

# **OLDHAM COUNTY FISCAL COURT**

## **PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC COMMENT is that time during each meeting of Oldham County Fiscal Court made available for members of the public to bring to the attention of the court items of general significance.

Each meeting of Fiscal Court will include two opportunities for PUBLIC COMMENT.

- The ***first*** PUBLIC COMMENT will generally follow a reading of the accounts payable and precede the first item of scheduled new business.
- The ***second*** PUBLIC COMMENT will generally follow the last item of business and immediately precede adjournment.

Members of the public will be allowed up to four minutes of speaking time during each PUBLIC COMMENT. The court suggests that persons speaking more than once during the same meeting use the second PUBLIC COMMENT opportunity to address a new subject. Upon a request by the Judge-Executive or a Magistrate and following a majority vote of the court, an individual's speaking time may be extended.

Speaking during a PUBLIC COMMENT section will not preclude an individual from speaking again during a PUBLIC HEARING at the same meeting.

The Judge-Executive may discontinue exchange if questions or answers deviate from the dignity of the court. Language deemed by the Judge-Executive to be objectionable will not be permitted.

- Examples of objectionable language include swearing and certain "four letter words" commonly understood to be impolite at a public meeting.
- Criticism of past or proposed actions of the Fiscal Court is not objectionable language.
- Persons using objectionable language will be warned to discontinue. Persons who persist in using objectionable language will be asked to stop speaking.

Following each speaker, the Judge-Executive will allow Magistrates to ask questions for clarification. At the conclusion of each PUBLIC COMMENT, members of Fiscal Court will be given an opportunity to address any topic discussed by members of the public during PUBLIC COMMENT.

A copy of these rules will be placed on the table outside the fiscal court chamber prior to each meeting of Fiscal Court.