

**GUNNISON COUNTY METROPOLITAN RECREATION DISTRICT**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, the Gunnison County Metropolitan Recreation District (“**District**”) is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado and a duly organized and existing special district pursuant to Title 32, Article 1, C.R.S.; and

**WHEREAS**, the District’s Board of Directors (“**Board**”) conducts various public meetings to carry out its statutory responsibilities for the management, control, and supervision of all the business and affairs of the District as provided in § 32-1-1001(1)(h), C.R.S.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board hereby finds and determines that adopting a policy regarding public participation at Board meetings, committee meetings and work sessions is appropriate and necessary to the function and operation of the District.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Gunnison County Metropolitan Recreation District as follows:

1. **Adoption of Public Comment Policy.** The Public Comment Policy set forth on Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, is hereby approved and adopted.
2. **Severability.** If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or any part of the Public Comment Policy are for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.
3. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect and be enforced immediately upon its approval by the Board.

ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

GUNNISON COUNTY METROPOLITAN  
RECREATION DISTRICT

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Loren Ahonen, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

**EXHIBIT A**

**PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY**

[Attached]



# Public Comment Policy

## Purpose:

This policy is designed to ensure that the public can actively participate in Gunnison County Metropolitan Recreation District (MetRec) meetings in a manner that is orderly, respectful, and productive. Public comments offer invaluable insights and play a critical role in the decision-making processes of MetRec.

## Scope:

This policy applies to all public meetings held by MetRec, including board meetings, committee meetings, and work sessions.

### 1. General Guidelines:

- 1.1 Public comments are limited to the public comment agenda period, except for specific public hearings listed on the agenda.
- 1.2 All speakers must be recognized by the Chair or presiding official before speaking.
- 1.3 Each speaker must provide their name and address for the record before commenting.
- 1.4 All remarks shall be addressed to the entire board or committee and not to individual members.
- 1.5 Questions posed to the board, committee, or staff will not be directly addressed during public comment.

### 2. Time Limitations:

- 2.1 Speakers are allotted a maximum of three (3) minutes to provide their comments unless otherwise specified by the Chair during the public comment period of a meeting.

2.2 The total public comment period may be limited at the discretion of the Chair based on the agenda and total number of participants.

2.3 The Chair may grant additional time for complex topics or if deemed necessary.

### 3. Conduct and Decorum:

3.1 Disorderly conduct, harassment, or obstruction of or interference with meetings by physical action, verbal utterance, nuisance or any other means are hereby prohibited. Such conduct may result in removal of person(s) responsible for such behavior from the meeting and/or criminal charges filed against such person(s). To the extent such occurrences arise and the person(s) responsible refuses to leave the premises, law enforcement authorities will be summoned. Prosecution will be pursued under all applicable laws including, without limitation, Sections 18-9-108, C.R.S. (disrupting lawful assembly), 18-9-110, C.R.S. (public buildings – trespass, interference), and/or 18-9-117, C.R.S. (unlawful conduct on public property).

3.2 9-1-1 will be called at any time that the Board or staff feels threatened or endangered during a public meeting.

3.3 Signs or banners are allowed, provided they do not disrupt the meeting, obstruct the view of others, or create safety hazards.

3.4 Applause, booing, or shouting from the audience is discouraged to maintain decorum.

### 4. Written Comments:

4.1 Members of the public may submit written comments in advance of the meeting. These will be included in the official record.

4.2 Written comments must be submitted at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting to ensure they are included in the meeting materials.

4.3 Comments should be concise and not exceed two (2) typed pages.

### 5. Remote Participation:

5.1 If MetRec provides an option for remote participation, the same rules apply as for in-person comments.

### 6. Special Provisions:

6.1 The Chair has the discretion to alter or adjust the public comment procedures for special meetings or unique circumstances.

6.2 Public hearings on specific topics may have separate guidelines or procedures, which will be communicated in advance.

## 7. Policy Review:

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Feedback from the public is welcomed during this review process.