

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ - 2020**  
**AMENDING THE 2020-22 RULES OF THE BOARD**

**Background:** In the *Wisconsin Open Meetings Compliance* Guide, most recently republished in May 2019 by Attorney General Josh Kaul, it reiterates that public comment periods are not required by state statute.

The guidance reads, "In general, the open meetings law grants citizens the right to attend and observe open session meetings of governmental bodies, but does not require a governmental body to allow members of the public to speak or actively participate in the body's meeting. There are some other state statutes that require governmental bodies to hold public hearings on specified matters. Unless such a statute specifically applies, however, a governmental body is free to determine for itself whether and to what extent it will allow citizen participation at its meeting."

Current board rules allow for public comment and provides each speaker a maximum of three (3) minutes. In the interest of focusing on the current business of the board, this proposed amendment limits public comment to agenda items and allows persons to submit non-agenda item concerns to the board in writing.

The proposed changes are reflected by strikethrough and underline.

This rule amendment requires a 2/3rds vote of the members in attendance.

**Fiscal Impact:** [ ] None [ ] Budgeted Expenditure [ X ] Not Budgeted

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, who met in regular session that the Sauk County amend the following Sauk County Board Rule to read as follows;

Rule IV, Procedure, Section C. All regular meetings of the Board and Board committees shall provide a noticed public comment period. During a public comment period, any person who is not a member of the body may comment on a specific agenda item ~~or any other matter the Board or committee is empowered to consider~~ for a maximum of three minutes per person. Persons who wish to discuss matters not on the county board agenda may communicate to the board in writing by sending their comments to the Sauk County Clerk who shall provide copies of their comments to the Supervisors. Discussion of personalities is prohibited and civility shall be observed. The Board or committee Chair may authorize the appearance and comment of a non-member if the appearance is specifically listed on the agenda.

For consideration of the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on July 21, 2020

**EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim McCumber, Chair

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Brandon Lohr, Vice-Chair

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Wally Czuprynko

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Marty Krueger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie McAuliffe

**Fiscal Note:** No Fiscal impact.

**MIS Note:** No MIS impact.