

House Study Bill 207

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL
BY CHAIRPERSON GASKILL)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public notice requirements for meetings of
2 boards of township trustees.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 1851HC 83
5 md/sc/8

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1 1 Section 1. Section 21.4, subsection 1, Code 2009, is
2 amended to read as follows:
1 3 1. A governmental body, ~~except township trustees,~~ shall
1 4 give notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting, and
1 5 its tentative agenda, in a manner reasonably calculated to
1 6 apprise the public of that information. Reasonable notice
1 7 shall include advising the news media who have filed a request
1 8 for notice with the governmental body and posting the notice
1 9 on a bulletin board or other prominent place which is easily
1 10 accessible to the public and clearly designated for that
1 11 purpose at the principal office of the body holding the
1 12 meeting, or if no such office exists, at the building in which
1 13 the meeting is to be held.
1 14 Sec. 2. Section 359.17, subsection 2, Code 2009, is
1 15 amended to read as follows:
1 16 2. A board of township trustees shall give prior notice of
1 17 a meeting to discuss, deliberate, or act upon a matter
1 18 relating to the budget or a tax levy of the township or
1 19 relating to the trustees' duty to provide fire protection
1 20 service and, if provided, emergency medical service, pursuant
1 21 to section 359.42. The trustees shall give notice of such
1 22 meeting at least ~~forty-eight~~ twenty-four hours preceding the
1 23 commencement of the meeting. However, a notice is not
1 24 required pursuant to this subsection when the trustees gather
1 25 for ~~minor or purely~~ ministerial matters relating to the
1 26 trustees' duty for providing such fire protection service or
1 27 emergency medical service. The notice shall state the time,
1 28 date, and place of the meeting and the proposed agenda. The
1 29 notice shall be provided to the county auditor who shall post
1 30 the notice in an area of the courthouse where notices to the
1 31 public are commonly posted.

EXPLANATION

1 33 Current law requires that notice of a board of township
1 34 trustees meeting relating to the budget, a tax levy of the
1 35 township, or the trustees' duty or authority to provide fire
2 1 protection service or emergency medical service shall be given
2 2 at least 48 hours before the meeting. This bill requires such
2 3 notice to be given at least 24 hours before the meeting.
2 4 The bill removes the exemption for township trustees in
2 5 Code section 21.4 relating to notices required for meetings of
2 6 governmental bodies. The bill amends the exemption from the
2 7 board of township trustees meeting notice requirements for
2 8 minor or ministerial matters to conform with the provisions of
2 9 Code section 21.2.
2 10 LSB 1851HC 83
2 11 md/sc/8