

## Do your Montrose County Commissioners want public input?

Is the BOCC really interested in your public input? Judging from my experience this past week the answer is an emphatic NO. My name is Scott Mijares and I am running unopposed to be your next County Commissioner for District 1. If you think that might mean something to the current BOCC your dead wrong. Like many citizens, I took the time to write and rehearse my testimony ahead of the scheduled meeting on September 4th. I tried hard to get my remarks down below the 3 minute mark in accordance with the "Rule" this Board made. The best I could do was 4 minutes. When time came for public comment I raised my hand and moved to the podium. Before beginning I told the Chair, Roger Rash, that my testimony was 4 minutes and respectfully asked for one additional minute to finish my prepared remarks. I was denied that minute by the chair and informed that the clock was ticking.

I then began reciting my pre prepared remarks and was rudely cut off in mid sentence by a loud and angry gavel that the chair used to express his displeasure with me. "Any other citizens wish to speak?" he asked. My wife Juli raised her hand, identified herself, and yielded her time to me so I could finish my testimony. This did not sit well with Commissioner Rash and he denied her of her right to yield her time to me. Before leaving the podium I asked if any of the other County Commissioners objected to this decision by the Chair. SILENCE. I was shocked that Commissioner Hansen did not want to offer her future fellow County Commissioner one extra minute to finish his testimony in a room that had only 2 citizens, 3 political candidates, and a handful of county employees. The entire meeting lasted only 24 minutes.

What did the Commissioners not want to hear? Logical, thoughtful testimony on why the current BOCC should not be making the final decision on who the next County Manager should be on the way out the door. I am strongly opposed to this important hire without the consent of the incoming BOCC. Trisha Murray, County Commissioner Candidate, followed my embarrassing moment with her testimony echoing my opposition and concerns. You can view the whole thing on the counties website.

Link to meeting. Skip to minute 3:25 where I begin my remarks.

[https://montrosecounty.granicus.com/player/clip/1829?view\\_id=2&redirect=true](https://montrosecounty.granicus.com/player/clip/1829?view_id=2&redirect=true)

In my opinion, This is not the way our county should conduct its business. As one of your incoming County Commissioners I will not allow this to continue. Your voices must be heard and that 3 minute rule must be flexible. The disrespect and arrogance I witnessed as an incoming County Commissioner is unacceptable. To Commissioner Hansen - You owe me a sincere apology. If we are to function effectively on behalf of the citizens of Montrose County we must get along and respect each other.

Since I was not able to complete my testimony I have posted it to my website for you to read.

<https://scottm4montrose.com/articles>

I am interested in your thoughts for or against the old BOCC making this hire at the end of their term. Email me [scottm4montrose@gmail.com](mailto:scottm4montrose@gmail.com)

Thank you  
Scott Mijares