

# Board Meetings: Electronic Meetings – BEE

## **Electronic Meetings Authorized**

The Board authorizes electronic meetings of the Board as set forth in this policy. Unless specifically stated by this policy, the other policies governing Board meetings (relating to notice, meetings being open to the public, and other matters) also apply to electronic Board meetings.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(1\), \(2\)\(a\) \(2024\)](#)

## **Definitions**

The following terms are used in this policy:

1. Anchor location: A designated physical location from which the electronic meeting originates or to which participants are connected.
2. Electronic meeting: A meeting that some or all members of the Board attend through an electronic video, audio, or both video and audio connection.
3. Electronic notice: email, text, fax, or other means of electronic communication.

[Utah Code § 52-4-103\(1\), \(3\) \(20254\)](#)

## **Member Request Required for an Electronic Meeting**

An electronic Board meeting may be held upon request of a member of the Board. This request must be made sufficiently in advance of the time that the Board meeting is scheduled so that the necessary arrangements can be made for the electronic meeting, including giving the required notice to other Board members. Therefore, the request should be made not less than 25 hours before the meeting. If a member of the Board wishes to participate electronically because of unforeseen or exigent circumstances arising less than 25 hours before the meeting, such participation may be allowed if the Board President determines that the necessary arrangements may be made for such participation and if a majority of the members of the Board agree to waive the 25-hour requirement.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(2\)\(c\)\(iii\) \(2024\)](#)

## **Notice to Board Members of an Electronic Meeting**

After an electronic meeting has been scheduled, and at least 24 hours before the meeting is to begin, the members of the Board shall be provided with a description of how to connect to the meeting, except as otherwise may be provided in a rule of the Legislature applicable to the Board.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(3\)\(b\) \(2024\)](#)

## **Anchor Location**

Unless the requirements have been met for holding an electronic meeting without an anchor location, the Board will provide space and facilities at an anchor location for members of the public to attend the open portions of the meeting. The Board may also provide means by which members of the public participate remotely by electronic means.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(4\) \(2024\)](#)

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## Electronic Meetings Without An Anchor Location

The Board may hold an electronic meeting without an anchor location if all members of the Board are attending remotely through an electronic video, audio, or both video and audio connection, unless the Board receives a written request at least 12 hours before the meeting to provide an anchor location for members of the public to attend.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(5\)\(e\) \(2024\)](#)

The board may also hold an electronic meeting without an anchor location if president of the Board makes the determination that either (1) conducting the meeting with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health or safety of those present or who would otherwise be present at the anchor location or (2) the location where the Board would normally meet has been ordered closed to the public for health or safety reasons. The public notice for the meeting must include a description of the Board president's determination and a summary of the facts upon which it is based, along with information on how a member of the public may participate in the meeting remotely by electronic means. A determination of substantial risk to health or safety expires 30 days after the day on which the president makes it.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(5\)\(a\), \(6\) \(2024\)](#)

During the course of an electronic meeting with an anchor location where the Board has provided means by which members of the public who are not physically present at the anchor location may participate in the meeting remotely by electronic means, the anchor location may be closed and the meeting continued without an anchor location if the Board president determines that continuing to conduct the meeting with an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health or safety of those present at the anchor location, announces that determination during the meeting, and states a summary of the facts upon which the determination is made.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(5\)\(b\) \(2024\)](#)

## Electronic Meeting Not Available For Site Visit or Traveling Tour

When the scheduled meeting is a site visit or traveling tour, the meeting may not be conducted or convened electronically.

## Determining Quorum in an Electronic Meeting

In determining whether a quorum of the Board is present during an electronic meeting, all members are counted who are either present at the anchor location (if the meeting has an anchor location) or who are connected to the meeting by the method provided for remote participation in the meeting.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(2\)\(b\) \(2024\)](#)

## Taking Votes During an Electronic Meeting

Except when the vote is unanimous, all votes during an electronic meeting shall be taken by roll call of the members.

[Utah Code § 52-4-207 \(2\)\(c\)\(vi\) \(2024\)](#)

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## Public Access to Electronic Meetings

Space and facilities shall be provided at the anchor location of an electronic meeting of the Board to permit members of the public to attend the meeting (except those portions of such a meeting which have been properly closed to the public by the Board). If the Board meeting is one at which comments from the public will be accepted, then the space and facilities shall also permit members of the public to participate in the electronic meeting. For an electronic meeting which is being held without an anchor location, the Board shall provide access to the meeting as provided for above regarding meetings without an anchor.

Members of the public are not entitled to monitor or attend electronic meetings except through the space and facilities provided at the anchor location or through electronic access provided for a meeting without an anchor location. (Members of the public cannot request an electronic meeting and do not have the right to be remotely connected to a Board meeting except as set forth in this policy.)

[Utah Code § 52-4-207\(4\) \(2024\)](#)