

Proposed Changes to the Board's Rules of Procedure

Great Government Committee



@wakegov



wakegov.com

Implementing Board Goal

- GG2.3: Review and update board procedures to align with best practices for boards of commissioners.
- Four proposed rule changes
 - Rule 1 Agenda Development Process
 - Rule 2 General Public Comment
 - Rule 10 Order of Debate
 - Rule 16 Attendance at Meetings

Committee Consideration

- Great Government Committee discussed potential rule changes
- March 25 – General discussion
- May 13 – Discussion focused on agenda development (Rule 1) and order of debate (Rule 10)
 - Committee voted 2-1 to advance proposed agenda change
- August 5 – Discussion focused on general comment signup (Rule 2) and meeting participation (Rule 16)
 - Consensus to move forward with selected revisions

Today's Feedback

- **For Rule Changes with Consensus:** Commissioner Evans will request placement on September 16 agenda for approval
- **For Rule Changes with No Consensus Reached:** Commissioner Evans will place on agenda for next Great Government Committee meeting on September 30

Rule Worksheets Explain the Change

Proposed Text Change

One worksheet for each of the four proposed changes

~~The old text is struck out.~~ The new text is highlighted in yellow.

Order of Debate, Rule 10, is a complete rewrite

Committee Rationale

Synopsis of the Great Government Committee's discussion, and why it approved the change. Synopses have been reviewed by committee chair.

Staff Comments

Where appropriate, staff have commented on implementation and application of the rule

Rule 1 – Agenda Development Process

Proposed Text Change

- Two Commissioners required to request an agenda item, instead of one
- Agenda items must be requested 10 days before meeting, instead of 7 days

Committee Rationale

- Single Commissioner should not unilaterally be able to add an agenda item
- 10 days notice allows for more discussion during agenda development
- Preserves Manager's flexibility for urgent items

Staff Comments

- Emailed requests will suffice
- 10 days is defined as 5:00pm, two Fridays before the Monday regular meeting.
- Staff will notify Chair
- Commissioners responsible for content, but staff will assist

Rule 2 – General Public Comment

Proposed Text Change

- Language changed to allow new technology
- 30 minute time period has been removed
- Draft rule acknowledges requests to transfer 3 minutes to another speaker

Committee Rationale

- Balance structure and efficiency with flexibility
- Requirement to approve continuing comments beyond 30 minutes has been removed – assumes Board will hear all attendees who wish to speak

Staff Comments

Staff have begun evaluating technology packages for online comment signup prior to Board meetings.

Rule 16 – Attendance at Meetings

Proposed Text Change

- Separates “normal” meetings from emergency meetings
- Allows Commissioner offsite attendance, if approved by majority vote
- Preserves rule allowing extraordinary meetings for emergencies

Committee Rationale

- Physical attendance at normal meetings remains the expectation of all Commissioners
- Offsite participation should be rare
- Emergency meetings contemplated for hurricanes, floods, etc.

Staff Comments

- If adopted, still will develop a technical means for off-site participation

Rule 10 – Order of Debate

Proposed Text Change

- New draft rule
- Prescribes a specific sequence for Board consideration of regular agenda items
- Additional guidance for sequence of public hearings

Committee Rationale

Committee desires to:

- Hold one round of Commissioner discussion for an agenda item--after motion, before vote
- Allow staff to complete presentations without interruption

Staff Comments

Staff has no comment on this rule.

Next Steps

- **For Rule Changes with Consensus:** Commissioner Evans will request placement on September 16 agenda for approval
- **For Rule Changes with No Consensus Reached:** Commissioner Evans will place on agenda for next Great Government Committee meeting on September 30