

Speakers shall speak to the issues and refrain from using defamatory or abusive personal remarks that disturb or impede the meeting or exceed the bounds of civility necessary to the conduct of the business of the district.

Government Code section 54954.3(c) states: "The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law."

The board president will rule the following behaviors out of order:

- A. Profanity, obscenity, and other abusive language.
- B. Physical violence and/or threats of physical violence directed towards any person or property.

In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by the actions of one or more persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible, the person(s) may be removed from the meeting room by the appropriate authority.

Speakers who engage in such conduct may be removed from the podium and denied the opportunity to speak to the board for the duration of the meeting.

Prior to their removal, the board president will issue a warning and a request that the person(s) curtail the disruptive activity. If the behavior continues, the person(s) may be removed by a vote of the board, based on a finding that the person(s) is/are violating this policy and that such activity is intentional and has substantially impaired the conduct of the meeting.

If order cannot be restored by the removal in accordance with these rules of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the board may order the meeting room cleared and may continue in session. The board shall only consider matters appearing on the agenda. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this rule.