

ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

POLICY #1050

PUBLIC FORUM POLICY

Guidelines for public participation at Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Board Meetings.

General Statement

The Board of Directors of Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, a subdivision of the State of Nebraska, recognizes the right of members of the public desiring to do so to attend and speak to the Board of Directors during the meeting.

The Board adopted the following guidelines at its regular meeting on August 12, 1997.

1. Because by law, the meeting Agenda cannot be modified except for emergency matters the last 24 hours before the meeting, the public will be invited to speak only on matters germane to established agenda items or during Special Presentations as outlined in the Agenda.
2. Although the public can only address the Board of Directors during the Special Presentations portion of the meeting or on topics germane to other agenda items, the meetings are open to the public. The public can attend the meetings and observe the proceedings for as long as they desire.
3. Because of the large amount of business to be completed by the Board of Directors on Board Meeting day, there will be a time limit on the amount of time that the public can address the Board. Each individual will be allowed a maximum of five minutes of meeting time. Should several individuals desire to address the Board of Directors, a maximum of five minutes per individual will be available to those individuals until one (1) hour elapses from the beginning time of the first speaker. After one hour of total discussion time on the Special Presentation Agenda item, the Board may move to its next Agenda item. Requests for additional time are within the discretion of the Chair; the Chair's ruling will be final unless overruled by action of the Board.
4. Individuals that wish to address the Board will be required to identify themselves. Only individuals addressing the Board of Directors will be required to identify themselves. Others that attend the meeting just to hear the Board Meeting proceedings may do so without giving their names, but on request and voluntarily they may identify themselves if they wish.
5. By State law, the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Board of Directors can

officially take action only on Agenda items. Therefore, it is likely that public items brought to the Board of Directors cannot be acted on the day of the meeting unless it is germane to an item listed on the Agenda.

6. The Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Board of Directors shall determine if an item, in addition to regular agenda subjects, is to be included on future Board Meeting Agendas.
7. Copies of reproducible documents to be discussed at the meeting shall be made available to the public.

Adopted: August 12, 1997
Reviewed: September 11, 2000
Revised: June 9, 2009