



A. Policy

Public Act 96-14 73 amended the Open Meetings Act to require public bodies to allow the general public the right to speak at public meetings. As a public agency, ILEAS has created this policy in order to address this issue. According to 5 ILCS 120/2.06(9): Any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules established and recorded by the public body.

B. Procedure

1. Any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address the Governing Board during all of its public meetings under the following rules.
2. Every agenda for public meetings of the ILEAS Board shall include time to allow for public comments.
3. Each person who wishes to speak must place:
 - a. his or her name **and**
 - b. the agenda item on which he or she will speak on a speaker's list prior to the start of the meeting.Speakers will be called to speak in the order of the list.
4. Each person who wishes to speak will be allotted no more than five (5) minutes, unless the presiding officer reduces the allotted time because numerous people wish, the meeting has run long, or for other good reason. The Board, by vote, may extend the amount of time allotted to any one public speaker. No public speaker may cede time to another speaker.
5. In the event that there is insufficient time for all speakers to have an opportunity to be heard, those speakers on the list still wishing to be heard shall retain their position on the list for the public comment portion of the next meeting.
6. Each speaker must limit his or her comments to subjects on the agenda.
7. Each speaker must maintain civility and must not use obscene or threatening language or gestures, or otherwise disrupt the meeting.
8. Any person who violates these rules or poses a threat to public safety will lose any remaining time for comments and will be removed from the meeting.
9. The Governing Board is not required to respond to comments or questions during the public comment portion of the meeting.
10. The Executive Officers of the Governing Board may override these rules in case of emergency or other unforeseen circumstances.

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11. Any person may record public meetings of the Governing Board. The operation and placement of recording equipment must not disturb the meeting and is subject to the approval of the officer presiding at the meeting.