

Member Open Comment Sessions

Policy #: BP 44

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative

1. Purpose

To establish a procedure for members of Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (“REC”) to directly communicate with the REC Board of Directors (“Board”) during a segment of the regularly scheduled Board meetings. Member open comment sessions provide REC members an opportunity to discuss new ideas, concerns, feedback, and questions regarding REC.

2. Scope

This policy applies to REC’s Board, strategic management team, employees, general counsel, and members involved in the open comment sessions.

3. Policy Statement and Implementation

- 3.1. The Board will conduct open comment sessions not fewer than four (4) times per year.
- 3.2. The Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, determine that sessions shall be held in-person or virtually and shall establish procedures for the same.
- 3.3. Open comment session information will be posted on the Cooperative’s website, www.myrec.coop, and in other print and digital channels.
- 3.4. Prior to participating in the open sessions, members are asked to sign up for the open sessions via the REC website, www.myrec.coop.
- 3.5. Members will be asked to comment in the order in which their requests were received.
- 3.6. Due to time limitations, comment time allocation is at the discretion of the Board chair. Members may be asked to limit comments to three (3) minutes and may be limited to only one comment segment, depending on the number of members in attendance desiring to comment.
- 3.7. Board members or executive management staff may ask clarifying questions or seek additional information from members in attendance.
- 3.8. If no members request to speak during an open comment session, the session will immediately expire and members will be excused thereafter.
- 3.9. A summary of the session will be reflected in the Board meeting minutes.
- 3.10. In further accordance with REC’s Member-Board Relationship policy, any member who wants further information concerning the Cooperative’s governance-related matters may also appear before the Board at a regular scheduled board meeting, by appointment and invitation of the Board.
- 3.11. Members appearing before the Board, whether virtual or in-person, are asked to adhere to any of the Cooperative’s decorum policies to ensure fair, orderly, and efficient sessions.
- 3.12. Sessions will conclude following the final registered commenter’s remarks, but in no event later than one hour from the opening of the session.

4. Responsibilities

The Chair of the Board of Directors is responsible for the review, revision, and implementation of this policy.

5. Confidentiality

This policy may be treated as public and may be made available on REC’s website or other communication channels.

6. Definitions

Board: The Board of Directors for Rappahannock Electric Cooperative

Cooperative: Rappahannock Electric Cooperative and its affiliates.

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References and Related Documents:

Member-Board Relationship policy

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative Bylaws

Policy Title:	Member Open Comment Sessions
Policy Number:	BP 44
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Amendment Dates:	Sept. 15, 2021; July 18, 2023
Approver:	Board of Directors
Applies to:	Board of Directors
Administrator:	Board of Directors
Superseding Effect	This Policy supersedes all previous policies and memoranda concerning the subject matter. Only the Approver may authorize exceptions to this Policy.