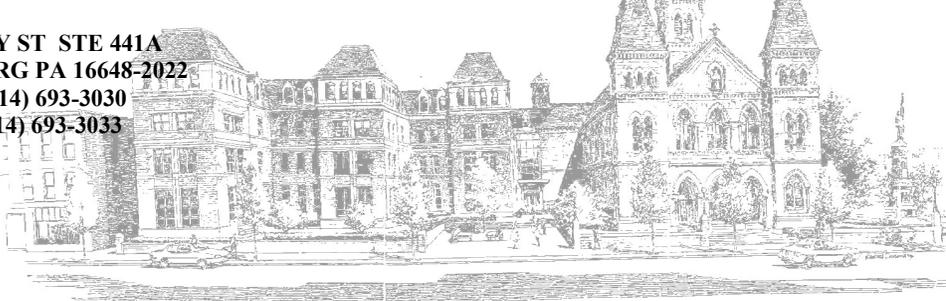


COUNTY of BLAIR

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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LAURA O. BURKE
Vice-Chairman
AMY E. WEBSTER
Secretary
NICOLE M. HEMMINGER
Chief Clerk
NATHAN W. KARN, SR.
Solicitor

BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

Public comment and participation in decisions made by governing bodies is an essential component to county government. The Blair County Board of Commissioners encourages public participation in the various matters that it addresses.

In order to provide adequate opportunities for public comment and participation in a manner that will contribute to the overall effectiveness of the decisions made by the Blair County Board of Commissioners, the Board has established certain procedures to follow.

Procedures are designed to provide the maximum opportunity to all members of the public to present their views and opinions on various matters of importance that confront the Board. The following procedures will be followed at all Blair County Board of Commissioners meetings to allow for public participation:

- 1) Public comment will occur at the properly designated place on the regular Board Agenda. On most Agendas, public discussion will occur at the item labeled "Public Comment".
- 2) Any individual who wishes to address the Board must be a resident of Blair County. Non-residents must own property in Blair County or represent a business or organization located in Blair County in order to address the Board.
- 3) Any individual who wishes to address the Board must state their full name, street address, and the address of the Blair County property they own or the business they represent if they are not a resident, and municipality so that it may be recorded in the Minutes.
- 4) Any individual who wishes to address the Board will be allowed up to three (3) minutes to present their statement(s).
- 5) The Board will not take any formal action or vote during public comment. If the comment is made on an agenda item, the action will be taken at an appropriate time in the meeting.
- 6) Any individual is free, at any time, to submit written comments and testimony to the Commissioners by mail, fax, or e-mail.

In general, the purpose of Public Comment is for the public to make comments on any item considered by the Board as part of the Agenda or on any other item of community interest. Individuals addressing the Commissioners should confine their remarks to statements of opinion, information, or fact. The Public Comment section of the Agenda is not intended to be a debate. Rather, it is intended to be an orderly presentation to help the Board in making its decisions on various issues confronting the County. The Chair may rule, out of order, any comment that is not appropriate to the intent of this policy.