

## Public Comment Policy/Guidelines

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at public meetings and publish rules to govern such participation. The presiding officer of each meeting shall administer the rules of conduct, as stated:

Public participation shall be permitted at a time as determined by the presiding officer. Members of the public will be asked to sign in as attendees at the meeting.

Anyone with concerns related to the operation of the County or to matters within the authority of the Board may participate during the public portion of a meeting.

Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by announcing their name, residency, and group affiliation (when appropriate).

Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to 3 minutes duration.

No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others wishing to speak on that topic have been heard.

Participants shall direct all comments to the Board, not to staff or other participants.

All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.

Public comments should not be frivolous, repetitive, or abusive.

The presiding officer may interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant.

The presiding officer may ask an individual to leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting.

The presiding officer may call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when a lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such actions.

The presiding officer may waive these rules.

Adopted November 16, 2022