Public Hearing Rules for the hearing held May 13, 2026

Whereas, the Planning & Zoning Commission ("Commission") will consider the following rules for the hearing held May 13, 2026; and,

Whereas, the Commission must weigh the public's interest in providing comments on the items to be considered while also weighing the public's interest in proceeding on the matters in an efficient manner.

Whereas, the Commission expects significant public participation in this matter, the Commission may consider certain rules to ensure each attendee has reasonable time to make comment to the Commission, and that the Commission has adequate time to consider the comments made.

Now, therefore, the Commission will consider adoption of the following rules to be adopted for use during the public hearing conducted on May 13, 2026 for the purpose of considering Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Special Use Permit, Rezone of land where the BESS will be located; Solar Energy Facility (SEF) Permit, Special Use Permit for Industrial Solar use in Ranching, Agricultural and Mining (RAM) zoned land; Wind Energy Siting and Facilities (WECS) Permit, Special Use Permit for Industrial Wind use in Ranching, Agricultural and Mining (RAM) zoned land, and Variance.

1. **General Decorum Guideline:**
    a. Commission members, staff, speakers and audience members will conduct themselves in a civil and respectful manner at all times during the public hearing.
    b. Failure to conduct themselves in a civil and respectful manner may result in removal from proceedings pursuant to W.S. § 16-4-406.
    c. The Commission will consider BESS(2), SEF(2) and WECS(3) permits.

2. **Rules for Speakers in the Public Comment portion of the hearing:**
    a. Speakers must write their name legibly on the Public Comment Sign In sheet prior to providing public comment (W.S. § 16-4-403(b)).
        i. Platte County Planner, Laura Bookout, will need to document each individual providing public comment.
    b. Each speaker must state their first and last name while at the podium prior to addressing the Commission.
    c. Speakers are requested to refrain from making disruptive comments that are:
        i. indecent or obscene;
        ii. intended to incite unlawful action or may put the safety of others at risk;

iii. derogatory toward others, such as personal criticism, ridicule or name calling; and
iv. intended to promote contests, lotteries, products, services, private enterprise, political candidates or ballot measures.

d. Each speaker will be limited to **<u>five (5) minutes</u>**. Speakers are required to keep comments related to the applications presented.
   i. Commission members may ask questions at any time. The question-and-answer period will **not** be considered as part of the speaker's five (5) minute allotted time.
   ii. This will be timed and strictly enforced.

3. Rules for Audience:

a. Audience members shall refrain from distracting side conversations or speaking out during meetings.
b. Audience members shall refrain from shouting, booing or other similar unruly behavior that impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of the meeting.
c. Audience members shall not approach the Commission table.

4. Enforcement of Decorum Rules:

a. The Chair will request that a person who is violating a rule of decorum cease their behavior.
b. If the behavior continues, the Chair will warn the person that he or she will be removed from the building if the behavior continues.
c. If the behavior continues, the Chair will order the person to leave the building and may request law enforcement assistance to effectuate removal if necessary.
d. Refusal to remove oneself from the meeting room when ordered to do so may result in criminal prosecution pursuant to W.S. 6-6-303.
e. Pursuant to W.S. § 16-4-406, continued disruption may result in the Commission recessing the meeting and reconvene in another location.