



King County

King County Board of Health

Staff Report

Agenda item No:
R&R No. BOH 20-01

Date: July 16, 2020
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SUBJECT

A rule and regulation relating to telephonic participation by members of the Board of Health.

SUMMARY

Title 2 of the Board of Health (BOH) code outlines the administrative procedures and composition of the Board. Rule 8 of Title 2, pertaining to quorum and voting, is silent on the issue of telephonic participation by Board members. However, Rule 15 states that, "Robert's Rules of Order must be used as a guide to address procedural questions to the extent consistent with the standing rules in this chapter."

Therefore, a rule and regulation (R&R) is needed to amend the BOH code to allow for telephonic participation. Proposed R&R 20-01 would amend BOH code to allow for telephonic participation under a declared emergency.

The definition of an "emergency" in the proposed R&R is an event or set of circumstances such as fire, flood, explosion, storm, earthquake, epidemic, riot or insurrection, that demands the immediate preservation of order or of public health or the restoration of public property that has been destroyed or will impact the county in such a way that warrants the King County executive to proclaim a state of emergency.

If passed, Proposed R&R 20-01 would be effective thirty days from the date of its adoption in accordance with BOH Code 2.04.140.

AMENDMENTS

Striking amendment S1 of Proposed R&R 20-01 would amend the Proposed R&R to match Emergency R&R 20-02 passed on June 10, 2020 which expires 90 days after passage. Striking amendment S1 would modify the means by which members may participate remotely by replacing the phrase "other electronic means" with "video conferencing." The amendment would also allow members to participate remotely

at their discretion but no more than twice per year in meetings outside of a declared emergency. The amendment states that members who participate in meetings remotely shall be counted toward the quorum and retain their voting authority unless the member's alternate is physically present. If the alternate is physically present the alternate shall be counted toward the quorum and have voting authority instead of the member participating remotely.

The amendment also states that the Clerk of the Board, in consultation with the Chair, shall establish authentication and operating procedures to allow for remote participation that comply with laws regarding open public meetings. The amendment also states the administrative procedures for remote participation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. R&R No. BOH 20-01
2. Striking Amendment 1