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Policy on Public Participation at Pike County Conservation District Board Meetings

(Adopted by the Conservation District Board of Directors on December 17, 2001;

Revisions/Adoption September 21, 2015)

Pike County Conservation District recognizes its obligations to accept input from the public at its regularly scheduled monthly meetings as well as any other meetings subject to the provisions of the Sunshine Act (of July 3, 1986, P.L. 388, No. 84, 65 P.S. 271 et seq as amended). The District respects and encourages comments from the public on conservation issues in Pike County when presented in an orderly, concise, and constructive manner. The following policy will apply to all District meetings where public participation is allowed, as per the Sunshine Act.

A public comment period will be held at the beginning of each Pike County Conservation District Board meeting prior to action being taken on any agenda item. A copy of the agenda will be available immediately prior to the start of the meeting.

Advance verbal, written, or electronic request to the Board Secretary is preferred at least one week prior to the meeting for items to be included on the meeting agenda. The request should include the topic, length of time requested and any other pertinent details. The District Chair reserves the right to place limits on the time requested.

To accommodate requests not given in advance, the District Chair will ask at the beginning of each meeting if any members of the public wish to address the Board of Directors. If any individual or group of individuals responds, the following rules will apply:

1. Persons addressing the Board shall identify themselves and/or the group they represent.
2. Individuals are limited to (5) five minutes to give a presentation.
3. Groups of individuals shall appoint a spokesperson who will be limited to (15) fifteen minutes to make the group's presentation/comments.
4. The Chairman reserves the right to waive or change these limits, according to allowable time.

Members of the media are welcome to attend District meetings for the purpose of public documentation of the proceedings. The Chairman may determine seating arrangements for media representatives, location for electronic recording devices and a designated time on the agenda and/or the allotted time for questions on proceedings of the meeting.

Inappropriate behavior such as outbursts, disorderly, disrespectful or boisterous conduct will not be tolerated during District meetings. The Chair may issue one warning to the individual(s) responsible for such behavior. Any additional incidents by the individual(s) during the meeting may result in the Chair dismissing the responsible person(s) from the premises.