

North Maine Fire Protection District

Rules for Public Comments to the Board of Trustees

Adopted and Effective: April 10, 2013

1. Members of the public are encouraged to address the Board of Trustees and may do so during the Public Comment period on the agenda of the Board's meeting. Public comments at other times during the meeting will be solely at the discretion of the Board. The chairperson of the meeting and or the District's legal counsel will be responsible for directing compliance with these rules by speakers addressing the Board and attending the meeting of the Board.
2. Comments are to be limited to no more than 3 minutes per speaker unless additional time is granted at the discretion of the Board. The granting of additional time to one or more speakers or on one or more occasions does not entitle other speakers at that meeting or any other meeting to have additional time to address the Board.
3. Where multiple speakers desire to address the Board on the same topic, repetitive or surplus comments may be limited by the Board.
4. At least 15 minutes will be allowed at each meeting for public comments; however, the Board may limit the total amount of time allowed for public comments beyond this amount at a particular meeting of the Board where the amount of business before the Board warrants.
5. The Board will generally not engage in dialogue or respond to questions from those making comments to the Board during the Public Comment period. The Public Comment period is intended to afford members of the public with an opportunity to express their view to the Board of Trustees. The Board will generally take comments made to it by speakers under advisement.
6. All persons addressing the Board must do so in a civil and appropriate manner. Rude or abusive behavior will not be condoned. Comments which are defamatory, disparaging, or constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy will not be allowed. Persons in violation of the foregoing will be directed by the chair of the meeting to leave the meeting.
7. Recording devices may be used so long as the person that is recording is present at all times that the device is on. At no time may anyone leave an unattended recording device in the "on" or "recording" mode during the meeting.
8. A copy of these rules will be posted at the Board of Trustees' regular meeting location and may be amended or revised from time to time by the Board of Trustees in its discretion.