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LONE STAR GCD
PUBLIC COMMENT PRACTICES & PROCEDURES

Public Comments—limited to 3 minutes each person; time may not be pooled or given to other speakers. When you arrive, please sign-in and notate that you have a public comment. Please step to the lectern as soon as you are recognized by the chair; state your name before beginning your presentation. If you have written notes you wish to present to the Board, PLEASE FURNISH AN EXTRA COPY FOR DISTRICT FILES.

Note on Public Comments—The Board will receive comments (limited to 3 minutes from each person) from the public on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District, with the exception of pending permitting matters or other contested cases, which are subject to a prohibition on ex parte communication. Such pending permitting matters or contested cases allow for a protest and/or public comment opportunity during the designated hearing on the matter. The Board will not take action on public comment, but may request that matters addressed during public comments be placed on a future agenda for consideration and action in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. The Board will not typically limit the number of speakers on any given topic, but reserves the right to do so if necessary to ensure an efficient and orderly meeting.

Note on Decorum during Public Meetings, Hearings and Comments—Members of the public in attendance at any meeting or hearing shall conduct themselves with the proper respect and decorum in speaking to and/or addressing the Board, staff, and/or consultants and participating in the public meeting or hearing. Pursuant to Texas Penal Code § 42.05, purposefully disrupting a public meeting is a violation of state law, and can lead to criminal charges. Those members of the public who do not conduct themselves in an orderly and appropriate manner and/or engage in disruptive conduct will be ordered to leave the meeting or hearing. Disruptive conduct, and profane, insulting or threatening language directed toward any person or racial, ethnic, or gender slurs or epithets will not be tolerated during public comments. Disruptive conduct includes without limitation physical violence or threat of physical violence, throwing objects, yelling, talking out of turn, using and/or making obscene gestures, ignoring time limits, refusing to leave the microphone, and/or any other obstructive physical action or verbal utterance.

Violations may result in the following sanctions:
(1) cancellation of a speaker's remaining time;
(2) removal from the Board meeting; and/or
(3) such other civil or criminal sanctions as may be authorized under the Constitution, Statutes and Codes of the State of Texas.

Thank you for your cooperation.