

Committee Discussion Item

- PROCEDURES FOR PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS, COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS, AND COMMITTEE VOTES DURING MEETINGS

Structure for Public Comments

- Open Meeting Act requires a public comment period for decision-making items but the Committee can place time limits on public comments.
- Other Boards at Cal/EPA place time limits on speakers (3 minutes is common).
 - Some publish limits in advance
- Similar rules with federal advisory committees.

Public Comments Cont.

- Keeping related speakers together provides for more coherent presentations.
- Discussion questions:
 - Did the committee like the approach used for public comments at today's meeting?
 - Should speakers be allowed to “cede” their allotted time to others?
 - Should time limits for comments be set in advance or based on the number of requests to comment?

Voting

- Current practice is a voice/showing of hands.
- Some Federal advisory committee's are using a ballot-voting procedure.
- Written ballot would be similar to the questions the Chair orally asks at the meetings.
- Votes are still publicly tallied – not a secret voting process.

QUESTIONS?

Committee Discussion