



REMOTE PARTICIPATION POLICY POLICY # 2012-01

POLICY STATEMENT:

In an effort to increase the efficiency of Town boards, committees, and commissions (collectively 'multiple member bodies'), increase participation in government, and in recognition of the competing demands on volunteers' time, the Board of Selectmen hereby adopts this policy allowing remote participation in meetings.

PURPOSE:

This policy adopts the regulations at 940 CMR 29.10 Remote Participation of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, ss. 18-15.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all multiple member bodies of the Town of Townsend. Multiple member bodies may but are not required to choose to take advantage of remote participation.

GUIDELINES

Multiple member bodies are hereby allowed to employ remote participation in the conduct of meetings. Multiple member bodies employing remote participation shall do so in strict adherence to the regulations of the Attorney General at 940 CMR 29.10, attached hereto.

EQUIPMENT

Multiple member bodies shall utilize available equipment when a member is remotely participating. When available, Town equipment may be utilized. If Town equipment is not available a member's cell phone or other suitable equipment may be utilized. No reimbursement for cellular plan minutes or the use of personal equipment will be given.

QUESTIONS / ENFORCEMENT

All inquiries should be directed to the Town Administrator.

Adopted January 31, 2012

TOWNSEND BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert Plamondon, Chairman

Sue Lisio, Vice Chair

Nicholas Thalheimer, Clerk