



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Health & Hospitals Committee

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a virtual public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, email address, phone number, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized virtual public speakers shall be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not 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. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

[21-1711](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 01/26/2021

[21-0541](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGREN, LARRY SUFFREDIN, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, BRIDGET GAINER, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**REQUESTING A PUBLIC HEARING OF THE COOK COUNTY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS COMMITTEE FOR A REPORT FROM THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNING THE COVID-19 MASS IMMUNIZATION PLANS IN COOK COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Cook County, like the rest of the country and many parts of the world, is in the throes of another massive surge in coronavirus cases; and

WHEREAS, hospitals across the U.S. already have a higher load of Covid patients than ever before since the pandemic began, and the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Robert Redfield, warned earlier this month that the next few months of the pandemic would be among “the most difficult in the public health history of this nation”; and

WHEREAS, as of December 11, 2020 there have been 151,761 confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 in suburban Cook County under the jurisdiction of the Cook County Department of Public Health with 2,849 reported deaths; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2020, the FDA approved emergency use authorization of the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine, and will decide on the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on Dec. 17, 2020, marking a milestone in the fight against this insidious disease and important step to reduce illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths; and

WHEREAS, the approval will quickly ramp up the federal government’s distribution of the potentially lifesaving vaccine to 64 states, territories and major cities across the nation, and the government plans to distribute 2.9 million doses of the vaccine within 24 hours, followed by an additional 2.9 million doses 21 days later for patients to get their second injection of the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, initial doses of Pfizer’s vaccine will be limited as manufacturing increases, with priority given to health-care workers and nursing homes first, but with subsequent phases the distribution will become available to a wider portion of the populace; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has been and is charged with making the COVID-19 vaccine available as soon as possible to people living and working in CCDPH’s jurisdiction of suburban Cook County; and

WHEREAS, CCDPH is working with partners at all levels, including hospitals, health care providers and community leaders, to develop flexible and responsive COVID vaccination programs that can accommodate different vaccines; and

WHEREAS, it is paramount that as the vaccines become more readily available we work together and take advantage of all available resources in order to effectively administer the complex and herculean task

of mass immunization so that we can overcome this healthcare crisis and look towards recovery; and

WHEREAS, equally important will be to ensure the vaccines are distributed in an equitable fashion, prioritizing those areas and residents of the county that have been most impacted by this disease as a result of longstanding disparities in healthcare system access and delivery;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Health and Hospitals Committee convene a public hearing to discuss the Cook County Department of Public Health's Covid-19 vaccination planning.

Legislative History : 12/17/20 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Health & Hospitals Committee

Legislative History : 1/26/21 - Health & Hospitals Committee - accept as substituted

Legislative History : 1/26/21 - Health & Hospitals Committee - recommend for approval as substituted

Legislative History : 1/26/21 - Health & Hospitals Committee - reconsider

Legislative History : 1/26/21 - Health & Hospitals Committee - recommend for deferral as substituted

Legislative History : 1/28/21 - Board of Commissioners - defer as substituted



Secretary

Chairman: Deer

Vice-Chairman: Arroyo

Members: Committee of the Whole