

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Yuri Rashkin  
INITIATED BY



Supervisor Yuri Rashkin  
DRAFTED BY

County Board Staff Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

April 27, 2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**AMENDING RULES I & IV OF  
THE ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
RULES OF PROCEDURE**

1 **WHEREAS**, in a representative democracy an informed electorate is essential for the workings of good  
2 government; and,  
3

4 **WHEREAS**, providing for broad public access to channels of communication which allow the free flow  
5 of information from members of the public to elected officials and government administrators creates and  
6 more responsive and well-informed government body; and,  
7

8 **WHEREAS**, modern technology provides many different avenues of modes of communication, allowing  
9 for many different communities to find access to information and ability to communicate in ways that have  
10 been previously difficult or impossible; and,  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, for public agencies across the country, the public health pandemic resulting from COVID-  
13 19 required quick adaptation to a new way of interacting with community members. Organizations moved  
14 processes from in-person to digital formats and public meetings also had to make the leap, with many  
15 teams turning to conferencing tools, like Microsoft Teams, Webex, and Zoom, to support the change; and  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, providing for remote access to meetings creates more flexibility for both Supervisors and the  
18 public to attend meetings and can increase participation in public meetings, thereby vindicating the goal of  
19 increased access and better flow of information for a more diverse set of communities; and  
20

21 **WHEREAS**, it should be the policy of Rock County to continue to provide electronic access to meetings  
22 even after the COVID-19 pandemic subsides and it is safe to meet in person again.  
23

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled  
25 this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ amends the Rock County Board Rules of Procedure as  
26 follows (added text appears as underlined; deleted text appears as ~~struck through~~):  
27

28 Rule I shall be amended as follows:  
29

30 J. At all meetings of the Rock County Board of Supervisors, members shall have the ability  
31 to attend, participate, and exercise all the responsibilities and privileges of their position by audio-  
32 visual electronic means.  
33

34 K. During any period of public comment, or public hearing during a meeting of the Rock  
35 County Board of Supervisors, the public shall be provided the opportunity to submit their  
36 comments to the Board by electronic means which may include, but shall not be limited to,  
37 comments submitted by email, web form, or real-time remote testimony or comment.  
38

39 Rule IV-Q. shall be created as follows:  
40

41 Q. At all meetings of the committees listed in Rule V. of these Rules, members of such  
42 committees shall have the ability to attend, participate and exercise all the responsibilities and  
43 privileges of their position by audio-visual electronic means. All other committees, advisory  
44 groups, or other governmental bodies created by order, rule, statute or ordinance of the Rock  
45 County Board of Supervisors, or any other government authority, but not listed under Rule V  
46 herein, may provide access to meetings consistent with this paragraph

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Page 2

Respectfully submitted:

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

/s/ Wes Davis  
Wes Davis, Chair

/s/Rich Bostwick  
Rich Bostwick, Vice Chair

/s/Tom Brien  
Tom Brien

/s/Kevin Leavy  
Kevin Leavy

/s/Lou Peer  
Lou Peer

/s/J. Russell Podzilni  
J. Russell Podzilni

Dissent  
Alan Sweeney

/s/Bob Yeomans  
Bob Yeomans

/s/Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver

LEGAL NOTE:

Pursuant to Rule X-C. of the Rock County Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure, the rules of procedure may be amended upon 2/3 vote of all members present.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

FISCAL NOTE:

Minimal fiscal impact.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator