

ORDINANCE NO. 01-567

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO meetings; to allow an entity formed under the Joint Public Agency Act to hold meetings by telephone conference call; to harmonize with state law; to repeal conflicting ordinances and sections; and to provide an effective date:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIEND,  
NEBRASKA:

Section 1. Section 1-516 of the Municipal Code of Friend, Nebraska, is amended to read as follows:

**MEETINGS; TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALLS; WHEN ALLOWED.**

(A) A meeting of the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act or the Joint Public Agency Act or of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act may be held by telephone conference call if:

(1) The territory represented by the member public agencies of the entity or pool covers more than one county;

(2) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given which identifies each telephone conference location at which a member of the entity's or pool's governing body will be present;

(3) All telephone conference meetings sites identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or pool or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(4) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recordation by audio recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if a telephone conference call was not used;

(5) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the telephone conference call;

(6) At least one member of the governing body of the entity or pool is present at each site of the telephone conference call identified in the public notice;

(7) The telephone conference call lasts no more than one hour; and

(8) No more than one-half of the entity's or pools' meetings in a calendar year are held by telephone conference call.

(B) Nothing in this section shall prevent the participation of consultants, members of the press, and other nonmembers of the governing body at sites not identified in the public notice. Telephone conference calls shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in Neb. RS 84-1408 to 84-1414. (Neb. RS84-1411 (3)).

Section 2. Any other ordinance or section passed and approved prior to passage, approval, and publication or posting of this ordinance and in conflict with its provisions is repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval, and publication or posting as required by law.

Passed and approved this 5th day of June, 2001.



James W. Vonder  
Mayor

Ann H. Betka  
Clerk