

DIVISION 2. RULES OF ORGANIZATION AND PROCEEDURE

Sec. 2-101. Purpose.

- (a) The provisions of this division shall constitute the rules of the Board.
- (b) It is the purpose of this division:
 - (1) To provide appropriate procedures and organization for the Board of Commissioners to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner;
 - (2) To protect the right of all Commissioners to participate fully in the legislative process;
 - (3) To foster accountability in County government; and
 - (4) To promote openness and maximize participation in the business and affairs of the Board.

Sec. 2-102. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (a) *Board* means the County Board.
- (b) *Commissioner* means any duly elected or duly appointed County Board Commissioner, and means the same as "member" of the Board.
- (c) *Committee* means a committee of the Board and includes a standing committee, a special committee and a standing or special subcommittee of a committee.
- (d) *Clerk* means the Clerk of the Board.
- (e) *Committee of the whole* means a committee comprised of all Commissioners as required by this division.
- (f) *Majority* means a simple majority of those Commissioners present and entitled to vote on a question, while a Majority vote means the vote of a simple majority of those Commissioners present and entitled to vote on a question.
- (g) *Majority of those elected* means a majority of the total number of Commissioners entitled by law to be elected to the Board, irrespective of the number of elected or appointed Commissioners actually serving in office. So long as 17 Commissioners are entitled to be elected to the Board, a vote of a "majority of those elected" shall mean nine affirmative votes.
- (h) *President* means the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners.
- (i) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Board who has been appointed by the President.
- (j) *Term* means the four-year term of office established by State law for the President and the Commissioners.

Sec. 2-103. Interpretation, force and effect.

- (a) *Applicability.* The meetings and actions of the Board, including all of its committees, shall be governed by this division.

- (b) *Effect of State law.* Except as otherwise specifically provided in this division, this division supersedes all provisions of Illinois statute to the extent of any conflict or inconsistency, except for statutes that, by their terms, specifically limit home rule units pursuant to Article VII, Section 6(g) or 6(h) of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois.
- (c) *Effective date.* This division shall be in full force and effect upon adoption, and shall remain in full force and effect except as amended in accordance herewith, or until superseded by new rules adopted as part of the organization of a newly-constituted Board at the commencement of a term.
- (d) *Interpretation.* This division shall be interpreted and applied to foster the goals and purposes set forth in Section 2-101. This division is to be construed in accordance with the customary American usage and meaning of parliamentary terms and expressions and the plain meaning of the ordinary words appearing herein. In case of ambiguous application, this division shall be applied in a manner that fosters openness, accountability and fairness in the operation of the Board.

Sec. 2-104. Transition.

- (a) *Transition, 2010—2014 term.*
 - (1) The standing committees and subcommittees created by Ordinance previously adopted December 6, 2006, are replaced by the standing committees and subcommittees set forth in this division.
 - (2) The resolution appointing Chairs and Vice-Chairs to such committees, which was adopted on December 6, 2006, shall be replaced pursuant to resolution of the Board adopted pursuant to Section 2-105. The appointments made pursuant to such resolution shall remain in effect for the current term.
 - (3) The resolution appointing members of committees and subcommittees which was adopted on December 6, 2006, shall be replaced pursuant to resolution of the Board adopted pursuant to Section 2-105. The appointments made pursuant to such resolution shall remain in effect for the current term.
- (b) *Items pending in committee at conclusion of term.* All items relating to pending litigation, workers' compensation claims or applications made pursuant to the Cook County Zoning Ordinance of 2001 at the conclusion of the 2010—2014 term and each term thereafter shall automatically be referred to the successor committee during the succeeding term. Except as otherwise provided in this section, upon conclusion of the 2010—2014 term, all legislation and other items referred to any committee or subcommittee shall automatically be discharged from Committee and shall automatically be received and filed by the Board. The Secretary shall issue a report not less than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 2010—2014 term and each term thereafter to the President and chair of each committee listing all items pending in such person's committee.

Sec. 2-105. Organization.

- (a) *President Pro Tempore.* At the commencement of a term, the President shall nominate and the Board shall by resolution elect one Commissioner as President Pro Tempore for such term. The President Pro Tempore shall, in the absence of the President, preside over meetings of the Board. In addition, in the event the President is temporarily unable to act in performing the remainder of his or her official duties, the President Pro Tempore shall perform such duties and possess all the rights and powers of the President until such time as the President is able to perform such duties or, in the event of a vacancy in the Office of the President, until such vacancy is filled. If the President Pro Tempore

shall cease to be a Commissioner or shall resign the office of President Pro Tempore, the Board shall elect another Commissioner to serve as President Pro Tempore for the remainder of the term.

- (b) *Adoption of rules.* At the commencement of a term, the Board may adopt new rules of organization and procedure by ordinance setting forth such rules in their entirety and repealing these rules. Such ordinance must be adopted by a majority of those elected. Rules so adopted shall supersede these rules.
- (c) *Committees.*
 - (1) The committees of the Board shall be:
 - a. The standing committees and their standing subcommittees listed in Subsection (f) of this section;
 - b. Special committees created by Board resolution under Subsection (e) of this section; and
 - c. Special subcommittees created by standing committees or by special committees under Subsection (e) of this section. Subcommittees may not create subcommittees.
 - (2) The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
 - (3) A vacancy on a committee, or in the Chair or Vice-Chair position on a committee, shall be created when a member resigns from such position or ceases to be a Commissioner. Resignations shall be made in writing to the Secretary, who shall promptly notify the President and all Commissioners.
 - (4) Vacancies on committees or in the positions of Chair or Vice-Chair shall be filled by appointment by the same appointing authority as the initial appointments to such committee. In the case of committee appointments made by the Board, the Board shall fill vacancies by resolution. In the case of vacancies on special subcommittees that were created by committees, the parent committee shall fill the vacancy by motion.
 - (5) Any Commissioner, regardless of whether a Chair, Vice-Chair or member of the committee, and the President shall be afforded the courtesy of participating in debate on any item before a committee.
 - (6) The Chair of a committee or subcommittee shall have the authority to call and preside at meetings of such committee or subcommittee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall perform the functions of the Chair.
 - (7) The Secretary shall, at the end of each fiscal year, submit to the President and the Board a summary of all items pending in each committee.
- (d) *Membership and officers of standing committees.*
 - (1) At the commencement of each term, the members of each standing committee and standing subcommittee shall be appointed for the term by resolution adopted by a majority of those elected.
 - (2) At the commencement of each term, the Chair and Vice-Chair of each standing committee and standing subcommittee shall be appointed for the term by resolution of the Board adopted by a majority of those elected.
- (e) *Special committees and subcommittees.*
 - (1) The Board may create special committees by resolution adopted by a majority of those elected. The appointed members of a special committee shall be designated by resolution.

- (2) A committee may create a special subcommittee by motion adopted by a majority of the Commissioners who are members of the committee.
 - (3) The resolution or motion creating a special committee or special subcommittee shall specify the subject matter of the special committee or subcommittee and the number of members to be appointed thereto, and may specify a reporting date during the term in which event the special committee or subcommittee shall be abolished as of such date. Unless an earlier date is specified by resolution or motion, special committees and subcommittees shall expire at the end of the term.
- (f) *Standing committees.* The standing committees, the standing subcommittees and the number of members to be appointed to each (including Chair and Vice-Chair, but excluding ex officio members) are as follows:
- (1) Audit, seven members. (The County Auditor and Chief Financial Officer are ex officio, nonvoting members of the Audit Committee.)
 - (2) Capital Improvements, ten members.
 - (3) Contract Compliance, nine members.
 - (4) Criminal Justice, Committee of the Whole.
 - (5) Environmental Control, seven members.
 - (6) Finance, Committee of the Whole, with the following subcommittees with the number of members indicated:
 - a. Labor, seven members.
 - b. Litigation, seven members.
 - c. Pension, seven members.
 - d. Real Estate and Business and Economic Development, eight members.
 - e. Tax Delinquency, seven members.
 - f. Workers' Compensation, five members.
 - (7) Health and Hospitals, Committee of the Whole.
 - (8) Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Committee of the Whole.
 - (9) Human Relations, seven members.
 - (10) Law Enforcement, seven members.
 - (11) Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations, Committee of the Whole.
 - (12) Roads and Bridges, Committee of the Whole.
 - (13) Rules and Administration, nine members.
 - (14) Technology, nine members.
 - (15) Veterans, five members.
 - (16) Workforce, Job Development and Training Opportunities, five members.
 - (17) Zoning and Building, Committee of the Whole.
- (g) *Referrals to committees.* The Board may by motion refer any item before the Board to a Committee or to a subcommittee. The Chair of a committee may refer an item pending in that committee to a

subcommittee of that committee. An item referred by the Board to any committee or subcommittee, or by a committee chair to a subcommittee, shall not be jointly referred to any other committee or subcommittee. Only upon the return of the item to the Board, either by report of the committee or by the Board's discharge of the item from the committee or subcommittee, may the Board refer the item to another committee or subcommittee.

All items referred to committee or subcommittee by the Board shall be designated with a Communication Number as assigned by the Clerk. No committee or subcommittee shall meet for any purpose other than to consider one or more items designated by Communication Numbers.

The Clerk shall refer the draft Journal of Proceedings directly to the Committee on Rules and Administration and provide a Communication Number within 21 days of a Board Meeting.

(h) *Reporting by committees.* Notwithstanding any action to be undertaken by committees or subcommittees pursuant to this section, only the Board may take final action on any item referred to a committee or subcommittee. Committees shall report to the Board, and subcommittees shall report to their parent committees, subsequent to adjournment of a meeting of the committee or subcommittee.

The report of any committee or subcommittee shall be comprised of two sections. The first section of the report, "the text," shall constitute the minutes of the meeting for which the report was prepared and shall contain: a list of the attendees; an account of the items considered; a summary of the deliberations, including motions and amendments proposed and/or adopted; all votes taken; the result of said votes; and, any attachments to the record as ordered by the Chair. The second section of the report shall include a summary of certain actions taken at the meeting for which the report was prepared. For purposes of this paragraph, action is defined as motions, duly seconded and carried, to adopt one of the six (6) following statements of intent with respect to a Communication Numbered item:

- (1) Recommend for Approval;
- (2) Recommend for Approval as Amended;
- (3) Not Recommended for Approval;
- (4) Not Recommended for Approval as Amended;
- (5) Recommended for Receiving and Filing; and
- (6) Returned With No Recommendation.

The committee's adoption of any one of the above six statements of intent, as reported to the Board, shall constitute conclusive action by the committee on a Communication Numbered item, and shall automatically discharge the committee from further jurisdiction of the item. Absent the attachment of one of these six statements of intent to the Communication Numbered item, such item will remain in committee unless discharged by the Board, or until the item is Received and Filed pursuant to Rule 2-104 (b).

The Board's approval of the second section of a committee report that contains a statement(s) of intent as set forth in numbers (1) through (5) above in this section will constitute final Board action on the item(s) attached to the statement(s) of intent. The Board's approval of a committee report that contains a statement of intent as set forth in number (6), "Returned With No Recommendation," places the item before the Board for immediate consideration.

Upon adjournment of a committee meeting where quorum was established and business was conducted, a committee report must be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for consideration on an agenda of a regularly scheduled board meeting (or special board meeting called for that purpose) within 30 days or at the second subsequent Board Meeting following the adjournment date of the committee meeting, whichever is later.

Commissioners present and voting on a motion to approve the first section of a committee report retain the right to divide their vote with regard to each item contained in the second section of the report, or to request a separate vote, either by voice or roll call, on such items, regardless of whether the first section has been approved.

- (i) *Public Hearings of committees.* Any committee meeting may, at the discretion of the Chair, be designated as a public hearing; provided that the following requirements are satisfied:
 - (1) A paid notice containing the time, place, subject matter of the hearing, and solicitation of pertinent public testimony shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Cook County;
 - (2) A like notice shall be posted on the website maintained by the Secretary;
 - (3) A court reporter is present and reporting all written and oral testimony by members of the public;
 - (4) All oral testimony by members of the public shall be the first order of business after the committee is called to order; and
 - (5) Any other meeting notification requirements found elsewhere in this section.
- (j) *Discharge of committee by the Board.* The Board may discharge any item from committee by a majority vote.
- (k) *Confirmation of presidential appointments.* All appointments and reappointments of the President requiring the advice and consent of the Board shall be referred to the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee upon the President's submission. The Committee shall promptly hold such hearings as it deems appropriate and shall, no later than 30 days after referral, report all such appointments to the Board with a recommendation for action. If the Committee has not made a timely report on any appointment, the appointment shall, at the next regular meeting of the Board following the expiration of such 30 days, be referred to the Board with "no recommendation" by the Committee.
- (l) *Approval of Journal of Proceedings.* Effective January 1, 2011, in accordance with Public Act 96-1473, the Journal of Proceedings shall be approved within the time allowed by the law. To achieve this requirement of the law, the following procedures shall be followed:
 - (1) Commissioners shall file a statement of their "nay" and "present" votes with the Clerk, for items before the Board, or with the Secretary, for items in Committee within 24 hours of the end of a Meeting.
 - (2) Draft copies of the Journal of Proceedings shall be circulated to the President and the Board within 21 days of the meeting for review and correction.
 - (3) All corrections shall be made to the Clerk in writing within 48 hours of receiving the Draft Copy of the Journal of Proceedings.
 - (4) A standing meeting of the Committee on Rules and Administration at 9:45 a.m. on the days of regularly scheduled Board Meetings shall be convened to approve the Journal with all corrections.
 - (5) The Board shall approve the Report of the Committee on Rules and Administration at the subsequent Board Meeting.

Sec. 2-106. Budget matters.

- (a) *Finance committee.*

- (1) The President's executive budget recommendations and all motions, resolutions or ordinances that propose, amend, transfer or supplement any appropriations of funds or budget measure shall be referred to the Finance Committee. The executive budget recommendations shall provide the basis upon which the annual appropriation ordinance is prepared and enacted.
 - (2) After considering the executive budget recommendations submitted by the President and all other budget measures submitted by Commissioners, the Finance Committee shall prepare an annual appropriation ordinance in tentative form, which in such tentative form shall be made conveniently available to public inspection for at least ten days prior to final action thereon, by publication in the journal of the proceedings of the Board or in such other form as the Board may prescribe; and not less than one week after publication of such tentative appropriation bill and prior to final action thereon, the Finance Committee shall hold at least one public hearing thereon, notice of which shall be given by publication in a newspaper having general circulation in the County at least one week prior to the time of such hearing. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to prepare such tentative appropriation bill and make it so available to public inspection and also to arrange for and hold such public hearing or hearings.
- (b) *Debate.* The proponent of any budgetary measure shall be afforded the right of debate provided for in Section 2-107(m).

Sec. 2-107. Parliamentary rules.

(a) *Meetings.*

- (1) The Board shall hold regular meetings pursuant to an annual calendar adopted by resolution of the Board.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the President to call special meetings of the Board whenever the President believes such meetings are necessary. The President must give no less than 48 hours' advance written notice of such special meetings to the Commissioners and to the public.
- (3) In the event that the President states that an emergency exists, the President may call a special meeting, providing 24 hours' advance written notice to the Commissioners and to the public, unless not reasonable under the circumstances. In such case notice shall be given as soon as practicable.
- (4) Special meetings shall also be held whenever requested by at least one-third of the Commissioners (six Commissioners). At least 48 hours' advance written notice of such special meetings shall be given to the remaining Commissioners and the public.
- (5) All notices of special meetings must include an agenda for such meeting, and such meeting shall be limited to the subjects and items specified in the call of the meeting. The notice of the call of the meeting shall be read at the beginning of the meeting.
- (6) Special meetings shall be held at the hour of 10:00 a.m., unless another hour is specified in the call.
- (7) All regular meetings shall be held at the County Seat, in the County Office Building, unless another place within the County shall be designated by the Board.
- (8) A regular or special meeting may be cancelled by the President by providing no less than 24 hours' advance written notice that said meeting has been cancelled to the Commissioners and to the public.

(b) *Emergency polling.*

- (1) In an emergency situation, an item may be approved by a poll of all Commissioners. Such request shall be transmitted to the Secretary, who shall post a notice of the subject of the poll and conduct the poll by communicating to each Commissioner individually.
 - (2) If the President or any Commissioner shall object to the polling, such polling shall not be conducted or completed. All objections to an emergency poll shall be communicated in writing to the Secretary of the Board for formal distribution to the President and all members of the Board within one business day of objecting to the emergency poll. Failure to tender in writing a formal communication to the Secretary to the Board objecting to an emergency poll shall nullify and remove one's objection to the conduct of the emergency poll and the poll may resume.
 - (3) If a majority of Commissioners vote "aye," and the polling is not objected to by the President or any Commissioner, the item in question shall be considered to have Board approval. The poll vote on the item shall be set forth in the agenda item. Such item shall be placed on the agenda for ratification purposes at the next regular meeting of the Board.
 - (4) Whenever such a poll occurs, the Secretary, upon completion of the poll, shall place a public notice in a prominent place in or near the Office of the Board of Commissioners stating the nature of the item polled and the results of the poll by roll call vote.
- (c) *Presiding officer.* The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board and shall generally perform the duties customarily performed by a presiding officer. In the absence of the President, or during the temporary inability of the President to act, the President Pro Tempore shall preside at meetings of the Board. In the absence of the President and the President Pro Tempore, the Chairman of the Finance Committee shall preside at meetings of the Board.
- (d) *Quorum.* A majority of those elected (nine Commissioners) shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Board or a meeting of a committee of the whole. A majority of Commissioners appointed to any committee, other than a committee of the whole, shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of such committee or subcommittee.
- (e) *Majority votes.* Except as otherwise provided in these rules, and except for questions for which a higher majority is required by law, all questions shall be determined by a majority vote of those Commissioners entitled to vote. A vote of "present" shall not be counted in determining the number of Commissioners voting on a question.
- (f) *Absence of quorum.*
- (1) Should a quorum not be present at any regular meeting of the Board, the meeting shall stand adjourned from day to day, to the same hour of each day, until a quorum shall attend.
 - (2) Should a quorum not be present at any special meeting of the Board, the meeting shall stand adjourned from day to day, to the same hour of each day, until a quorum shall attend.
 - (3) Should a quorum not be present at a committee meeting of the Board, the Commissioners present shall be competent to adjourn, receive public testimony but take no formal action and/or recess the meeting to a date certain.
- (g) *Order of business.*
- (1) At each regular meeting of the Board, the order of business (unless otherwise directed by the Board) is as follows:
 - a. Public Testimony.
 - b. Consent Calendar.
 - c. Committee reports:

1. The first section of the committee report as set forth in Section 2-105(h) of this division.
2. The second section of the committee report as set forth in Section 2-105(h) of this division.

d. New Business

- (2) The Board may grant members of the public leave to speak on items pending before the Board pursuant to the rules set forth in Section 2-107 (dd).
- (3) All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided by the presiding officer, without debate, subject to appeal.

(h) *Prior notice to public; agendas.*

- (1) No less than three full business days before any meeting of the Board or of a committee or subcommittee, notice and an agenda for such meeting shall be provided to the President, all Commissioners and all news media that have requested notice of meetings, shall be posted in the Office of the County Clerk and at the location where the meeting is to be held, and shall be made available to the public in the office of the Secretary. New items posted to an agenda must be posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting by the Board Secretary and at the location where the meeting is to be held in order for the Board to approve the item; new items posted with less than 48 hours' notice must be withdrawn, deferred, or referred to committee. In addition, notices and agendas of all meetings shall be posted on the County's website.
- (2) The agenda shall briefly describe all items that will be considered at the meeting, except for items to be included in the consent calendar as set forth in Subsection (gg) of this Section. Material pertinent to an item on a Board agenda shall be supplied, along with the agenda, to the President and to each of the Commissioners, and all material pertinent to any item on a committee agenda shall be supplied, along with the agenda, to each member of the committee. With the exception of materials that are confidential as provided by law, such material shall also be available to the public in the office of the Secretary.
- (3) Items may be placed on an agenda not later than noon of the day previous to the day on which an agenda is required to be distributed. This subsection shall not apply to items reported to the Board by any of its committees of the whole.
- (4) Items may be placed on the agenda of a Board meeting by the President or any Commissioner. Committee reports shall be placed on the agenda of a Board meeting by the Chair of the committee. Items may be placed on the agenda of a committee meeting by a Commissioner who is a member of the committee or the President, in his ex officio capacity, provided that such item has been referred to the committee by the Board pursuant to Section 2-105(g).
- (5) It shall be the duty of the Clerk to prepare, post and distribute all agendas for meetings of the Board, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare, post and distribute agendas for committee meetings.
- (6) No issuance of any debt instrument which pledges the full faith and credit of the County shall be the subject of final action by the Board of Commissioners unless it has been preceded by at least one public hearing on the prospective matter by the Finance Committee. Notification of such hearing shall be the responsibility of the Finance Committee, which notice shall be as set forth in Section 2-105(i).

(i) *Floor privileges.*

- (1) During all meetings of the Board, access to the floor shall be limited to the following persons, except pursuant to leave granted by the Board:

- a. The President, Clerk, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Sergeant-at-Arms;
 - b. Commissioners;
 - c. Other elected Cook County officers;
 - d. Former Commissioners;
 - e. Staff of the Board; and
 - f. Staff of the President.
- (2) At the direction of the President or at the request of any Commissioner, the floor shall be cleared of staff. At the request of any Commissioner, unauthorized persons shall be ordered removed from the floor.
- (j) *Decorum.*
- (1) The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum, may speak to points of order in preference to other Commissioners, and shall decide all questions of order, subject to appeal.
 - (2) In case of any disturbances or disorderly conduct the presiding officer shall have the power to require the chamber to be cleared.
- (k) *Sergeant-at-Arms.* The President may, with the advice and consent of the Board, appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms of the Board, who shall preserve order and obey the directions of the Board and of the presiding officer. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be removable at the will of the President or pursuant to written petition, filed with the Clerk, by a majority of those elected.
- (l) *Recognition for debate.* A Commissioner desiring to obtain the floor shall address the presiding officer. If two or more Commissioners shall properly request recognition, the presiding officer shall recognize the one who first spoke. A Commissioner shall not proceed with remarks until recognized and named by the presiding officer. In debate a Commissioner shall confine himself to the question before the Board, avoid personalities, and in general observe all parliamentary rules pertaining to orderly procedure and decorum in debate. The President and all Commissioners shall be given a full opportunity to participate in the debate on all debatable questions, except when the Board has called the previous question.
- (m) *Debate.* No Commissioner shall speak more than twice or longer than a total of ten minutes on the same question, without leave of the Board. Responses by witnesses and County staff to questions of a Commissioner shall not be counted against the speaking time allotted to such Commissioner. The proponent of the item under consideration, or the Chairman of a committee whose report is under consideration, as the case may be, shall have the right to open and close debate.
- (n) *Voting and roll call.*
- (1) When a question is put to the Board, every Commissioner present shall vote thereon, unless excused by the Board or unless the Commissioner is personally interested therein and declares a personal conflict of interest.
 - (2) If any Commissioner requests it, a roll call upon any question shall be taken and entered in the Journal of Proceedings, but a roll call shall not be taken unless called for prior to, during or immediately after any vote on the question.
 - (3) A roll call once ordered shall not be interrupted. When a roll call has commenced, all debate on the question before the Board shall be deemed concluded. During the taking of the roll call, Commissioners shall respond to the calling of their names by answering "yea," "nay," or "present" and shall be allowed one minute to explain their votes at that time.

- (4) When a roll call vote of the Board results in an equal number of "yea" votes and an equal number of "nay" votes, the President of the Board of Commissioners shall cast a vote on the question before the Board. The President's vote may be in the affirmative, negative or present. The President, when casting the deciding vote on an issue before the Board, may explain one's vote in the same manner as a regular voting member of the Board.
- (o) Submission of ordinances, resolutions and motions.
 - (1) All ordinances, resolutions, or motions, except motions of procedure, shall be submitted in writing by the President or a Commissioner and then may be read by the Clerk at the direction of the presiding officer or by leave of the Board. Each ordinance, resolution or motion shall be numbered by the Clerk in the following fashion:
 - a. For an ordinance: the last two numbers of the year, O, and the next chronological number.
 - b. For a resolution: the last two numbers of the year, R, and the next chronological number.
 - c. For all other items, the last two numbers of the year, the name of the committee to which the item is assigned or an appropriate abbreviation, and the next chronological number.
 - (2) After an ordinance, resolution or motion has been stated by the presiding officer or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed the property of the Board and may be withdrawn at any time before final action by leave of the Board.
 - (3) Any substantive amendment to ordinances or resolutions shall be submitted in writing by the President or a Commissioner to the Secretary prior to the noticed time of the meeting at which the ordinance or resolution is to be considered. The Secretary shall promptly distribute such amendment(s) to the President and the Commissioners.
 - (p) Division of questions. If any question presented contains several separable propositions, a demand by any Commissioner or the President to "divide the question" shall be in order.
 - (q) Appeal from a ruling of the chair. Any Commissioner may appeal to the Board, committee or subcommittee from a ruling of the Chair. The Commissioner making the appeal may briefly state the reason for the appeal, and the Chair may briefly explain the ruling; but there shall be no debate on the appeal and no other member shall participate in the discussion. The Chair shall then put the question, "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?" If a majority of the Commissioners present, and entitled to vote, vote "nay," the decision of the Chair shall be overruled; otherwise, it shall be sustained. If sustained, the ruling of the Chair shall be final.
 - (r) *Personal privilege.* The right of the President or a Commissioner to address the Board, a committee or subcommittee on a question of personal privilege shall be limited to cases in which the President's or Commissioner's integrity, character, or motives are assailed, questioned or impugned.
 - (s) *Special order of business.* Any item before the Board, committee or subcommittee and referenced in an agenda provided to the President, the Commissioners and the public in accordance with these rules may be set down as a special order of business at a time certain unless a majority of the Commissioners present object.
 - (t) *Entry of ordinances, resolutions or motions in journal.* In all cases where an ordinance, resolution or motion is entered in the Journal, the name of the Commissioner(s) moving and seconding the same shall be entered also.
 - (u) *Order of precedence during debate.* When a question is under debate, the following motions shall be in order and shall have precedence over each other in order, as listed:
 - (1) To adjourn to a day certain (amendable, debatable).
 - (2) To adjourn.

- (3) To take a recess (debatable).
 - (4) To lay on the table.
 - (5) To call the previous question.
 - (6) To refer (debatable).
 - (7) To amend (amendable, debatable).
 - (8) To defer to a time certain (debatable).
 - (9) To defer indefinitely (amendable, debatable).
- (v) *Motion to adjourn.* A motion to adjourn is always in order except:
- (1) When a Commissioner has the floor.
 - (2) When the roll is being called or the Commissioners are voting.
 - (3) When the previous motion was a motion to adjourn.
 - (4) When the "previous question" has been ordered.
- (w) *Putting and ordering the previous question.* The "previous question" shall be put as follows: "Shall the main question be now put?" If carried by a two-thirds vote of the Commissioners (12 Commissioners) present and entitled to vote, the "previous question" shall be ordered. An order for the "previous question" shall end all debate, and bring the Board to a direct vote upon the options before the Board in the order of their precedence.
- (x) *Motion to reconsider.*
- (1) A vote or question may be reconsidered at any time during the same meeting, or at the first regular meeting held thereafter, but not after the matter has become law.
 - (2) A motion for reconsideration, having been once made and decided in the negative, shall not be renewed, nor shall a motion to reconsider be reconsidered.
 - (3) A motion to reconsider must be made by a Commissioner who voted on the prevailing side of the question to be reconsidered.
 - (4) This subsection does not apply to motions to override vetoes.
- (y) *New business.* All new business must originate with the Board. Items may be introduced only by the President or by Commissioners. Each communication, motion, resolution, or ordinance, after being read by the Clerk, may be acted upon immediately by the Board, or referred to committee, as ordered by the Board. Where the President or a Commissioner(s) introduces an ordinance or resolution, he or she shall be listed as sponsor(s) of such ordinance or resolution.
- (z) *Amendment or suspension of rules.*
- (1) Any provision of this division may be temporarily suspended by a vote of two-thirds of all Commissioners (12 Commissioners) entitled by law to be elected, upon motion of any Commissioner specifying the rule to be suspended.
 - (2) The provisions of this division shall not be altered or amended in whole or in part except by ordinance adopted by vote of two-thirds of all Commissioners (12 Commissioners) entitled by law to be elected, except that amendments to these rules limited to procedural restrictions on matters that increase real estate taxes may be adopted by resolution or ordinance approved by a majority of those elected (nine Commissioners). This subsection does not apply to the adoption of new rules in accordance with Section 2-105(b).

- (aa) *Rules for committee meetings.* The rules of procedure for all committee, subcommittee and special committee meetings shall be the same as for Board meetings, except that committees composed of less than the entire Board shall require only a majority of the committee for a quorum.
- (bb) *Robert's Rules of Order.* The rules of parliamentary practice set forth in "Robert's Rules of Order" (Newly Revised, 10th Edition) by Henry M. Robert III et al. shall govern the Board in all cases in which they are applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this division.
- (cc) *Prayer and invocation at meeting.* Meetings of the Board may commence with a prayer and invocation.
- (dd) *Public testimony.* Subject to the provisions herein, public testimony will be permitted at regular and special meetings of the Board and at committee meetings of the Board. Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, address, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized public speakers shall be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Public testimony must be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda, and the testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. 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.
- (ee) *Recordings of meetings.* The Secretary is responsible for tape recording all public meetings of the Board. The tape recordings of Board meetings shall be retained by the Secretary who shall make them available to the President and Commissioners upon request. Members of the public shall be allowed to listen to recordings of open meetings during regular office hours except when the recordings are in immediate use by persons exercising official County duties. The Secretary may require a notice in writing to be submitted 48 hours prior to the time when the recordings are desired for viewing. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, any member of the public wishing to purchase a copy of a recording of an open meeting may do so upon payment to the County of the cost of its reproduction.
- (ff) *Vetoes on agenda.* If the President vetoes any ordinance or resolution or other item, the Clerk shall place the veto message and the corresponding ordinance or resolution or other item on the agenda of the next regular meeting.
- (gg) *Consent calendar.* The Consent Calendar is a compilation of proposed resolutions concerning deaths, anniversaries, and congratulations for notable achievements. Only proposed resolutions conforming to this description may be submitted to the Secretary for inclusion on the Consent Calendar, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare the Consent Calendar for any regular meeting of the Board. Proposed resolutions on the Consent Calendar are non-debatable, and shall not be read in to the record or otherwise considered individually, but shall be part of a motion to approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety. Any item on the Consent Calendar may be removed by a motion, seconded and approved, and shall then be subject to the provisions of this division as provided herein.