

# Practical Parli Pro

A quick guide to surviving meetings and conducting business effectively

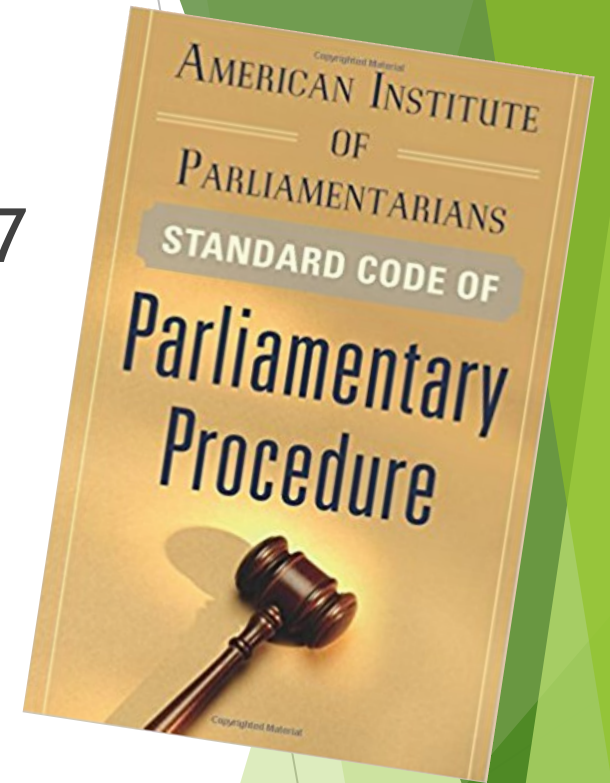


# Outline

- ▶ Why Use Parliamentary Procedure?
- ▶ Basic Motions
- ▶ Working on Small Boards
- ▶ Special Rules for Conservation Districts

# Why?

- ▶ CDs voted to use Standard Code (Sturgis) in 1987
- ▶ Helps us stay focused
- ▶ Alleviates confusion
- ▶ Allows us to share proceedings with the public
- ▶ Protects rule of majority and rights of minority



# Making a Motion - the Basics

- ▶ Make the motion
- ▶ Second the motion
- ▶ Discuss the motion
- ▶ Vote - Majority Vote

# Main Motions

- ▶ Say, “I move...” and be specific

*I move we provide a scholarship for one local student to attend Youth Range Camp.*

# Main Motions

- ▶ Say, “I move...” and be specific
- ▶ Keep discussion relevant to the current motion
- ▶ Do NOT make negative motions

*I move we do not provide a scholarship for Youth  
Range Camp*

# Main Motions

- ▶ Say, “I move...” and be specific
- ▶ Keep discussion relevant to the current motion
- ▶ Do NOT make negative motions

~~*I move we do not provide a scholarship for Youth  
Range Camp*~~

# Main Motions

- ▶ Do NOT make negative motions

~~*I move we do not provide a scholarship for Youth Range Camp*~~

- ▶ Instead...

- ▶ Make positive motion and fail it
- ▶ Don't make the motion at all

\*Note: Voting to *deny* something is still a positive motion, because you are voting to take the action of denying. However, it may still be easier to just make the motion to *approve* and then fail it.



# Tabling vs. Postponing

## Tabling a Motion

*I move to table this motion...*

- ▶ In Sturgis, kills a motion
- ▶ Not debatable
- ▶ Normally requires 2/3 vote, but for CDs, requires only a majority

# Tabling vs. Postponing

## Postponing a Motion

*I move to postpone this motion until...*

- ▶ Bring up discussion of motion at later time
- ▶ Can be postponed to later in same meeting or a future meeting
- ▶ Without a specific time, brought up under unfinished business

# Tabling vs. Postponing

## Postponing a Motion

*I move to postpone this motion  
until...*

- ▶ ...after we hear from our guest speaker.
- ▶ ...the next board meeting in May.
- ▶ ...we hear the committee's report.

# Small Boards

- ▶ Discussion can happen before an official motion is made
- ▶ No limits on debate
- ▶ Chair can debate and vote

# Special Rules for CD Boards

- ▶ Majority of the entire board is required to conduct any business
- ▶ All motions require a majority vote to pass
- ▶ Majority of the **entire board**, not just the supervisors present required to pass a motion

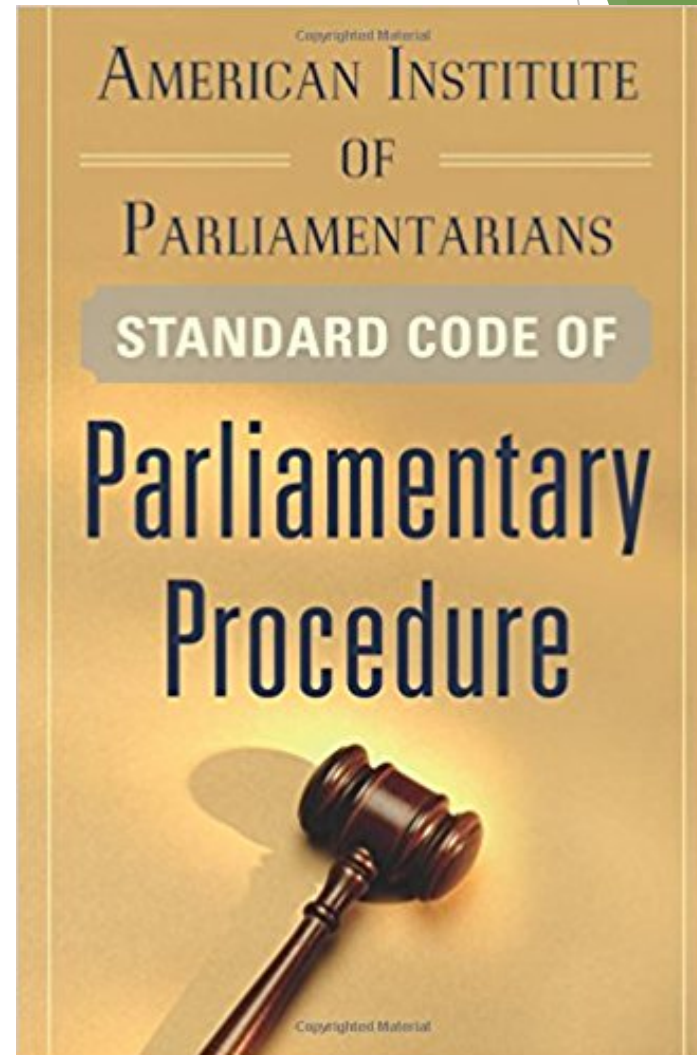
# Special Rules for CD Boards

Example:

- ▶ A CD board is comprised of 7 supervisors.
- ▶ Only 5 supervisors attended the March meeting.
- ▶ How many supervisors needed to vote in favor of a motion at the March meeting to pass it?

4

# Resources



# Questions?

