the annual budget, and overseeing departments like transportation, public health, and animal control**. They hold taxing authority, determine budget allocations, and manage land use through zoning and planning.

Key responsibilities of a Kane County Board member include:

- **Fiscal Oversight:** Reviewing and approving the county's annual budget and tax levies.
- **Legislative Action:** Developing and passing county ordinances, policies, and resolutions.
- **Departmental Management:** Overseeing county operations, including public safety, environmental resources, and community development.
- **Land Use and Planning:** Acting on zoning petitions and regional planning initiatives.
- **Community Representation:** Serving on committees, engaging with constituents, and addressing district-specific needs

Term Length: 4 years

For more information, visit the Illinois Association of County Board Members: https://ilcounty.org/file/359/Inside%20the%20Courthouse%202023B.pdf

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Democratic

Kate Monteleone

Campaign Mailing Address

4N385 Samuel L Clemens Crse
St Charles, IL, 60175

Campaign Phone

224-325-5412

Campaign Website

www.KateforKane.com

Campaign Instagram URL

www.instagram.com/katemonteleone/

Campaign Facebook URL

www.facebook.com/KateMonteleoneforKaneCounty

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Kane County Board

Campaign Endorsements

Equality Illinois, Sierra Club, Gun Sense (Moms Demand Action)

Describe your credentials that qualify you to sit on the county board.

I have 30 years experience leading nonprofit organizations which are similar in structure to local government. My experience includes board, program and resource development and budget management. I am a values-centered leader focused on delivering services to constituents that are aligned with organizational goals. As a subdivision of the state, the county board role is to establish and administer a balanced budget, appropriate resources to county departments and elected offices, and set policy for efficient operations management. I commit to representing the interests and concerns of county residents and holding departments accountable for program performance within the established budget. Former elected library trustee and chairperson.

What is the most important issue the county is facing and how will youapproach those challenges?

Kane County board represents a population of 500,000+, the fifth largest in Illinois. The main issue is resource management resulting from years of deferred maintenance combined with an uncompetitive employee compensation structure and inefficient processes. The current board addressed the deficiencies by spending down the reserve fund to a precarious level. To get its budget under control, the board must address both revenue and spending. Board members must be more accessible, responsive and accountable to the people who are concerned about uncontrolled development impacts and highway safety. Farmland, open space and water resources are community assets that must be protected. I support best practices in governance and administration.

Tell the voters your plan for fiscal management for the county.

My plan will address revenues and expenses, not revenue only; avoid regressive taxation that penalizes lower income residents such as adult students, early career adults, and seniors; avoid "across the board" budget cuts that penalize effective department managers; identify redundant staff positions for consolidation or elimination; terminate grant funded positions at the conclusion of the final grant period; perform a cost-benefit analysis to determine whether

outsourcing some administrative processes such as payroll can reduce overheads; ensure that cost sharing terms are articulated and equitable in intergovernmental agreements; and, exercise prudence in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreements that impact county resources.

What committees would you like to serve on and what qualifies you to sit on those committees?

The county website lists 15 standing committees and an equal number of commissions and advisory boards with no charters that disclose the purpose of each. In response to the question I would align my professional experience with these standing committees:
Public Health --I have 15 years experience in health care organizations and concerns about misinformation emanating from Washington regarding vaccine efficacy and food safety.
Legislative-- As a former regional vice president for the American Cancer Society, engaging and informing legislators was an area of responsibility.
County Development--I am committed to protecting farmland, open space and water. Residents concerns about the impact of development need to be heard and respected.

Anything else you would like voters to know about your campaign?

I moved my family to Kane County in 2003 to lead the Foundation at Delnor Hospital where one of the achievements of my tenure was planning and funding the launch of LivingWell Cancer Center in 2005. Other community engagement includes singing in the Aurora Festival Chorus, Kane County Master Gardener, Kane County Farm Bureau member, Hesed House volunteer. I am a Friend of the Fox and a regular kayaker on the river. I am running for the county board to preserve the quality of life for current and future generations. Illinois taxpayers shoulder a heavy tax burden. Affordability is a concern for families and all units of government must be accountable to residents for equitable and efficient service delivery.
I am asking for your vote.