

Public Comments at Library Board Meetings

The function of the regular meetings of the Noble County Public Library (Library) Board is to conduct the business of the Library.

Although Library Board meetings are public meetings, they are not public hearings unless noted to be so. The Library Board does, however, encourage public attendance at its meetings and provides an opportunity for public comment on agenda items only.

Agenda Items: If a member of the public wishes to have an item considered for addition to a board meeting agenda they must contact the Executive Director (Director) or the President of the Board at least ten days prior to the Library Board meeting.

Speaking Procedure: Time will be reserved at the beginning of each Library Board meeting for public comment concerning agenda items only. Public comment is limited to a fifteen minute period with each speaker allowed a maximum of three minutes. The public comment period may be extended by a majority vote of the Library Board. Members of the public who wish to speak are required to sign in before the meeting begins, identifying themselves and providing their address and group affiliation (if any) before speaking. Names will be called in the order in which they appear on the sign-in sheet. Anyone refusing to identify themselves will be prohibited from speaking and there is no guarantee that all who signed in will be able to speak within the time allotted for public comment.

Note: As a courtesy, it is appreciated if notice of an intention to speak at a Board meeting is given to the Director in advance of the meeting.

Board Actions: Public comments are addressed to the entire Library Board, but there will not be a response from either Board members or the Library Director. Comments made by members of the public become part of the meeting record.

Behavior: If at any time members of the public attending a Library Board meeting fail to adhere to this policy or engage in inappropriate language or behavior, it shall be the responsibility of the Board President or acting Board President to declare said member out of order and to refuse further comment. Behavior that threatens safety of property or individuals or hampers completion of the meeting in a civil fashion shall result in law enforcement being contacted.