



"Deliver sustainable programs and policies in response to the public health needs of the community"

May 19, 2021

## RULES FOR SPEAKING AT OPEN MEETINGS OF THE WILL COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

- A. <u>Right to Address the Board or its Committees</u>: No person who is not a member of the Board, shall be permitted to address the Board or its Committees unless:
  - An individual is invited to speak by a member of the Board, member of a Committee, or the Presiding Officer during the meeting; or
  - 2. An individual is asked a question by a member of the Board, member of a Committee, or the Presiding Officer during the meeting; or
  - 3. An individual is an employee of the Health Department, Community Health Center, County of Will or Will County State's Attorney Office, after being recognized by the Presiding Officer; or
  - 4. An individual is providing sworn testimony, via subpoena or otherwise; or
  - 5. An individual is making a comment in a Public Hearing; or
  - 6. An individual is speaking during the Public Comment Section of the meeting.
- B. <u>Public Comment Section</u>: Statements or comments made during the Public Comments Section of a meeting shall comply with the following rules:
  - Members of the same company, business or organization shall choose one member to speak on behalf of the company, business or organization. More than one speaker from the same company, business or organization shall not be allowed to speak.
  - Any permitted public comment shall be held to three minutes or less.
  - 3. Such comments or speaking at a meeting shall not interfere with the business being conducted at the meeting or disrupt the meeting.

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- C. <u>Decorum</u>: Attendees and speakers at meetings should observe the following Rules of Decorum:
  - 1. Address themselves solely and directly to the Presiding Officer. They may not address other Members, individuals in the gallery, or persons who might be observing through the media.
  - 2. Avoid characterizing another individual's personal intent or motives and discussing personalities.
  - 3. Refrain from speaking disrespectfully to or of the Presiding Officer, other Members of the Board or other individuals.
  - 4. Refrain from using profane or vulgar language.
  - 5. Any such speaking at a meeting must not interfere with the business being conducted at the meeting or disrupt the meeting.
- D. <u>Single Issue</u>: When comments on a single issue become repetitive, the Presiding Officer may elect to close comments on that issue.
- E. <u>No Debate</u>: Public comments are intended as a means for citizens to convey their thoughts and ideas to the Board. Board Members should not respond to or debate issues raised but may ask questions to clarify a speaker's position.