



## DUPLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Anyone wishing to address the Board is asked to sign up to speak prior to the start of the meeting on a sign-up sheet provided by the County Manager/Clerk to the Board.
2. If you have signed up to speak, the Board Chair will call your name at the appropriate time. Please proceed to the podium in the Board of Commissioner's meeting room and await to be recognized by the Chair. Speakers will be asked to identify themselves for the record.
3. Each speaker shall only be entitled to a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the Board. The County Manager/Clerk to the Board shall serve as the time keeper and the Chairman will announce when the speaker's time has expired.
4. Each speaker will only be allowed to speak once during the public comment period.
5. Speakers may speak on any topic unless it is a topic for which a public hearing is being held on the same regular agenda.
6. No time may be yielded or transferred from one speaker to another. Each speaker will be concise and avoid repetition. In order to avoid repetition and delay, groups of people supporting the same position are encouraged to designate a spokesperson for the group.
7. Please make your comments to the entire Board of Commissioners as a whole and not one individual member.
8. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be permitted during the public comment period.
9. Rebuttals may or may not be allowed at the discretion of the Board Chair.
10. Speakers who have written remarks are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks with the County Manager/Clerk to the Board.
11. Speakers shall be civil and courteous in their language and presentation. Insults, personal attacks, accusations, profanity, vulgar language, inappropriate gestures, or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.
12. In order to provide for the maintenance of order and decorum in the conduct of the meeting, the Chair may declare "out-of-order" any person who fails to comply with this policy. The Chair shall caution any such person to abide by the provisions of this policy. Refusal to do so shall be grounds for removal of the speaker from the meeting.