

**RESOLUTION 2024-001**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING RULES RELATIVE TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT MEETINGS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that public discourse is essential to the democratic system of government; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners welcomes public participation but wishes to adopt rules relative to public participation in District meetings so as to embrace civility in public deliberations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT THAT:**

Section 1. The Board of Commissioners of the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District hereby adopts the Rules Relative to Participation in District Meetings, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Price, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Delacey, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

TONYA PLAYER	<u>Aye</u>
NEIL PRICE	<u>Aye</u>
JOHN CAMMICK	<u>Aye</u>
JAMIE DELACEY	<u>Aye</u>
JOE HERNANDEZ	<u>Absent</u>

**DULY ADOPTED** at a public hearing this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

**Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District**

  
Tonya Player, Chairman

ATTEST:   
Neil Price, Secretary

## **EXHIBIT "A"**

### **MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT RULES RELATIVE TO PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT MEETINGS**

1. It is the goal of the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District and its Board of Commissioners to foster an environment that encourages a fair discussion and exchange of ideas without fear of personal attacks.
2. Persons are encouraged to participate in the governmental process so that the Board of Commissioners and those following the proceedings may understand one another's points of view.
3. Speakers should raise their hand to be recognized. Speakers should identify themselves, by name and address, for the record.
4. Only the speaker recognized by the Chairman has the floor. Speakers are permitted to deliver their comments without interruption during their allotted time.
5. Each speaker will be permitted, by right, to speak one (1) time for no more than three (3) minutes per agenda item, unless otherwise requested or permitted to speak again by the Chairman of the meeting. Additional speaking time, over the 3 minutes per agenda item, is a privilege and not a right. Other individuals are not permitted to "yield" their time for the purpose of extending a speaker's time limit.
6. Speakers and debates should focus on issues, not on persons or personalities.
7. Sidebar discussions while others are speaking are not permitted in the meeting room. These discussions are to be removed from the meeting room so as not to be disruptive to those conducting and following District business.
8. Anger, rudeness, ridicule, impatience, threats, and lack of respect for others are not acceptable behaviors. Demonstrations in support or opposition to a speaker or idea such as clapping, cheering, booing, or hissing or intimidating body language are not permitted in the meeting room.