

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICY MANUAL

SECTION 2 - BOARD OF GOVERNORS SUBSECTION 23 – MEETINGS

POLICY NUMBER: BP – 2320

MEETINGS OF THE AREA BOARD – PUBLIC COMMENT

1. POLICY REASON/PURPOSE/INTENT

To establish a process for allowing public comment at Board of Governors' meetings.

2. DEFINITIONS

N/A

3. POLICY

3.1 The Board of Governors recognizes the right of the public to provide comment at some of their meetings in compliance with the Nebraska Public Meetings Law (RRS 84-1408 to 84-1414). At monthly meetings of the Board of Governors, an opportunity for public comment will be provided in accordance with the following rules and regulations.

3.2 Public participation is limited to those individuals who are on the agenda and to that portion of the meeting designated for public comment.

3.2.1 Agenda Presentation Item. Any person or group desiring to address the Board of Governors is requested to make a written request to the College President's Office at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, summarizing the remarks to be made, so that the Board of Governors may have knowledge of the subject in advance of the presentation. The written request will include the name and address of the responsible person.

3.2.2 Public Comment Period. The Board shall designate a portion of its regular monthly meeting to hear comments from individuals who have not requested a place on the agenda. Persons who wish to address the Board during the Public Comment Period shall sign up on the list provided and identify himself or herself by providing their name and address and indicating the topic about which they wish to speak.

3.3 General rules:

3.3.1 Each person is allowed five minutes to speak unless the time limit is waived by a majority of the Board members present. The Board of Governors may, if there are a large number of speakers to be heard, shorten the time allowed for

an individual person. When it appears to the Chair that there will be a large number of persons speaking, the Chair shall endeavor to alternate speakers for and against the agenda item under discussion.

- 3.3.2 Discussion is limited to only those subjects in which the College has domain.
- 3.3.3 Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of the Board's business cannot be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order. The Board Chair may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if after being called to order he/she persists in improper conduct or remarks.
- 3.3.4 If the Board Chair determines that a person has not attempted to resolve a matter administratively, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy or administrator for attempted resolution before bringing the matter to the Board.

4. APPLICABILITY

N/A

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/10/2015

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 10/12/2006 (item #9818)

REVISION DATE (AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MINUTES ITEM NUMBER): 12/12/2013
(Item #11363); 11/10/2015 (Item #11740)

PRIOR POLICY/PROCEDURE NUMBER: 9225

SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW: 2020

DIVISIONS/DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW & UPDATE: Board/President

SPONSORING DIVISION/DEPARTMENT: Board of Governors

RESCINDED DATE: none

LEGAL REFERENCE: State Statute Section 84-1408 to 84-1414

CROSS REFERENCE: none

PROCEDURE(S) FOR POLICY: none

RELATED POLICIES/REFERENCES: BP-2310; BP-2312

POLICY KEY WORDS: board, public comment, board meetings