

Northern Marianas College
Board of Regents Policy

SUBJECT:	Board Operations	EFFECTIVE:	July 18, 2008
SECTION:	1015.9	POLICY NAME:	Meetings VIA VTC and Other Modes
WSCUC Standard/Policy:			

Introduction:

A member who is unable to attend a board meeting shall notify the Chairman of the Board of Regents or the President/Chief Executive Officer as soon as possible. Upon receiving such notice the Chairman and/or President/Chief Executive Officer shall, if applicable, give notice to the Board.

The members of the Board of Regents shall normally be physically present at meetings. However, a member of the Board of Regents may be present at meetings by way of a telephone or a video-conference.

A member of the Board of Regents who cannot be physically present and who participates by telephone or a video-conference shall notify the Chairman of the Board of Regents or the President/CEO as soon as possible.

Any members of the Board of Regents may participate in any meeting by means of telephone conference call or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other and which enables all participants to communicate with each other adequately.

1015.9 Tele-Conference and Video Tele-Conference (VTC)

A. Convened meeting using speakerphone:

Should a member not be able to be physically present during a convened meeting, but is available by telephone, the meeting can be convened using a speakerphone, a quorum being present when the member(s) not physically present is/are included. In this manner, all members are able to discuss the agenda even though one member is not physically present. Members participating by speakerphone may vote, provided they have an opportunity to review all the material the members physically present have reviewed.

B. Meetings Conducted Via Tele-Conference Calls:

On occasion, meetings may be convened via a telephone conference call. A quorum must participate for the conference call meeting to be convened. To allow for appropriate discussion to take place, all members must be connected simultaneously for a conference call to take place -- "telephone polling" (where members are contacted individually) will not be accepted as a conference call.

C. Meetings Conducted Via Video Tele-Conference (VTC):

Members away from the CNMI may choose to attend the BOR meeting via Video Tele-Conference. A quorum, including the member(s) not physically present, must exist for the VTC meeting to be convened. Members utilizing this mode of communication have the same responsibilities and voting privileges as the rest of the BOR members.

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D. Compliance with Open Government Act (OGA):

All meetings conducted via speakerphone, tele-conference, or video tele-conference shall have one Board member present at the Board's conference room at NMC on Saipan to allow members of the public to participate pursuant to the Open Government Act. Meetings held on other islands pursuant to this policy shall designate a place where the general public can be present to participate pursuant to the OGA.

E. Executive Sessions:

Executive sessions shall not be conducted via these methods.

HISTORY:

Replaces Board Policy No. 100.01