

BASALT REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of the Basalt Regional Library District (BRLD) to conduct its meetings in accordance with the Colorado Sunshine Law as set out in Section 24-6-402 of Colorado Revised Statutes in order to provide a fair opportunity to every person who desires to address the Board of Trustees. Accordingly, other than those portions that are held in Executive Session, Board meetings are open to the public, and anyone may attend in order to observe the proceedings.

In support of the open meeting character of Board sessions:

- 1. The minutes will accurately identify individuals who make comments, and any person wishing to address the Board must provide his or her name, address, and telephone number on the attendance sheet for the meeting.
- 2. Individuals wishing to comment must reside in the Roaring Fork Valley.
- 3. Individuals will be called to comment in the order in which they have signed in, except in the case of special circumstances as determined by the President of the Board.
- 4. Each speaker may take up to three minutes to make his or her comments. This time constraint may be modified by the Board President to be fewer than three minutes if there are a number of persons wishing to speak. Speakers will be advised when they have one minute remaining.
- 5. All speakers will be asked to begin by stating their name and street address.
- 6. The total amount of time for public comment is capped at thirty (30) minutes.
- 7. The Board of Trustees acts as a body. Given the nature of the Board:
 - a) Speakers are not to address nor engage in dialogue with individual trustees during the public comment period. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.
 - b) Trustees will not engage individual speakers in dialogue nor ask or answer questions during the presentation, with the following exception: at the request of any trustee, the President of the Board shall allow questions from trustees to speakers for purposes of clarification, limiting the time for discussion as the President deems appropriate.
 - c) Speakers are asked to understand that specific questions cannot be answered in dialogue format by the Board of Trustees. Acting as a Board, and only as a Board, the trustees will consider comments and questions and may direct staff members to provide information. The Board may discuss matters raised by members of the public and, if the Board decides that some action or response is warranted, will do so as the Board.

Policy reviewed: May 2023

Policy approved: April 2023, May 2023