

REMOTE ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

This purpose of this policy is to provide for the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) to permit a member to participate in a Commission meeting through electronic communication means from a remote location, provided that:

A. Notification of Inability to Attend Because of Personal Matter, Disability, Medical Condition or Location.

On or before the day of the meeting, the member shall notify the Chair that he or she is unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter; a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents physical attendance; that a family member's medical condition requires the member to provide care for such family member; or that that such member's principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location identified in the required notice for such meeting. The member must identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter.

B. Quorum Physically Assembled; Approval of Remote Electronic Participation.

A quorum of the Commission must be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location. The Commissioners present must approve of the remote electronic participation; however, the decision shall be based solely on the criteria in Section A, without regard to the identity of the member or items that will be considered or voted on during the meeting.

C. Record of Action.

The Commission's minutes shall reflect the specific nature of the personal matter; the disability or medical condition; the fact that a family member's medical condition that required the member to provide care for such family member, thereby preventing their physical attendance; or that that such member's principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location identified in the required notice for such meeting, as well as the remote location from which the absent member participated. If the absent member's remote participation is disapproved because participation would violate this policy, the disapproval shall be recorded in the Commission's minutes with specificity.

D. Audibility of Absent Member.

The Commission shall make arrangements for the voice of the absent member to be heard by all persons in attendance at the meeting location. If, for any reason, the voice of the absent member cannot reasonably be heard, the meeting may continue without the participation of the absent member.

E. Limitation on Remote Electronic Participation in Calendar Year.

Electronic participation by the absent member as provided in this policy shall not exceed two, or 25% of the meetings rounded up the next whole number, whichever is greater, Commission meetings in each calendar year.

(Authorized pursuant to *Code of Virginia* § 2.2-3708.2)