PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

MOORE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Moore County Board of Elections is committed to providing an opportunity for the public to offer comments and suggestions for the efficient and effective administration of elections within Moore County in accordance with law. A special time will be set aside for the purpose of receiving such comments and suggestions. All comments and suggestions addressed to the Board during the Public Comment Period shall be subject to the following procedures:

1. The Public Comment period shall be held at the beginning of the scheduled meeting and shall be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes.

2. Persons who wish to address the Board during the Public Comment Period will register, in person, on a sign-up sheet available at the counter in the front office of the Elections office indicating contact information and topic. Sign-up sheets will be available beginning 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. If the meeting of the board is held telephonically or virtually, persons wishing to speak shall notify the board of their wish to do so by email at elections@moorecountync.gov three (3) hours prior to the meeting. This request shall contain the requesters full name, contact information and topic.

3. Each person signed up to speak will have three (3) minutes to make his/her remarks. In the event there are more than five (5) persons signed up to speak, time will be allotted to each speaker to ensure an equal amount of time.

4. No time will be yielded to a speaker by another speaker. If there are several persons together who wish to speak concerning the same subject matter, a spokesperson for the group should be chosen.

5. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board in the order in which their names appear on the sign up sheet. Speakers will begin their remarks by stating their name and address.

6. Public comment is not intended to require the Board to answer any questions. Speakers will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual board member. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.

7. Speakers will discuss issues relevant only to the Moore County Board of Elections.

8. Speakers will be courteous in their language and presentation. Matters or comments which are harmful, discriminatory or embarrassing to any citizens, official or employee of Moore County shall not be allowed. Speaker must be respectful and courteous in their remarks and must refrain from personal attacks and the use of profanity.

9. Only one speaker will be acknowledged at a time. If the time period runs out before all persons who have signed up get to speak, those names will be carried over to the next Public Comment Period.

10. Any applause will be held until the end of the Public Comment Period.

11. Speakers who have prepared written remarks or supporting documents are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks and documents with the Elections Director. Speakers who wish to have their comments included in the official record shall provide a copy before the meeting to the Director,

12. Speakers shall not discuss any of the following: matters which concern the candidacy of any person seeking public office, including the candidacy of the person addressing the Board; matters which are closed session matters, including but not limited to matters within the attorney-client privilege, anticipated or pending litigation, personnel, matters which are made confidential by law; matters which are the subject of public hearings.

13. Action on items brought up during the Public Comment Period will be at the discretion of the Board.

Adopted the 29th day of September 2020.