Pursuant to Commission Rule 515-1-1-.02(1) it shall be the duty of the Chairman, or his/her appointee, to preside at all meetings of the Commission; to preserve strict order; to procure at all times the correct meaning and sense of the Commission; to conduct the business of the Commission when in session subject to the direction of a majority of the Commission. In an effort to accomplish this directive the Chairman, on behalf of a majority of the Commission, has established the below listed guidelines regarding public comments while the Commission is in session:

HEARINGS

- A sign-up sheet for public comments will be provided at the Executive Secretary’s office 1 hour prior to the start time for that day’s hearing.
- The 1st hour of each actual hearing day will be designated for public comments. If a hearing is scheduled on a particular day and the hearing has already concluded, public comments will not be received on that scheduled hearing day since the hearing has already concluded.
- Each public commenter will be given up to 3 minutes at the podium to offer comments. All persons making public comments will be expected to conduct themselves appropriately. There will be no profanity, costumes, signs or props allowed in the Commission building. Any violation may result in immediate ejection from the building. Please note that the Commission may exclude any person for “any indecorous or improper conduct.” O.C.G.A 50-13-13(a)(6).
- Additionally, the Commission may disallow any person from making or continuing to make a statement if the statement is redundant or not related to the issues at hand, or if the person is conducting him or herself in “a disruptive, offensive, or defamatory manner.” GPSC Rule 515-2-1-.06(4)(a).
- After the 1st hour has concluded, any remaining persons wishing to make public comments will be required to return on the next hearing day to offer the public comments.
- At the conclusion of the public comment time, anyone not a party to the case being heard will be asked to leave the hearing room.
- If there are no public commenters at the start time of the hearing, the Commission will wait 10 minutes. If still no public commenters at 10 minutes past the start time, then the Commission will immediately proceed to the hearing.
- If the public comments conclude prior to the completion of the first scheduled hour of the hearing then the Commission will wait 10 minutes to ensure no additional public commenters arrive and if no additional commenters arrive after that 10-minute period, the Commission will immediately proceed to the hearing.
- As a reminder all Public Comments can be submitted in writing through the Commission’s website at https://psc.ga.gov/public-comments/.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- A sign-up sheet for public comments will be provided at the Executive Secretary’s office 1 hour prior to the start time for that day’s committee meeting.
- The last 15 minutes of Committee Meetings will be designated for public comments. Each presenter will be given up to 3 minutes to offer comments. Once the 15 minutes has passed any remaining commenters wishing to offer public comments will have to return to the next Committee Meeting.
- Each public commenter will be given 3 minutes at the podium. All persons making public comments will be expected to conduct themselves appropriately. There will be no profanity, costumes, signs or props allowed in the commission building. Any violation may result in immediate ejection from the building. Please note that the Commission may exclude any person for “any indecorous or improper conduct.” O.C.G.A 50-13-13(a)(6).
- Additionally, the Commission may disallow any person from making or continuing to make a statement if the statement is redundant or not related to the issues at hand, or if the person is conducting him or herself in “a disruptive, offensive, or defamatory manner.” GPSC Rule 515-2-1-.06(4)(a).
- As a reminder all Public Comments can be submitted in writing through the Commission’s website at https://psc.ga.gov/public-comments/.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

- No public comments allowed.

The above by directive of the Chairman effective August 1, 2022.

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Tricia Pridemore
Chairman