



Jefferson County West Virginia

Public Information

From commission website

Jefferson County Commission Agenda Policy

..... The agenda for each County Commission meeting is prepared by the Commission staff. All appointments for the County Commission are to be made with the County Commission staff prior to 12:00 noon, the second day preceding the Commission meeting. The County Commission requires written documentation from the individual(s) requesting the appointment in order to make copies for the County Commission agenda packet or in the event research needs to be completed by the staff concerning the particular issue. Similarly, **correspondence requiring a decision are subject to the same deadline of 12:00 noon**, the second day preceding the County Commission meeting. The agenda will be available no later than 3:00 p.m. Individuals who wish to address the Commission may request to be heard fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled time the meeting is to commence by contacting the County Commission office. Said individuals may be recognized by the President as time permits during the meeting or after all business is completed.

I ask my fellow Commissioners to preserve our present policy whereby every Commissioner has the right to represent their constituents fully. That means that every Commissioner continue to equally have the right to put items or issues of their constituents on the agenda of our meetings, to bring up those issues and engage in differences and debate and to make motions leading to a statement of positions.

This is democracy at its best.

A proposal was placed on our agenda for last weeks work session called Authority over the Agenda. Commissioner Morgan proposed in general terms, and he can amplify this idea here, that to avoid potentially libelous situations and embarrassing situations" either he or the majority of the Commissioners here can block other equally elected Commissioners from representing their constituents by the most important means of placing items on the agenda for discussion.

No libelous issues have been raised in our meetings. We need to be very specific in this point. No libel suits have ever been brought against a Commissioner to my memory.

What is proposed is keeping Commissioners from representing their constituents or opinions. This is unfair and un open and unrepresentative.

I move that we affirm the current policy that anyone, commissioner or not, can place items on the agenda.