

State of North Carolina

Minutes

County of Madison

The Madison County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison Campus of AB Tech, 4646 Hwy 25-70 Marshall, North Carolina.

In attendance were Chairman Norris Gentry; Commissioners Matt Wechtel, and Craig Goforth; County Manager Forrest Gilliam; County Attorney Donny Laws; Clerk Mandy Bradley.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Gentry.

**Item 1: Public Comment Policy**

County Attorney Donny Laws discussed with those in attendance, the current public comment policy.

Discussion regarding public comment policy was had by the board.

Commissioner Gentry called for a motion. He stated that the chair would move that for an interim period of time, public comment period would be 15 individuals at 3 minutes each first come first served on sign-up. He then called for any further discussion. Commissioner Goforth stated that he felt if there was an "on deck" rule, he believed that 20 speakers would be able to be accommodated. Chairman Gentry stated that he would amend the motion at the request of his fellow member for the policy to be 20 individuals and the board will move with deliberate speed to get everyone to speak and public comment will for the next several meetings be at the end of the regular business session. Mr. Gilliam clarified with Chairman Gentry that by that comment, he meant prior to closed session. Chairman Gentry stated that he did mean prior to closed session. Chairman Gentry called for further discussion or clarification with none from the board. Chairman Gentry called for a second to the motion. Commissioner Wechtel seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously to approve. (Attachment 1.1)

**Adjournment**

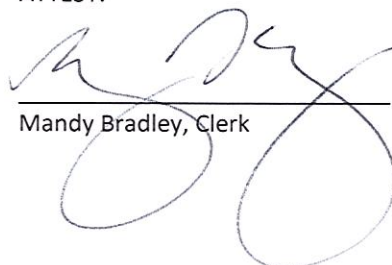
Chairman Gentry stated that under General Statute 143-318.11, the board would adjourn to closed session for personnel, property, and attorney-client privilege. He stated that the board would return for the general open meeting in 45 minutes. He then stated that the board is in closed session.

This the 12th day of March, 2019.

MADISON COUNTY

  
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Norris Gentry, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandy Bradley, Clerk

Madison County Board of Commissioners  
Public Comment Procedures  
Adopted March 12, 2019

- One period of informal public comment (input) to appear on the agenda per month at a regular meeting of the Board.
- Those desiring to speak will sign up to speak between 6:30 and 6:55 PM (before the meeting starts). When signing up, the speaker will identify the topic/issue.
- Staff other than Commissioners, County Attorney, or County Manager will facilitate those who wish to sign up to speak. A standardized form will be used.
- Those speaking will be limited to (3) minutes.
- Twenty (20) speakers allowed during a public comment period.
- There will be no interaction, i.e. discussion, during the comment period. (Commissioners, staff will not engage in dialogue with the speaker, giving no comment unless they desire to provide information at the end (after) the public comment period).