



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County
Minutes of the Rules and Administration Committee**

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

9:30 AM

Virtual meeting

ATTENDANCE

Present: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2) Excused

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chairman Britton asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code.

No public speakers

[22-5344](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 07/27/2022

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Degnen, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 22-5344. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-4740](#)

Presented by: KAREN A. YARBROUGH, County Clerk

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

COOK COUNTY CLERK, Karen A. Yarbrough, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the special meeting (Virtual) held on 07/11/2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to recommend for approval 22-4740. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-5296](#)

Presented by: KAREN A. YARBROUGH, County Clerk

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

COOK COUNTY CLERK, Karen A. Yarbrough, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 7/28/2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to recommend for approval 22-5296. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-3888](#)

Presented by: KAREN A. YARBROUGH, County Clerk

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

COOK COUNTY CLERK, Karen A. Yarbrough, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 5/12/2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to recommend for approval 22-3888. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-3889](#)

Presented by: KAREN A. YARBROUGH, County Clerk

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

COOK COUNTY CLERK, Karen A. Yarbrough, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the special (Virtual) meeting held on 5/24/2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to recommend

for approval 22-3889. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-4697](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President) and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, DIVISION 2. - RULES OF ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE, SECTION 2-106 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as Follows:

Sec. 2-106. Public Testimony at meetings of the Board, its Committees, Joint Committees, and Subcommittees.

The Board encourages public participation in the legislative process. The following rules shall apply at any meeting of the Board and its committees at which public comment or testimony is taken:

- (a) *Public testimony at all meetings.* Subject to the provisions herein, public testimony will be permitted at all meetings of the Board, its committees, joint committees, and subcommittees. Any member of the general public may address the Board or any of its committees at any remote meeting required to be open to the public under the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1, et seq.) in writing, or orally from a remote location by means of electronic, video, audio, or telephonic connection if permitted in the meeting notice.
- (b) *Authorization to speak.* Authorization as a public speaker or to provide written testimony to be read into the record of a meeting of the Board, its committees, joint committees, and subcommittees shall be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, ~~municipality of residence~~, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary.
- (c) *Public comment period.* Duly authorized public speakers shall be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda, or at the discretion of the chair, but prior to final action by the meeting body as is practicable. ~~For remote meetings, the public comment period may be limited to written testimony which will be read into the record.~~
- (d) *Germane subject matter encouraged.* Public testimony should be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda. ~~To preserve order and decorum and in the interest of efficiency, the presiding officer may impose subject matter limits on public comment or testimony.~~

(e) *Time limits*

(1) Time limits for public speakers. ~~Written public testimony or~~ Oral testimony will be limited to three minutes. The Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. Responses to inquiries of the public speaker by the presiding officer or members shall not count towards any time limit. With leave, the presiding officer or members may extend a public speaker's time as desired.

(2) Overall time limit for public comment. All public comment shall be limited to sixty (60) minutes per meeting provided that the Board President or Committee Chairperson may allow a greater period of time for public comment subject to the consent of a majority of the Board when doing so will not interfere with the conduct of business or the maintenance of order and decorum at the meeting.

(f) *Prohibited behavior for public speakers.* Public speaker or written testimony shall not include the use vulgar, abusive or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; ~~failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting,~~ or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony.

(g) *Disruptions of meetings prohibited.* Disruptions of meetings are prohibited. Disruptions include, but are not limited to:

(1) Speech or testimony by an individual after expiration of the time allotted for the speaker's public comment or testimony;

~~(2) Speech or testimony by an individual that is not germane to a specific item or items on the meeting agenda;~~

~~(3)~~(2) Speech or testimony by an individual who has not been recognized by the presiding officer for public comment or testimony, who is speaking in a volume louder than a low, conversational level appropriate for communication between persons seated next to each other in the chamber, or whose speech is audible by others;

~~(4)~~(3) Holding or placing a banner or sign during a meeting in a way that may endanger other individuals or that obstructs the free passage or view of others attending or viewing the meeting;

~~(5)~~(4) Verbal comments and testimony must be conducted in respectful speech with no personal attacks;

~~(6)~~(5) If an individual engages in disruption of the meeting, including, but not limited to, any of the

actions described above, the presiding officer may: rule the individual out of order, direct the individual to cease the activity and impose other reasonable conditions for the individual's continued presence at the meeting. If the individual does not immediately comply with the presiding officer's order, the presiding officer may direct the removal of the individual from the meeting. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, any individual ordered to be removed from a meeting is excluded from returning to that meeting, unless the decision of the presiding officer is overruled by a majority vote of those members in attendance. Any two members may place before the body the question of whether to permit the individual to return to the same meeting;

~~(7)~~(6) If an individual is removed either from two or more committee meetings within a 15-day period or from two or more consecutive meetings of the Board, the Board President or Committee Chairperson may exclude the individual from participation in public comment or testimony periods at future Board or committee meetings:

- a. The Board President or Committee Chairperson shall notify the individual in writing of the type of exclusion, the specific reasons for the exclusion and the specific terms and length of the exclusion.
- b. The notice of exclusion shall advise that the individual may submit written comments to the ~~Clerk~~ Board Secretary for distribution to the Board members at future public comment or testimony periods.
- c. The notice of exclusion shall be filed with the ~~Clerk~~ Board Secretary, who shall post it on the door to the Board chambers and on the Board's web page, provide a copy of the notice to Board members and mail the notice to the individual's last known address, if any. The notice is effective when posted. The exclusion order shall remain posted on the door to the chambers for the duration of the exclusion period.

~~(8)~~(7) In determining the scope and length of an individual's exclusion, the Board President or Committee Chairperson may consider the seriousness of the disruptions to the orderly conduct of the meeting, the number of disruptions in which the individual participated and other reasons deemed relevant by the President or Committee Chairperson.

- a. The Board President or Committee Chairperson may issue an exclusion from future participation in public comment or testimony periods for up to 28 calendar days.
- b. At the next regular meeting of the Board, following the filing and posting of the exclusion notice, the exclusion order may be overruled or modified by a majority vote of those Commissioners in attendance. Any two members may place before the body the question of whether to overrule or modify the exclusion decision.

~~(9)~~(8) Any individual excluded from participation in future public comment or testimony periods may

appeal the exclusion by submitting a written appeal to the ~~Clerk~~ Board Secretary within five calendar days after the exclusion notice is posted. The ~~Clerk~~ Board Secretary shall distribute copies of the appeal to all Board members. The Board shall consider the appeal at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting if any two members place it before the body. The individual's exclusion from public comment or testimony periods shall remain in effect during the Board's consideration of the appeal.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

A motion was made by Commissioner Silvestri, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to recommend for deferral 22-4697. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

[22-3155](#)

Presented by: SISAVANH BAKER, Executive Director, Department of Human Rights and Ethics

PROPOSED CHANGES TO PUBLIC FACING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Department: Department of Human Rights & Ethics

Summary: Amendments were made to the Cook County Board of Ethics Procedural Rules to align with the December 2021 amendments to Code of Ordinances of Cook County Illinois, Division 2. Code of Ethical Conduct.

Amendments include:

Addition of Section 9.9 - De Minimis Personal Use of Cook County Property and Resources;

Addition of Section 9.10 - Dual Employment;

Amendment to Section 3.10 - Statements by the General Public at Board Meetings to affirm procedural and etiquette expectations;

Amendment to Section 4.5 - Form of Request for Advisory Opinions to affirm Advisory Opinions must be requested in writing;

Amendment to Section 5.9 - Notice of Investigation and Opportunity to Present Information to affirm that the Board is not required to reveal the existence or nature of an investigation in order to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of any investigative inquiry;

Amendment to Section 5.15 - Time to Complete Investigation and Suspension of Investigation to affirm the Board will complete investigations as promptly as reasonable under the circumstances; and

Amendment to Section 8.1 - Limitations on Contributions to clarify the definitions of “official action” and “ministerial in nature” and to affirm that political contribution limitations apply to those who sought or are seeking official action, are doing or seek to do business with the County, and lobby the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Vice Chairman Degnen, to recommend for deferral 22-3155. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

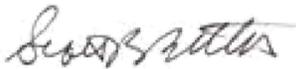
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Degnen, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

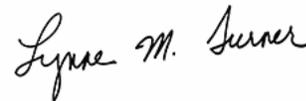
Ayes: Britton, Degnen, Daley, Deer, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Absent: Lowry and Sims (2)

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman



Secretary

A complete record of this meeting is available at <https://cook-county.legistar.com>.