

 Oakdale Electric Cooperative		Board Policy
Policy Name: Member Attendance at Board Meeting		Policy No: 5.02
Last Reviewed/Revised: 6-29-23		Page 1 of 3

I. OBJECTIVE

Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC)'s by-laws provide that all of OEC's powers shall be exercised by the Board "except such as are by law or by OEC's Articles of Incorporation or by-laws conferred upon or reserved to the members". It is OEC's policy to allow members to speak at the beginning of Board meetings. It is in its official meetings that the Board most often exercises OEC's powers through Board action. With this policy, OEC establishes appropriate procedures relating to members speaking at Board meetings.

II. POLICY

1. When a member requests to speak at a Board meeting, the following rules and procedures shall apply:
 - A. The request shall be submitted to OEC in writing on the "Board Meeting Attendance Request" form, which is an integral part of this policy, at least five (5) business days prior to said meeting. Any exceptions to this timing, must be approved by the General Manager/CEO or Board Chairman.
 - B. A speaking request may be made for the stated purpose of reporting a positive complimentary opinion to the Board. Additionally, speaking requests may be made for the stated purpose of bringing a complaint or controversial matter before the Board, in which case OEC's management shall make every reasonable effort to resolve the matter without the necessity of the member(s) speaking at a Board meeting. If such efforts fail, a fifteen (15) minute comment period will be scheduled at the beginning of the board meeting, if-
 - i. OEC's General Manager/CEO or Attorney concludes that the subject matter of such request has merit and is not improperly motivated and that any decision that is to be made should be directly made or approved by the Board; or
 - ii. The member requests or demands that he/she is permitted to make such appearance with or by legal counsel for a stated, bona fide purpose; or

- iii. OEC's Attorney recommends that such appearance be made for the purpose of enabling a member to exhaust his/her administrative remedies for an alleged wrong, even though the Attorney may be of the opinion that the subject of the member's complaint is wholly without merit or is improperly motivated; or
 - iv. The request is for the purpose of challenging, or requesting certain action by the Board in connection with
 - a) the calling of a member meeting,
 - b) the eligibility of an incumbent Board member or candidate therefore, or
 - c) the manner in which Board elections have been or are going to be conducted; or
 - v. The Board decides that it is otherwise in the best interests of OEC to grant the request.
- E. If more than one member requests to speak at a meeting of the Board, the Board may restrict the number that may appear.
- 2. Whenever one or more members request to speak at a meeting of the Board, the following procedure shall be honored:
 - A. Such member shall be seated away from the conference table so that his/her physical proximity to the meeting will not impair or interfere with its conduct.
 - B. If a member attends to present a specific matter, including complaints, or to make specific inquiries, the presentation shall not exceed five (5) minutes. The Board will hear such presentation including asking any questions that it deems appropriate, but it will not discuss, or respond to, or take any action with respect to such issue until after the member has retired from the meeting room. After deliberating the matter and making a decision, the Board shall inform such member on what action, if any, was taken.
 - D. After deliberating the matter and making a decision, the General Manager/CEO shall complete Form # OEC102.00 (bottom). One copy of the completed Form # OEC102.00 shall be entered into the Board minutes and one copy shall be sent to the member.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager/CEO and the general counsel to implement this policy in connection with processing requests and report to the Board of Directors as herein provided for. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to implement this policy in connection with (1) making any final decision as to whether to grant a meeting attendance request and (2) instructing any person attending a Board Meeting and otherwise assuring compliance with this policy herein provided for.

Original Effective Date: 8-31-1982	Reviewed Date (no revisions): 4-26-89, 1-27-93, 6-29-23	Revised Date(s): 06-29-05, 5-27-2020
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MEMBER REQUEST TO SPEAK AT A BOARD MEETING

FULL NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND MEMBER ACCOUNT NUMBER AS
APPEARING ON OEC'S RECORDS:

THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR REQUESTING TO SPEAK IS:

ANY PRESENTATION SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE (5) MINUTES.

DATE THE REQUEST FORM EXECUTED: _____ ,

SIGNED: _____

COMPLETED: ACTION ON REQUEST *

DATE OF ACTION: _____ SIGNED:

TITLE:

* To be filled out by OEC.
1 COPY FOR BOARD MINUTES
1 COPY TO THE MEMBER