

Public Comment
#21
LATE DISTRIBUTION
DATE BOS RCVD 11/18/2025

From: Sue Taylor
To: BOS-District I; BOS-District V; BOS-District II; BOS-District IV; BOS-District III; BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Re: Agenda #21, Legislar# 25-1864
Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 7:41:22 AM
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Dear Board of Supervisors,

It has been sad to watch the evolution that the Board has moved towards in moving away from transparency, and the efforts they have taken to remove the public's participation during the El Dorado County Board of Supervisor's meeting over the years. We hope that this item is not being placed on the agenda to continue with that agenda, but instead to bring back some of the protocol that was previously part of the County's public process for engagement.

Many of us were stunned when Board of Supervisor members and County Council went against allowing Supervisor Ferraro to pull something off of the Consent Calendar for discussion. Never had we seen this take place in the past.

Within the County Policy Manual, it states:

"C. When items are placed on the Consent Calendar, the following must occur at the time of Adoption of the Agenda:

1. Any item shall be moved off the Consent Calendar at the request of any Board member, Chief Administrative Officer, or County Counsel before approval of the Consent Calendar. Departments will make their requests to have an item moved off the Consent Calendar through the Chief Administrative Office."

https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/files/assets/county_v_l_documents/government/bos_bos-documents/policies/section-h-h-3-consnet-calendar-policy.pdf

From aalr Atkinson, Ankelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, A professional Law Corporation: On page 16 it states:
https://mid.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id_5&clip_id=511&meta_id=35582

Notice of Meetings (Agenda)

• Consent Calendars

- A "consent calendar" is a grouping of non-controversial agenda items that are expected to be approved by the board without discussion. These consent calendars can be a significant time saver for board meetings.
- Routine items are grouped together on the agenda with a heading of "consent calendar" or "consent agenda." When the board gets to that part of the agenda, the chair asks if any member wishes to pull any item from the consent calendar. Pulling an item does not require a second. After all the "pulls" are made, if any, the chair states, "Without objection, the remaining items are adopted by general consent."
- The consent calendar is part of the agenda and must be posted, along with the full agenda, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting
- Items on a consent calendar should be treated as action items for most other purposes and are thus required in meeting minutes.

Also, it is part of State Regulations that, "(b) Any matter for which there are no speakers in opposition, including permit matters, may be placed on the board's consent calendar in accordance with Section 13.3, unless one of the following occurs to remove the item from the consent calendar:
(1) Upon request by the applicant, any member of the public, or any board member."

From: Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 23, § 13.3 - Consent Calendar

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/23-CCR-13.3#:~:text=The%20California%20Code%20of%20Regulations%2C%20Title%2023%2C%20by%20the%20applicant%2C%20public%20or%20board%20member>

Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 23, § 13.3 - Consent Calendar

- [State Regulations](#)
- [Compare](#)

- (a) Unless otherwise provided in this Article, the procedures set forth in Article 3 of these regulations pertaining to permit applications, including staff reports, staff recommendations, resolutions, and voting, shall apply to the consent calendar procedure.
- (b) Any matter for which there are no speakers in opposition, including permit matters, may be placed on the board's consent calendar in accordance with Section 13.3, unless one of the following occurs to remove the item from the consent calendar:
- (1) Upon request by the applicant, any member of the public, or any board member;
 - (2) When any interested party files a written protest conforming to the requirements of section 12 and requests a hearing;
 - (3) When approval requires a variance to the board's standards;
 - (4) Upon the board's own motion.
- (c) All items included in the consent calendar shall be considered by the board in one action. Public testimony shall be deemed waived. If the item is not removed from the consent calendar and the consent calendar is approved, any recommended conditions contained in the staff report and resolution, if one is prepared, shall be deemed approved by the board.
- (d) Consent calendar items shall only be voted on if the board accepts the staff recommendation as stated in the staff report with no substantial changes. Otherwise, the item must either be removed from the consent calendar for discussion and action at the same meeting or continued to a subsequent board meeting.
- (e) If an item is removed from the consent calendar pursuant to (b) above, then the public shall have the right to present testimony and evidence in accordance with Section 13.1 of these regulations.

This also goes to show that if a Board Member wishes to vote in opposition of the item that the item must be pulled in order to do so, because the item is no longer a matter which there are no board members in opposition.

Here is the agenda from 1-8-2013, which happens to be the first board meeting for newly elected Supervisor Brian Veerkamp. It should be noted how far we have come from our Vision Statement, the public's participation and the time for open forum since this meeting, when the public had more access for public participation: <https://eldorado.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=534036&GLID=078F8A4B-654E-4658-863D-D4706BE1A8C6>

**County of El Dorado**
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MEETING AGENDA
Board of Supervisors

Alan Moberly, District I
Ray Hurling, District II
Brian K. Veerkamp, District III
Ron Ringo, District IV
Norma Santiago, District V

James S. Wilkins, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Tom Day, Chief Administrative Officer Edward Kasper, County Librarian

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 8:00 AM Board of Supervisors Meeting Room

Vision Statement
"El Dorado County will remain the leader in supporting our safe, healthy and vibrant communities, wisely managing our natural resources, and preserving our local heritage."

BOARD MEETING ROOM EQUIPPED WITH AN AUDIO INDUCTION LOOP ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM

Live Web Streaming of the Board of Supervisors Meetings, Agencies, Supplemental Materials and Minutes of the Board of Supervisors are available on the internet at <http://eldorado.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

The County of El Dorado is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate in its public meetings. Please contact the office of the Clerk of the Board if you require accommodation at 530-421-5390 or via email: edc.mob@eldgov.us

Public Testimony will be received on each agenda item listed under Department Matters as it is called. **Principal party on each side of an issue (whose applicability is allocated 10 minutes to speak, individual comments are limited to 3 minutes, and individuals speaking for a group are allocated 5 minutes. Adopted 1/10/07)** Except with the consent of the Board, individuals shall be allowed to speak in an item only once. Upon completion of public comment the matter shall be returned to the Board for deliberation. **Members of the public shall not be entitled to participate in that deliberation, or be present at the podium during such deliberation, except at the invitation of the Board for a period of consultation or question by the Board.** Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Open Forum. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Board reserves the right to waive said rules by a majority vote.

From that same meeting you will see that not only were Board Members allowed to pull a consent item off the calendar, members of the public were allowed the same privilege:

Welcome from the new Chair of the Board of Supervisors for the Year 2013

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Board Members, staff and members of the public may request an item be pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion. Items requested to be removed from the Consent Calendar shall be removed from Consent Calendar and heard by the Board. The Board will make any necessary additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda, determine matters to be added to or removed from the Consent Calendar, and with one motion adopt the Agenda and approve the Consent Calendar.

OPEN FORUM

BUDGET UPDATE

CONSENT CALENDAR

We respectfully ask that the Board return access by the public, to future Board meetings, by moving Open Forum prior to hearing the Consent Calendar, as was done for decades, allow verified organizations to have one representative able to speak to an item of interest to that organization for 5 minutes, and allow the public to pull items from the Consent Calendar as required by State law.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sue Taylor for Save Our County