

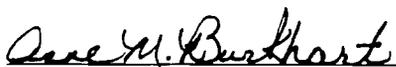
**PUBLIC ADDRESS RULES AND PROCEDURES**  
**DAVIDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Davidson County Board of Commissioners is committed to allowing members of the public an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions for the efficient and effective administration of government. In order to balance the need and desire for such citizen input with the necessity of disposing of its regular business in the course of the meeting, the Board does hereby establish the following Public Address Procedures:

1. The Public Address period will be limited to a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.
2. Persons who wish to address the Board during the Public Address period will register on the sign-up sheet located on the table in front of the Clerk to the Board in the Commissioners' Meeting Room. Sign-up sheets will be available thirty (30) minutes before the start of each meeting.
3. Each speaker will have three (3) minutes to make his/her remarks. The designated timekeeper will be the Clerk to the Board, or other staff member designated by the Chair, who will begin timing the speaker and will announce "time" when the allotted time expires.
4. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board Chair in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet. Speakers will address the Board from the podium at the front of the room and begin their remarks by stating their name and address.
5. It is recommended that groups or delegations select their spokespersons in advance of the meeting.
6. Speakers will address all comments to the Board or County as a whole and not to one individual commissioner or to any individual County staff member. Discussion between speakers and members of the audience is not allowed.
7. Speakers will be courteous and respectful in their language and presentation and must refrain from personal attacks and the use of profanity. Willfully interrupting, disturbing or disrupting a meeting and then refusing to leave when directed to do so by the Chair is a criminal offense.
8. If the time period runs out before all persons who have signed up to speak, those names will be carried over to the next Public Address period. The Chair in its discretion may extend the time for Public Address.
9. Speakers who have prepared written remarks or supporting documents are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks and documents with the Clerk to the Board.
10. At the end of a speaker's comments, any member of the Board may ask the speaker such questions or make such comments as they might deem appropriate.
11. Copies of these Rules and Procedures will be available on the table located in front of the Clerk to the Board in the Commissioners' Meeting Room as well as on line in the "LOCAL" section of the website homepage located at [www.co.davidson.nc.us](http://www.co.davidson.nc.us).

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2011.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne M. Burkhart, Clerk to the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fred D. McClure, Chairman  
Davidson County Board of Commissioners