



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County
Minutes of the Health & Hospitals Committee**

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

12:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Present: Arroyo, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims and Suffredin (16)

Absent: Deer (1)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

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

No Public Speakers

[21-3812](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 05/11/2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 21-3812. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Arroyo, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims and Suffredin (16)

Absent: Deer (1)

[21-0541](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, 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

**SUBMITTING A PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE TO FILE #21-0541
(Health and Hospitals Committee 1/26/2021)**

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A MEETING OF THE COOK COUNTY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ON THEIR COVID-19 MASS IMMUNIZATION PLANS IN SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared that COVID-19, a respiratory illness spread by close contact through respiratory droplets, presents a public health emergency, and the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to be a serious threat across the U.S. and Cook County, and

WHEREAS, many hospitals across the U.S. already have a higher load of COVID-19 patients than ever before since the pandemic began, and the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Robert Redfield, warned last 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 January 19, 2021 there have been 194,898 confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 in Suburban Cook County under the jurisdiction of the Cook County Department of Public Health with 3,639 reported deaths; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2020, the FDA approved emergency use authorization of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2020, the FDA authorized the emergency use of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine in individuals 18 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, the approval has quickly ramped up the federal government’s distribution of the potentially lifesaving vaccine to 64 states, territories and major cities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, initial doses of Pfizer’s vaccine have been 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) is the Illinois certified local health department for suburban Cook County, Illinois, with the exception of Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park, and Stickney Township, serving 127 municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) working alongside the Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security is charged with making the COVID-19 vaccine available to people 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-19 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 difficult and complex 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 COVID-19 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 meeting to discuss the Cook County Department of Public Health’s COVID-19 vaccination planning for Suburban Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Department of Public Health and any other identified Cook County entity involved in Cook County COVID-19 response will provide a monthly COVID-19 update to the Cook County Health and Hospitals Committee. This will include but not be limited to their COVID-19 vaccine plans, contract tracing plans and any other pertinent information regarding COVID-19 for Suburban Cook County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to recommend for deferral 21-0541. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Arroyo, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims and Suffredin (15)

Absent: Deer and Moore (2)

[19-1877](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE HEALTH AND HOSPITALS COMMITTEE FOR A REPORT FROM THE SENIOR STAFF OF COOK COUNTY HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Cook County Health and Hospital System (CCHHS) is the largest provider of healthcare services in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the County through CountyCare, a no-cost Illinois Medicaid managed care health plan, provides health insurance to thousands of Cook County residents; and

WHEREAS, the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, in recommending and approving the annual appropriation bill, has invested in many programs to protect the health and well-being of persons in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2010, the Cook County Board of Commissioners voted to make permanent the independent Board of Directors overseeing the Cook County Health and Hospitals System; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners retains oversight authority over the hospital system through passage of the budget for CCHHS, as well as appointment authority over directors appointed to the Board of Directors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a meeting of the Health and Hospitals Committee be convened to discuss the operations of the Cook County Health and Hospital System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the senior staff of the Cook County Health and Hospital System appear before the Committee and be prepared to update the Committee on the CCHHS's services and operations

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to recommend for deferral 19-1877. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Arroyo, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, K. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims and Suffredin (13)

Absent: Deer, Anaya, Moore and S. Morrison (4)

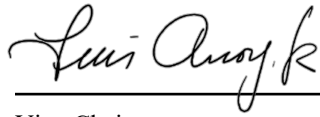
ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Arroyo, Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims and Suffredin (16)

Absent: Deer (1)

Respectfully submitted,



Vice-Chairman



Secretary

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