

Cypress Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District

Board of Commissioners

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Public Comment Policy

1) Time for Public Comments will be noticed on the meeting agenda.

2) Policy must comport with the First Amendment and therefore protects all political speech. It is a speaker's right to speak lawfully. The Board of Commissioners must remain content-neutral and may not silence a speaker based on what they are saying.

3) Public comments related to an agenda item will be permitted prior to the Board's vote.

4) Public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker, and a speaker may only speak once. Another speaker may not "give" his or her unused time to anyone else. The time allotment will be measured with a timer, with a buzzer warning when 15 seconds remains and at completion of the 3 minutes. Allowance for extra time due to special circumstances may be awarded if the board members present vote unanimously to do so.

5) If you wish to speak publicly on non-agenda items* you will need to print their your name on the **Public Comments Sign-In** sheet at the table outside of the entrance. When you are recognized by the Board, you may approach the podium and state your name. The timer will begin once your name is stated.

**please be aware that non-agenda items are not typically responded to by the Board. Notes will be taken by staff to record input or questions so that responses can be formulated for a later date.*