

To: Executive Committee, Karin Peterson-Thurlow, and Lisa MacKinnon
From: Supv. Heidi Wegleitner
Date: March 14, 2022
Re: Chapter 7 Amendment Proposals

Below please find an updated memo with proposed changes to chapter 7 for the March 17, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. I am going to try to attend, but have a conflicting Specialized Transportation Committee Meeting. Please see **highlighted text** for changes based on further review and discussion with staff. Thank you.

Removing Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer from County Board Agenda

7.61 COUNTY BOARD AGENDA; ORDER OF BUSINESS.

(1) The order of business for county board meetings shall be as follows:

A. Roll Call

1. ~~Prayer~~/Inspirational message (limited to three minutes)

~~2. Pledge of allegiance~~

B. Special Matters and Announcements

1. Memorial resolutions, proclamations and special presentations (limited to ten minutes)

2. Appearances by the county executive

3. Announcements (limited to two minutes and to the announcement of a coming event or the introduction of an item)

4. Public hearings

C. Approval of payments The list of all bills to be presented to the board for payment shall be made available no later than forty-eight hours prior to the meeting and shall be presented to the county clerk's office and posted on the county board website.

D. Claims recommended for denial.

E. Approval of county board minutes F. Consent Agenda (items which passed all committees, boards, commissions, etc., without opposition or abstention, for which there are no amendments, and for which no requests have been made not to place on the consent agenda. Items which were reported out of committee with "no recommendation" shall not be placed on the consent agenda.)

G. Motions from previous meetings 1. Motions from previous meetings, including motions to reconsider, 7.58(11) – 7.61(1) Page 7-17 rev. 050420 rescind, place a resolution or ordinance amendment on the agenda, or override a county executive veto.

H. Reports on zoning petitions.

I. Ordinance amendments

J. Award of contracts

K. Resolutions

L. Appointments

M. Items Requiring a Two-Thirds Majority for Passage. In addition to any other items requiring a two-thirds vote, any ordinance amendment or resolution creating or changing fees charged to users of services that is considered after adoption of the annual budget shall require a two-thirds vote of the county board.

N. Special order of business. All special order items will be placed in this section except that, in the exercise of his or her discretion, the chairperson may designate a time certain for such matters

O. Such other business as the county board is authorized to conduct by law

P. Adjournment

Requiring registrations be read into the record and provided to the County Board prior to action on an item.

*Staff communicated that preparing the registration info for reading into the record would require more time than is currently provided for (30 minutes) prior to the meeting. Based on this information, a compromise proposal (**highlighted in yellow below**) would be to just receive the online registration list via email once the list is pulled after the registration period has closed 30 minutes prior to the hearing. I understand that this list might be a little messy, but it would still provide some information to supervisors and would minimize staff burden. The revised "official" registration record would still be compiled and uploaded into legistar at a later time with the minutes.*

7.63 COUNTY BOARD MEETINGS; REGISTRATIONS.

(4) As any particular resolution, ordinance amendment or other matter is brought before the board, the chairperson shall announce the name, address, and position of each registrant, and the number of registrations filed from those present at the meeting and the position of the registrants regarding the agenda item. If petitions have been filed with the county clerk prior to the meeting, the chairperson shall announce the name, address, and position of each registrant, and the number of petitions filed and the petitioner's positions in reference to the agenda item.

Staff shall provide the online registration list containing the names and registration info for each online registrant a list containing the name of each registrant, their address, and their position on the item for which they registered to the County Board prior to Board action on any items on the agenda for which a person is registered.

7.225(1)

Create new subsection (d) Staff shall provide the online registration list containing the names and registration info for each online registrant prior to action on any items on the committee agenda for which a person is registered.

Requiring Recording of Standing Committee Meetings and Online Access to Recordings

***Audio recordings are already required by s. 7.225(15), Dane Co. Ords. It might make sense to also reference the requirement in the section regarding minutes, s. 7.23, Dane Co Ords.*

Amend title and create new section of 7.23 as follows. Minutes and recording of meetings. To the greatest extent possible, all meetings where any action is taken shall be recorded and posted online. A link to the recording shall be made available in an easily accessible format to the public through the county board's website and the committee's webpage in the legislative tracking system.

This change would require the recording of standing committee meetings where the committee is taking action. Sometimes committees meet at locations with technical limitations. This

provision would prevent them from placing items for action on their agenda if the meeting is not recorded.

Expanding Public Comment Opportunities at County Board and Committee Meetings

Require committee action to limit public comment based on numbers of registrants at individual meetings.

7.225 PUBLIC APPEARANCES AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

(2) If necessary at a particular meeting to ensure public comment is received from all those interested in testifying and the committee has sufficient time to conduct all scheduled business, the committee chairperson may limit the time for each speaker to 3 minutes, exclusive of time allotted to questioning by committee members. The committee shall not adopt a blanket rule to limit public comment to 3 minutes, but must approve a motion to limit time based on publicly provided information on the number of registrants for public comment at individual meetings.

Delete 7.225(2)(a). Remove authority to deny public comment to a member of the public if that person has already spoken on that item (e.g. an amendment).

~~(2)(a) If a committee has taken testimony on an item and the same committee considers action on the item at a separate meeting, the public shall not have the opportunity to testify if that same item appears on subsequent agendas of the same committee. Items are not considered to be the same item if a new amendment has been posted and the public has not had the opportunity to testify on the new amendment.~~

Delete the second sentence from 7.51(7). Remove authority to deny public comment at County Budget meetings.

~~(7) During the fall budget session, the county board may designate meetings at which no matters other than the annual budget may be considered. At such meetings, no public testimony or registrations shall be taken, provided a public hearing has been held on the budget prior to the budget meeting.~~

Delete 7.63(2) to remove authority to deny public comment at meetings where an item has already been noticed for public hearing.

~~If the county board has taken testimony on an item and considers action on the item at a separate meeting, the public shall not have the opportunity to testify when that same item appears on subsequent county board calendars.~~

Create Opportunity for County Board Rule Change by Majority Vote at Beginning of Session (Every April)

Amend 7.99 as follows 7.99 AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 7. Ordinances in chapter 7 may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of supervisors present at the county board's first (organizational) meeting in April of even numbered years and the first meeting of the county board session in odd-numbered years, which is the second meeting in April, but otherwise shall only be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the quorum of supervisors present at the board meeting.

Annual Committee Public Engagement Plans

Create new section as follows 7.235(?)

The Executive Committee may want to consider reducing the signature issue requirement from three to two signature issues, one of which would be the budget resolutions.

Annual Committee Public Engagement Plans.

(a) Each committee shall identify at least three significant issues or items per session to include in the committee's public engagement plan. One of the items shall be the annual operating and capital budget recommendations of the committee. A significant issue could be identified by name or, if it has a budgetary impact, an issue or item could be identified as significant if it meets a certain cost threshold set forth by the committee.

(b) The committee's public engagement plan shall identify: (i) who is most impacted by the issue or item, (ii) the strategies for connecting with those most impacted to provide meaningful opportunities to guide the committee's policy and budget decisions on the issue or item, (iii) the need for translation and interpretation services, and (iv) how County Board funds may support the engagement.

© The committee's public engagement plan shall be provided to the Executive Committee and Equal Opportunities Commission no later than September 1.

(d) Meetings noticed for potential action on an issue or item identified in the public engagement plan shall be prioritized for video-recording resources and be live-streamed or video-recorded when possible.