

**RESOLUTION NO. 20260526-07**

**Approving and Adopting a Public Comment Rule for Meetings  
of the Lawrence County Commission and Committees**

Whereas, the Lawrence County Legislative Body conducts public meetings for the purpose of carrying out the business of Lawrence County government; and

Whereas, this Body recognizes the importance of allowing members of the public a reasonable opportunity to address the Commission on matters appearing on the agenda and other matters germane to the jurisdiction of this Body; and

Whereas, Tennessee Code Annotated § 8-44-112 requires a governing body to reserve a period for public comment to provide the public with the opportunity to comment on matters that are germane to the jurisdiction of this Body; and

Whereas, this Body also has a responsibility to conduct orderly, efficient, respectful, and lawful public meetings; and

Whereas, this Body finds it appropriate to adopt a written public comment rule to provide consistent procedures for recognition of speakers, time limits, decorum, enforcement by the Chairman, and the orderly conduct of public comment; and

Whereas, the proposed public comment rule is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Lawrence County Legislative Body meeting in Regular Session on this 26th day of May 2026, that:

**SECTION 1. Approval and Adoption.** The Lawrence County Commission hereby approves and adopts the Public Comment Rule attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

**SECTION 2. Amendment to Operating Procedures.** The Public Comment Rule shall be included in the appropriate rule, procedure, or policy set.

**SECTION 3. Administration and Enforcement.** The Chairman, or other presiding officer, is authorized to administer and enforce the Public Comment Rule in a fair, viewpoint-neutral, and consistent manner, subject to appeal to this Body as provided in the rule.

**SECTION 4. Existing Rules and Required Proceedings.** The Public Comment Rule supplements this Body's existing Rules of Order and shall be construed consistently with them. Nothing in this Resolution shall alter the procedures applicable to public hearings, quasi-judicial proceedings, or any other proceeding governed by separate legal requirements.

**SECTION 5. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed this 26th day of May 2026.

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Shane Eaton, Chair  
Lawrence County Legislative Body

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David A. Morgan, County Executive

ATTEST:

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Russ Brewer, County Clerk

SPONSOR: Rules Committee